FUNDING FOR GRADUATE STUDY AT KENT

2020/21
FUNDING FOR GRADUATE STUDY

Kent is a leading UK university. In the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent is ranked in the top 20 for research output and research intensity in the Times Higher Education, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities.

As a postgraduate student at Kent, you benefit from first-class teaching and research opportunities, access to high-quality facilities, excellent employment prospects and the choice of seven inspirational locations: Canterbury, Medway, Tonbridge, Brussels, Paris, Athens and Rome.

We value our postgraduate students and the contribution they make to the University’s intellectual community. The recent Higher Education Review by the UK’s Quality Assurance Agency recognised Kent’s vibrant and interdisciplinary academic community, created by the range of formal and informal opportunities provided for postgraduate research students.

Generous postgraduate scholarship fund
We have a scholarship fund of over £12.2 million to support our taught and research students with their tuition fees and living costs. Our range of scholarships includes full awards to support doctoral research candidates, tuition fee awards for taught Master’s students, loyalty discounts and scholarships for overseas students, as well as awards that recognise excellence in sport and music.

There is a Graduate Teaching Assistantship scheme, which offers financial support to postgraduate research students in return for teaching.

UK Research Councils
Kent has an excellent track record of securing funds from the UK research councils: Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), Medical Research Council (MRC), Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) and Science & Technology Facilities Council (STFC).

The University is part of three prestigious research council-funded collaborative doctoral training partnerships – NERC Advanced Research Innovation in the Sciences (ARIES), AHRC Consortium for the Humanities and the Arts South-East England (CHASE), and the ESRC South East Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) – which all provide studentships and a range of training and development opportunities for our postgraduate researchers. Kent also has an EPSRC Doctoral Training partnership grant.
Other sources of funding

Postgraduate loans of up to £10,906 are available for Home and EU students taking a postgraduate taught or research-based programme. Students must be resident in England and under the age of 60 at the time of course registration. Students who are resident in one of the Erasmus+ programme countries can apply for a Master Degree Loan. For further information, see the table overleaf.

The UK Government has introduced the Doctoral Loan scheme which, for 2019/20 allows eligible PhD students to apply for a loan of up to £25,700. The loan amount for 2020/21 has yet to be confirmed. See www.gov.uk for further details.

You may be interested in part-time employment during your studies and a range of opportunities are outlined below.

Funding application deadlines

Application deadlines vary but the majority of applications for research funding need to be made by mid-January, and during the spring/early summer for taught programmes.

Further information

This fold-out guide is designed to help you explore the funding options available to you. Throughout the year, we regularly have additional funds awarded to us; for the most up-to-date list of funding opportunities from a variety of sources, please see www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/postgraduate

Work opportunities

In addition to Kent’s generous postgraduate scholarship fund, there are many employment opportunities for our postgraduate students, both at the University and in the local area.

Kent Union Jobshop

Jobshop is a service run by the students’ union to help you find part-time or temporary work. Thousands of vacancies are advertised each year, including positions for IT workers, marketing and administrative assistants, web developers, project managers, market researchers, bar and waiting staff, personal tutors, models, child carers and retail assistants. The University also employs students to help at large events, such as Open Days and Applicant Days, as well as with individual and small group visits. See www.kentunion.co.uk/employability

Postgraduate Student Ambassador Scheme

The Scheme offers experience in teaching and working with children and young adults, giving you the chance to practise your communication, interpersonal and problem-solving skills in the community. See www.kent.ac.uk/ambassadors

Graduate Teaching Assistantship

For postgraduate research students who also teach (see table overleaf for more details).
The University continually seeks to expand its range of funding and additional opportunities are regularly posted on www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/postgraduate

Students may also be able to access loans for postgraduate study, including:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loan type</th>
<th>Programme type</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Value/benefits</th>
<th>Who can apply?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Loans for Master's programmes</td>
<td>Taught or research</td>
<td>Full or part-time</td>
<td>Students can borrow up to £10,609.</td>
<td>UK and EU nationals resident in England, who are under 63 at the time of registration for a Master's or research-based programme.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and Career Development Loans</td>
<td>Taught only</td>
<td>Full or part-time</td>
<td>Commercial bank loans that students can use to help pay for work-related learning.</td>
<td>Postgraduate students attending approved programmes of study, who have been resident in the UK for at least three years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US William D Ford Federal Direct Student Loans</td>
<td>Taught or research</td>
<td>Full or part-time</td>
<td>Low-interest loans to help pay for the cost of a student's education after high school. The lender is the US Department of Education.</td>
<td>US citizens or permanent residents of the United States, who have a valid US social security number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Student Loans Program</td>
<td>Taught or research</td>
<td>Full or part-time</td>
<td>Financial assistance in the form of loans and grants to post-secondary students who demonstrate financial need.</td>
<td>Canadian citizens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK Government Doctoral Loans Scheme</td>
<td>Research only</td>
<td>Full or part-time</td>
<td>Loans of up to £25,000 as a contribution towards the cost of study, for programmes with a maximum length of six years.</td>
<td>Eligible students studying for a PhD or other Level 8 doctoral qualification.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
KENT: THE UK’S EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

The University of Kent is known as the UK’s European university. With exceptional campuses in the UK, Kent also has centres in some of the most exciting and historic cities in Europe, where study and research are underpinned by the specialist facilities and resources of these locations.

Canterbury
A wide range of subjects for study and research at a beautiful, cosmopolitan campus overlooking the historic city.

Medway
Professionally focused programmes delivered at a historic waterfront location with state of the art facilities.

Tonbridge
Part time learning, including bespoke professional training, in a range of subjects.

Athens
Heritage Management, combining archaeology and business, studied in one of the world’s most ancient cities.

Brussels
Advanced international studies in the political capital of Europe, taught by expert academics and practitioners.

Paris
Postgraduate programmes in the humanities, enhanced by immersion in the capital of European culture.

Rome
The study of history of art and the ancient world in this centre of classical antiquity.