The scholarship supported by the Marks Family Charitable Trust: Application Form 2025

### Introduction

If you have any questions about Marks Family Charitable Trust before you submit your application, please refer to our Guidance Notes and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) documents, which are available on the [scholarship website](https://www.swtrust.org.uk/the-scholarship-supported-by-the-marks-family-charitable-foundation.html).

#### Preparing to fill in the application form

Once you begin, you will not be able to save the online form and return to it later. Therefore, please allow at least 1 hour to complete the form on the computer.

You can prepare your answers using this Word document version of the application form. You might find it helpful to type your answers into this document first, and then copy them into the online application form. Final applications must be submitted using the online form.

There is no advantage for individuals who submit their applications first, so please take your time and fill in the form carefully, especially your personal statements. We do not consider applications for scholarships if the form has not been completed.

**Closing Date**

Applications will open on 1st April 2025 and close at 5pm BST on 9th May 2025.

**Privacy notice**

Please note that by completing this form you are giving your personal data to the Schwab & Westheimer Trust. Refugee Education UK will use this data to process your application on behalf of the Schwab & Westheimer Trust. Please refer to REUK's privacy notice on our [website](https://02c53844-21e1-4850-80b2-9464608e515f.filesusr.com/ugd/d5aa55_14d8bb208939401dbd4d4e40a7daca37.pdf). Please refer to the Schwab & Westheimer Trust's privacy notice on their [website](http://swtrust.org.uk/documents/SWT-Privacy-Policy.pdf).

**Eligibility check**

Your application will only be processed if you meet the following criteria:

* You must be living in the UK.
* You must have applied, or be in the process of applying, for a postgraduate degree (Masters or PhD) at a UK university.
* You must have an asylum seeking background (e.g. your immigration status is the result of an asylum claim in the UK).
* **You must have applied to study a course which will have a clear contribution to society.**

### Section 1: Applicant Information

We will use the information provided in this section to contact you about your application. Please ensure that you include your name as you would wish to see it on, for example, a certificate.

**Title (e.g. Mr, Mrs, Miss, etc)**

**First name/given name**

**Last name/surname/family name**

**Email address**

**Contact telephone number.** Please provide the number on which you can most easily be contacted.

**Full home address with postcode**

**Date of birth**

**Gender**

* Female
* Male
* Prefer not to say
* Prefer to self-describe\*
* Other:

### Section 2: Education history

This scholarship is for postgraduate courses so please indicate any undergraduate course you are currently completing, and/or if you have previously completed an undergraduate degree.

**Please list all current and previous degrees you’ve done, including the educational institution, the dates attended, and the qualifications gained. Example:**

*BA English Literature, University of London, expected May 2025, predicted a First Class Honours*

*Beirut Arab University, 2017 - 2021, BEng Mechanical Engineering, First Class Honours*)

### Section 3: University application details

In this section you will need to include information about the universities that you have applied to, and whether you have received an offer to study at any of the universities.

**Please list all the universities and the courses that you have applied to and whether you’ve received an offer from them yet. Example:**

*MSc Global Development, University of Manchester - conditional offer*

*MA Anthropology, University of Liverpool - waiting for decision*

*MSc Development Economics, Goldsmiths University - unconditional offer*

**Out of the universities you’ve applied to, please list your top two choices (these should include any universities you’ve firmly accepted).**

First choice university/course

Second choice university/course

**Additional information about university applications (optional).**

Please use this space to include any additional information/details about your university choices that you wish to include (example, the conditions of any conditional offers, any unique circumstances about your university choices, etc)

**Have you previously studied and completed a postgraduate degree?**

* Yes, I have completed a postgraduate degree (whether in the UK or my home country)
* Yes, I have completed a postgraduate degree but am seeking a higher degree (example: I've studied a master's and know want to do a PhD)
* No, I haven't studied a postgraduate degree before (or I've started one but wasn't able to finish)

### Section 4: Immigration information

In this section, we need to find out about your immigration status, as it will help us understand whether you meet the eligibility criteria for the scholarship.

**What is your current immigration status?**

* Asylum Seeker (or dependent of an asylum seeker)
* Limited Leave to Remain (or dependent)
* Discretionary Leave to Remain (or dependent)
* UASC (Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child) Leave
* Refugee status
* Humanitarian Protection
* Calais Leave
* Stateless Leave
* Section 67 Leave
* Indefinite Leave to Remain
* Ukraine Scheme
* Other:

**Is this status the result of an asylum claim?**

* Yes
* No
* Unsure

Immigration Documents: Everyone who is shortlisted for an interview will need to give proof of their immigration status. You don’t need to send it now, but please ensure that you have this document ready to provide if you are invited for an interview.

