

AHRC Frequently Asked Questions

Applications for AHRC funding at the University of Birmingham. Please note that applications are currently closed, but will reopen for the 2016/17 round in September 2015.

Here at Birmingham, we are very proud of the breadth and depth of the research undertaken in the College of Arts and Law and across the University, offering a wide range of specialisms, alongside access to the expertise across the six HEIs which make up Midlands3Cities. To apply for a studentship, please select one of our [Research Areas \(/schools/calgs/scholarships/AHRC-Research-Areas.aspx\)](#).

FAQs for applicants

Q: If I want to apply for AHRC funding at University of Birmingham, do I apply to University of Birmingham or the Midlands 3 Cities Consortium?

A: Information on the three-step application process can be found on our [Application Page \(/schools/calgs/scholarships/ahrc-application-midlands3cities.aspx\)](#).

You should apply to University of Birmingham completing the AHRC application form (downloadable from our [Application Page \(/schools/calgs/scholarships/ahrc-application-midlands3cities.aspx\)](#)) and submit to ahrcapplications@contacts.bham.ac.uk (<mailto:ahrcapplications@contacts.bham.ac.uk>). You should then also **apply through the Midlands3Cities website** (<http://www.midlands3cities.ac.uk/midlands-3-cities/funding/funding.aspx>), and ensure you have secured two referees who can complete this [reference form](http://www.midlands3cities.ac.uk/midlands-3-cities/documents/referenceuob.docx) (<http://www.midlands3cities.ac.uk/midlands-3-cities/documents/referenceuob.docx>).

The deadline is Wednesday 14th January 2015.

Q: Can I apply for AHRC funding if I have not yet received an offer for a place to study at University of Birmingham?

A: Yes – you can apply in advance of receiving an offer on your application for a place to study. However, by Wednesday 14th January 2015 you must have submitted an application to study to University of Birmingham (find and apply for a [programme of study](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/index.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/index.aspx>)) and have submitted your application for funding to [Midlands3Cities online](http://www.midlands3cities.ac.uk/midlands-3-cities/funding/funding.aspx) (<http://www.midlands3cities.ac.uk/midlands-3-cities/funding/funding.aspx>).

Your programme of study offer will then be 'fastracked' and an offer must be made to you by Thursday 5 February 2015 for you to be considered for AHRC funding. You will only be eligible to be considered for AHRC funding if you are receipt of an offer from University of Birmingham.

Q: Two references are needed for the AHRC funding application and the University of Birmingham programme of study application. Can I use the same references?

A: Yes, you can use the same references for both but, in order for the references to be accepted by the AHRC process, the references must be on the AHRC form (downloadable at www.birmingham.ac.uk/ahrc-funding (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/ahrc-funding>)). These references must be submitted by you or your referees to ahrcapplications@contacts.bham.ac.uk (<mailto:ahrcapplications@contacts.bham.ac.uk>) by Wednesday 14 January 2015.

Q: Do I need to submit evidence of my qualifications with my AHRC funding application?

A: There is space on the AHRC application form for you to indicate your qualifications. For your University of Birmingham programme of study application, you must upload any evidence of qualifications (e.g. transcripts etc) for your application to be considered and for an offer of a place to study to be made to you. You will only be eligible to be considered for AHRC funding if you are receipt of an offer from University of Birmingham.

Q: When will I hear if my AHRC funding application has been successful?

A: The Midlands 3 Cities Consortium will make decisions on applications between February and March 2015. You should expect to hear a final outcome no later than the end of March 2015.

Q: Can I apply for AHRC funding if I want to start my PhD at University of Birmingham in January 2016 or part way through the academic year?

A: No – the AHRC funding is only available for September/October 2015 start.

Q: I am an EU, but not UK, student. What funding am I eligible for?

A: EU students, unless they have been permanently resident in the UK for the 3 years prior to the start of their studentship, are normally awarded a **fees only** studentship, in line with Research Council rules. However, in the Midlands3Cities Doctoral Training Partnership, we are currently looking at ways in which a stipend could be provided from Institutional funds to enable us to offer a fully-funded studentship to EU applicants. This is not guaranteed, as it is dependent on funds available, but where possible it is what the Doctoral Training Partnership is aiming to provide.

You should submit an application as normal - if successful, you will be able to choose whether to accept the place, depending on the level of funding offered.

Q: I am a current University of Birmingham PhD student looking to apply for funding – am I eligible?

A: Current PhD students are able to and are encouraged to apply, providing you have at least one full year's study remaining from the start of the funding period in September 2015. Please note that the period referred to as 'writing up', at the end of your PhD study, is not eligible for this funding. Please note that students already enrolled on a PhD at the University of Birmingham do not need to submit another application to study.

M-level students currently at the University of Birmingham should be aware that they will need to complete their M-level programme, and submit a separate application to study a PhD, to go alongside their funding application. Upgrades (such as from an MA by Research programme) are not acceptable for Midlands3Cities funding purposes.

Q: If I am a current student, do I need to submit references for my funding application?

A: Yes, you are still required to submit two references. Your referees must complete the AHRC referee form and submit to ahrcapplications@contacts.bham.ac.uk (ahrcapplications@contacts.bham.ac.uk) by 14 January 2015.

Useful contact details

Midlands3Cities application enquiries

Email: enquiries@midlands3cities.ac.uk (<mailto:enquiries@midlands3cities.ac.uk>)

Useful University of Birmingham websites

- [Midlands3Cities funding](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/calgs/scholarships/AHRC-Research-Areas.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/calgs/scholarships/AHRC-Research-Areas.aspx>)
- [Postgraduate study at Birmingham](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/index.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/index.aspx>)
- [Midlands3Cities consortium website](http://www.midlands3cities.ac.uk/midlands-3-cities/index.aspx) (<http://www.midlands3cities.ac.uk/midlands-3-cities/index.aspx>)

