

Opportunity Scholarship - NCL Cares

Terms and Conditions 2026/27

1. If you are a UK undergraduate student and you commenced your studies at Newcastle between the 2014/15 academic year and the 2026/27 academic year then you may be eligible for this scholarship. You need to meet the conditions detailed in this document in order to be considered for the scholarship.
2. In order to be considered for the scholarship you need to be classed as care experienced and/or estranged by UCAS, Student Finance England (SFE), Wales or Northern Ireland or the Student Awards Agency for Scotland.
3. If you are eligible for this scholarship, **you will receive a £2,000 cash bursary** with the payments split as below:

40% on 11th November 2026

30% on 10th February 2027

30% on 12th May 2027

There will be no early payments or exceptions to the above payment dates. ***If your status as a care experienced or estranged student is confirmed after 28th October 2026, you will receive any missed instalments 10 working days after we approve your scholarship (unless the academic year has ended).***

You should allow two working days for potential delays and carefully check all bank accounts before contacting us regarding any non-payment.

4. Your eligibility for this scholarship is reassessed each year based upon the above criteria. We do not consider any scholarship eligibility from previous years.
5. If you are on placement then you **will not** be considered for this scholarship as you will be receiving a significant tuition fee discount. However, if you are studying a partial placement and you are liable to pay the full tuition fee then you will be considered for this scholarship.
6. If you are studying Business Accounting and Finance you will have a reduced fee liability in years 2, 3 and 4 as you will be on work placement. If you are eligible, you will receive a pro rata scholarship **£1,332**.
7. If you are **repeating part of a year** or **studying part-time**, then you will have a reduced fee liability. In this scenario you will receive a pro rata scholarship (e.g. if you are paying 50% of the total tuition fee then you will receive 50% of the scholarship).
8. Your eligibility for this scholarship is continually reviewed. **Failure to continue meeting the eligibility criteria could lead to your scholarship being cancelled.** When this happens, we will cancel all future payments, but you will not normally need to repay any instalments that you have already received.
9. You will not be considered for this scholarship under the following circumstances:
 - a) You already hold a degree at honours level or equivalent.
 - b) You are receiving full or partial support from the NHS as a grant* (e.g. you are studying **Speech and Language Science, Dental Hygiene** or you are in your **final year of Medicine or Dentistry**).
 - c) You are studying a course leading to a PGCE qualification.
 - d) You are already in receipt of the Cowrie Scholarship.

e) You are already in receipt of the Opportunity Scholarship based on household income being below £40,000**.

**Many of the allied health profession students can access support of at least £5,000 per year from September 2020 in addition to SLC finance. If you receive this bursary, you will not be eligible for this scholarship. For more information about this grant visit the [NHS Health Careers website](#).*

***Students in receipt of the Opportunity Scholarship based on their household income being below £40,000 and in receipt of a lower value scholarship, i.e. £750 or £1,250 who are subsequently identified as being care experienced or estranged will be entitled to the full scholarship in the form of a top up payment where appropriate. Please see the [Opportunity Scholarship regulations](#) for further information on eligibility.*

Please note that these rules are guided by government regulations stipulated by the Office for Students and **no exceptions can be made**.

- 10.** You will not receive the scholarship or any backdated payments if your status as a care experienced or estranged student is confirmed after **Friday 4th June 2027** or if you fail to provide your bank details to SFE (or equivalent) before then.
- 11.** The University reserves the right to terminate this scholarship and recover any payments made in the event you fail to continue to meet the eligibility criteria. If you withdraw or suspend your studies, then we will cancel all future payments.