



## James Blair Postgraduate Scholarship 2017-18

(USA and Canada)

The James Blair Postgraduate Scholarship offers a £2,000 tuition fee waiver to up to 15 self-funded international students from the United States or Canada, admitted to an eligible full time, on-campus, Master's degree programme at the University of Aberdeen.

## James Blair

This scholarship, awarded to academically outstanding graduate students from the United States and Canada entering a Master's course at the University of Aberdeen, honours the memory of Bishop James Blair, an alumnus of Aberdeen who made one of the most significant contributions to higher education in the British Americas.

Blair was born in Scotland into a minister's family and was educated at Marischal College (a college of the University of Aberdeen). After completing his education, in 1679 he was ordained a minister in the Kirk of Scotland. Blair supported the bishops in the Kirk and, as a result of the triumph of the Presbyterians over Episcopalians in the 1680s, Blair left for London having been deprived of his Edinburgh parish.

In 1685, he was ordained in the Church England (Anglican/Episcopalian) and left England for the colony of Virginia to 'revive and reform the church' there. Political and religious leaders in Virginia had long desired a college to educate their young and Native Americans.

However, failure to establish a college in the 1610s had postponed the project for nearly three generations. Blair, with the support of leading colonists, revived the plan and returned to England to petition for a royal charter. Supported by Archbishop of Canterbury, Blair was successful and returned to Virginia to found the College of William and Mary, the second oldest seat of higher education in the British colonies. He then served for fifty years at its first president (1693-1743) – the second longest serving college president in American history.



## Eligibility Criteria

Scholarship applications are open to students domiciled in the United States or Canada, who are categorised as international students for tuition fees purposes

In addition, applicants must have accepted an offer of admission to one or more of the following full-time, on-campus, Master's programmes, for entry 2017/18:

- Art and Business (MLitt)
- Biblical Studies (MTh)
- Comparative European Societies (MSc)
- Celtic and Anglo-Saxon Studies (MLitt)
- Church History (MTh)
- Creative Writing (MLitt)
- Energy Politics and Law (MSc)
- English Literary Studies (MLitt)
- Ethnology and Folklore (MLitt)
- Film and Visual Culture (MLitt)
- Global Conflict and Peace Processes (MSc)
- Globalization (MSc)
- International Political Economy (MSc)
- International Relations (MSc)
- International Relations and International Law (MSc)
- International Security (MSc)

- Irish & Scottish History (MLitt)
- Irish and Scottish Literature (MLitt)
- Islamic Studies (MLitt)
- Latin American Studies (MSc)
- Literature, Science and Medicine (MLitt)
- Medieval and Early Modern Studies (MLitt)
- Transnational Cultural Studies (MLitt)
- Ministry Studies (MTh)
- Modern History (MLitt)
- Museum Studies (MLitt)
- Music (MMus)
- Music (Sonic Arts) (MMus)
- Music (Vocal Music) (MMus)
- Novel, The (MLitt)
- People and the Environment (MSc)
- Political Research (MRes)
- Post-Conflict Justice and Peacebuilding (MSc)
- Professional Communication (MSc)
- Religion and Society (MSc)
- Scandinavian Studies (MLitt)
- Sex, Gender Violence: Contemporary Critical Approaches (MSc)
- Social Anthropology (MRes)
- Social Research (MRes)
- Sociology (MSc)
- Strategic Studies (MSc)
- Strategic Studies and International Law (MSc)
- Strategic Studies and Management (MSc)
- Strategic Studies and Energy Management (MSc)
- Systematic Theology (MTh)
- TESOL (MSc)
- Theological Ethics (MTh)
- Translation Studies (MSc)
- Transnational Cultures (MLitt)
- Visual Culture (MLitt)

## Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed based on academic merit and a short statement of purpose on the following topic:

In 500 words (maximum), explain how your chosen Master's programme will help you achieve your academic or career goals.

## How to Apply

Scholarship applications must be submitted online using the online application form.

Note: Scholarship applicants must have accepted an offer of admission (conditional or unconditional) to an eligible programme before submitting their scholarship application. For more information about applying for admission to the University of Aberdeen, please refer to <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-taught/>

## Closing Date

5 May 2017

## Decision Timeframe

Successful applicants will be notified no later than Friday 19th May 2017.

## Terms and Conditions

1. The James Blair Scholarship is worth £2,000 in the form of a tuition fee discount and is open to self-funded students domiciled in the United States or Canada, who are classed as international for tuition fee purposes.
2. No alternative cash award is offered.
3. Applicants must be planning on beginning their studies in September 2017 or January 2018.
4. Applicants must have already accepted an offer of admission to one or more of the listed eligible Master's programmes. Applications from applicants who have not already accepted an offer of admission will not be considered.
5. You must be classed as overseas for tuition fee purposes.
6. You must be a full-time international student.
7. You must be based on the Aberdeen campus for the course of study.
8. You cannot be an Aberdeen Alumnus (or former visiting student), as you would then be entitled to the Aberdeen Alumni discount: <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/alumni/benefits-services/postgraduate-study-154.php>
9. You cannot be coming via a University partnership, as it is likely a different financial arrangement would be in place. If you have questions around this please contact [brian.hussey@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:brian.hussey@abdn.ac.uk)
10. You must not be in receipt of any other scholarship funding from the University of Aberdeen. If you receive another scholarship from the University of Aberdeen, you must decide which one you would like to accept. There is an assumption that you would normally accept the scholarship which is of higher value. It is essential that you notify us of any other source of funding you are in receipt of.
11. This scholarship is only open to self-funding students. You must not be in receipt of any scholarship funding (excluding student loans) from an external source. It is essential that you notify us of any other source of funding you are in receipt of. Please note that, if you accept the James Blair Scholarship but are later offered funding from an external source, the James Blair Scholarship will be withdrawn.
12. The scholarship cannot be deferred. If you are awarded a scholarship but request a deferral of admission, the James Blair Scholarship will be withdrawn.

## Further Information

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