**Please select which documents you currently have (can choose more than one if applicable):**

* ARC (Application Registration Card)
* BRP (Biometric Residence Permit)
* Home Office award letter
* Immigration Bail Letter
* Solicitor's letter confirming immigration status
* Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**If you know this information, what was your date of arrival in the UK? (Example: January 2019)**

**Please give us a brief summary of your immigration history since arriving in the UK.**

(For example, "I came as an unaccompanied asylum seeking child, was granted discretionary leave to remain and have now applied for an extension" or "arrived in the UK two years ago when I was 21 and claimed asylum. I am still waiting for a decision about my case.")

**Do you have permission to work?**

* Yes
* No
* Unknown

**Are you a former Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Child?**

* Yes
* No
* Unknown

### Section 5: Support

We would like to know if there are any additional support needs you may have with regards to your personal circumstances. Please be assured that any information you provide in this section will not negatively affect your application in any way. We only request this information so we can help and support you should you be successful in your application.

**Do you consider yourself to have a disability and/or learning difficulties?**

* Yes (please give details below in the following section)
* No
* Prefer not to say

Details of disability and/or learning difficulties if applicable:

**Do you receive Local Authority support? If applicable to you, please describe the type of support they currently offer you.**

**Do you receive any asylum support from the Home Office? If so, please describe what support you currently get.**

(example: accommodation & weekly payments)

**Please describe your current living arrangements (choose all that apply).**

* Living with parents
* Living with partner/friends/other family members
* Living alone
* Section 4 or 95 NASS accommodation
* Living in local authority care support
* Other:

This scholarship will cover ‘home’ tuition fees (up to £9,500 per year\*). Applicants will need to demonstrate that they can cover their living costs whilst at university.

\*Please note that some postgraduate courses can charge higher tuition fees than this and you may need to find additional funding in this instance.

**Please give details about how you plan to cover your living costs if successful in receiving this scholarship.**

**Please give details about other funding/scholarships that you have applied to, and whether any of these applications have been successful**

(example: Hope for the Young grant - unsuccessful, University of Manchester Sanctuary Scholarship - waiting for decision)

### Section 6: Personal Statements

Please take time to carefully write and review these statements. These statements will play a big part in helping the scholarship panel to decide which candidates to invite to an interview. The Trustees want to know who you are as a person, your educational journey, and what your planned degree programme means to you and to your future.

**Why do you want to undertake this degree programme, and why is it important to you? Since this scholarship is particularly aimed at candidates with a strong academic record, you may also want to use this space to describe why you believe you have shown academic excellence in your education so far and why this has led you to embark on a postgraduate course.** Word limit: 400

**How has your education been affected by your personal circumstances? Please describe the barriers you have faced in continuing your education, and provide details of any steps you have taken to try to overcome these barriers.** (You do NOT need to disclose personal details about your asylum claim). Word limit: 400

**Please describe how your chosen postgraduate degree programme will make a clear contribution to society?** Word limit: 300

**Is there anything else that you would like to tell us to help us get to know you better? (Optional)** Word limit: 200

### Section 7: Referee Details

**Please list one reference.** It will ideally be an academic reference (e.g. a teacher, tutor, lecturer), but if this isn’t possible, you can also list a social worker, employer or community group leader. We will contact your referee if you are invited for an interview so please ensure that you have asked them for permission to be a reference.

Title (Miss, Dr., Reverend, etc):

Full name:

Relationship to you:

Name of the organisation your referee works for:

Your referee’s role in that organisation:

Email address:

### Section 8: Declaration and submission

All decisions by the Schwab and Westheimer Charitable Trust are taken in good faith on the basis of the statements made on your scholarship application and having considered your referees' communication.

If the trustees discover that you have made a false statement or have omitted significant information from your application form, they may terminate your application.

Please confirm you have read and agree to the statements below.

I confirm I have read and agree to the above declaration.

* Yes
* No

I acknowledge that this is a competitive process and that submitting an application for a scholarship does not guarantee it will be successful.

* Yes
* No

I agree that, if I am successful, I will notify the Trust immediately if my circumstances change before or during my course or programme of study, in particular in respect to my immigration status.

* Yes
* No

If successful, I agree that I may have to supply certain copies of any documents I have available to support my application.

* Yes
* No

I confirm that the information given in this form is true, complete and accurate, and that no information requested or other material information has been omitted. \*

* Yes
* No

I consent to the processing of my data by the 'Schwab and Westheimer Charitable Trust' and 'Refugee Education UK' for the purpose of dealing with this application.

* Yes
* No

Please let us know how you heard about the scholarships? Select all that apply

* REUK website
* REUK staff
* Displaced Students Opportunities Portal
* Schwab & Westheimer Charitable Trust website
* Staff member at a college or university
* Word of mouth
* Social media
* Other: