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Nottingham Trent University Article 26 Scholarship 2017 Entrants

Nottingham Trent University is very pleased to be offering two NTU Article 26 Scholarships for undergraduate entry in September 2017 for new students who have sought asylum in the UK but do not have access to Student Finance from the UK government.

Scholarship recipients will each be awarded a full tuition fee waiver and a £500 award towards course and travel costs for each year of their academic course.

What is Article 26?

Article 26 is a project supported by the Helena Kennedy Foundation, which is committed to supporting disadvantaged students and enabling them to continue their studies in Higher Education. Nottingham Trent University is pleased to be working in partnership with the network of higher education institutions associated with this project. Further details about the Article 26 project can be found at: www.hkf.org.uk.

Am I eligible to apply?

In order to apply for an NTU Article 26 Scholarship, you must meet all of the following criteria:

- You have been granted and currently have discretionary leave to remain or some other temporary leave following an asylum application made in the UK, **OR**
- You are an asylum seeker (or the dependant* of an asylum seeker and included on the asylum application) and have not yet received a decision from the Home Office on your application;*
- You are not able to access Student Finance from the UK government (student loans and grants) because of your immigration status in the UK;
- You have a firm unconditional or firm conditional offer of a place to study a full-time undergraduate degree or foundation degree course at Nottingham Trent University commencing in September 2017;



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- You have not already obtained a degree or degree equivalent qualification;
- You can demonstrate that you will have sufficient funds to cover your living expenses and accommodation costs during your studies.

** Please note: Spouses/civil partners must have been the spouse/civil partner on the date which the asylum application was made. Children must have been aged under 18 on the date on which the asylum application was made.*

How do I apply?

If you meet all of the eligibility criteria listed above, you can apply for the NTU Article 26 Scholarship. To apply, you will need to email article26@ntu.ac.uk and you will be sent a link to our online application form. You will be required to complete the application form and provide documentary evidence to support your application. You can either submit electronic copies of your evidence online with your application form or if this is not possible, email them to financial.support@ntu.ac.uk.

The deadline for applications is Sunday 11 June 2017.

Before you apply, you are advised to read the following guidance notes on the application form and process.

Section 1 and 2 - About you and your studies

In this section, you will need to provide some basic information about you and your intended studies at NTU. You will need to provide your NTU ID number in this section.

Section 3 – Current status in the UK

In this section, you will be asked to provide details of your immigration status and your residency in the UK. You will also be asked to provide documentary evidence to confirm this. You can either submit electronic copies of your evidence online with your application form or if this is not possible, email them to financial.support@ntu.ac.uk.

If you are emailing your evidence, please type 'Article 26 Evidence' in the subject line of your email. We may request to see a copy of the original documentation following receipt of the application.



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Section 4 – Student Finance

In this section, you will be asked to provide information regarding any application you have made for financial support from the UK government (i.e. student loans) for 17/18.

Section 5 - Personal statement

As part of the application process you will be required to write a personal statement of up to 800 words covering all of the themes listed below.

1. Your personal and family circumstances and what barriers have you overcome in order to continue your education. You do not need to give details of the events that led to your seeking asylum unless you wish to do so.
2. Your financial circumstances - how have you managed financially whilst at school/college and how will you support yourself at University. Please note, although recipients will be eligible to receive a £500 award towards course and travel costs for each year of study, the University can't provide funding to support your living costs such as accommodation and food.
3. Your academic and extracurricular achievements including contributions you have made to School / community life and how your previous studies and experiences will help you to succeed in your chosen course and make a positive contribution to the University and the student community.
4. Why you have chosen to study at NTU and what you hope to gain from your studies at the University.
5. Your future plans, ambitions and career aspirations and how the NTU Article 26 Scholarship will help you to achieve them.



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Section 6 – Referee’s supporting statement

The Referee’s supporting statement is an important part of the selection process. In this section, you will be required to provide the name and contact details of a referee who is supporting your application. Your referee will be required to respond to specific questions regarding your current circumstances, your suitability for your course at NTU and your contribution to college / school & community life, so we advise you to select a Referee who is in a position to be able to respond to these questions.

Your referee will be required to submit a statement of up to 500 words addressing the points below. You can either attach an electronic copy of your Referee’s signed and dated supporting statement with your online application, or you / your referee can email it directly to financial.support@ntu.ac.uk. If you are emailing your referee’s supporting statement, please type ‘Article 26 Evidence’ in the subject line of your email.

In their statement, the referee should respond to the following questions:

1. How do you know the applicant and how long have you known them for?
2. What are the applicant’s personal and financial circumstances and what barriers have they overcome to continue their education?
3. How well suited is the applicant to the higher education course they plan to take and how realistic are the student’s ambitions?
4. What contribution, to your knowledge, has the student made to a) college life and / or b) their community?
5. How do you think the student would benefit from the Article 26 Scholarship provided by NTU?
6. Is there any other information that you believe is relevant to the student’s application?



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If I apply who will my information be shared with?

NTU Article 26 Scholarship applications are only seen by staff who are involved with the administration of the NTU Article 26 Scholarship and the Scholarship Selection Panel made up of 3 members of NTU staff. The personal and sensitive data you have provided on your application form will be used for the purpose of administering the NTU Article 26 Scholarship.

What happens next?

If you meet the eligibility criteria for an NTU Article 26 Scholarship, your application will progress onto the selection process. A selection panel will consider all applications made by eligible candidates. If we receive more than two applications for the Scholarship, the panel will use the information provided in your NTU Article 26 application, in particular your responses to the questions covered in your personal statement and your referee's supporting statement, to select the successful scholarship recipients.

The selection panel will take the following into account in awarding Scholarships:

- Your ability to demonstrate that you have sufficient funds to cover your living costs during your studies;
- Clear evidence that the Article 26 Scholarship will help you to achieve your ambitions for the future;
- Your academic achievements and the likelihood of you succeeding in higher education;
- Your previous contributions to school/college and community life and your extracurricular achievements;
- How you have demonstrated your ability to make a positive contribution to the University and its community and pursue your career aspirations.



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Applicants should expect to hear a response by 4 August 2017

Important Information

Please note, we may request to see original copies of documentation you have sent to us electronically. We may also request that you provide additional supporting evidence to validate information that you have given in your application. The University will already hold information relating to the academic qualifications that you have used to secure your offer of a place at the University. If your application is taken forward to the selection panel, we may also contact you to clarify the information you have provided in your application, and may invite you in to attend for interview.

If, from the information you have provided in your application relating to your immigration status and residency in the UK, we consider that you should be eligible for Student Finance from the UK Government, we will not be able to progress your application for an NTU Article 26 Scholarship unless you provide written evidence from your national student finance service to confirm you are not entitled to Student Finance.

If at any stage in the application process there are changes to your circumstances which would impact on your eligibility for an NTU Article 26 Scholarship (e.g. change in your immigration status, eligibility for UK student finance), you are required to update the University immediately.

The University will require your permission to contact UKVI to validate your current immigration status in the UK prior to awarding the NTU Article 26 Scholarship.

Further Information

If you have any further queries, please contact Student Financial Support Service. Tel: 0115 848 2494, email: financial.support@ntu.ac.uk.