

Guidance on 'Widening Participation' for applicants

In support of our widening participation, equality and diversity goals, we are keen to take the full context of your education into account when assessing your application and allocating our limited number of departmental scholarships. In the UK, applicant circumstances that might fit with this goal include, for example:

- Having been eligible for Free School Meals at secondary school
- Having spent at least three months in the care of your Local Authority whilst at secondary school
- Living for the majority of your secondary school years in an area of high deprivation, as defined by the UK government's IMD postcode database, ranking 16250 or less (check your postcode at that time here: <https://imd-by-postcode.opendatacommunities.org/imd/2019>)
- Living for the majority of your secondary school years in an area where it is unusual for young people to go to university, as defined by the UK government's POLAR4 classification database, falling into Quintile 1 or 2 (check your postcode at that time here: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/young-participation-by-area/search-by-postcode/>)
- Being in the first generation of your family to go to university
- Entering undergraduate study as a mature student (21 or over)
- Being, or becoming during the course of your full-time undergraduate course, a single parent, lone foster parent, or lone guardian of a person who is aged under 18 and/or still in full-time education
- Being estranged from immediate family or care-givers for the duration of your undergraduate course (for more information on what estrangement is, see <http://www.thestandalonepledge.org.uk/>)
- Being a full-time undergraduate student with caring responsibilities for an ill or disabled family member who could not manage without this help
- Being in receipt of full state support for maintenance for your undergraduate course

This list is unlikely to be exhaustive, and other markers of significant adversity may apply in other countries. Please do tell us about relevant circumstances that may be specific to you and your context if you would like to.