

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM - SIM MBA SCHOLARSHIPS

Terms and Conditions (Pilot Scheme for 2027 and 2028 MBA Intakes)

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1. Purpose

The University of Birmingham-SIM (UoB-SIM) MBA Scholarships are introduced on a pilot basis to recognise excellence among MBA students.

The scholarships are designed to:

- Attract high-calibre MBA applicants.
- Enhance the diversity and quality of the MBA student cohort.
- Recognise achievement in academics, leadership, social impact, and sustainability.
- Increase engagement within the UoB-SIM MBA community.
- Support strategic enrolment growth objectives.

2. Pilot Parameters

2.1 Pilot Duration

The scholarship scheme will be offered on a pilot basis for students admitted to:

- January 2027 MBA intake
- January 2028 MBA intake

Continuation beyond 2028 will be subject to review.

3. Scholarship Overview

Up to six thematic scholarships may be awarded annually under the University of Birmingham MBA programme. The number of scholarships per thematic areas can change but the total number per year remains six per year. The Panel reserve the right to make the final decision.

The scholarship categories are:

- Dean's Excellence Award
- Global Citizenship Award
- Responsible Leadership Award
- Community Engagement Impact Award
- Women in Business Leadership Award
- Environmental Activism Award

UoB and SIM reserve the right not to award any scholarship if no applicant meets the required standards.

4. Scholarship Value

Each scholarship carries a value of **SGD10,000**

The scholarship applies towards MBA tuition fees only and does not cover:

- Application fees
- Registration fees
- Learning materials
- Accommodation
- Travel expenses
- Personal expenses

The scholarship shall be awarded as a one-time reimbursement after all prevailing eligibility and payment requirements have been fulfilled. This means that reimbursement will be made once the student complete paying their tuition any eligible payments are completed.

5. Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must satisfy all the following requirements:

- Have secured admission into the UoB MBA programme offered through SIM GE.
- Be enrolled in and remain in good standing in the MBA programme.
- Have completed six (6) core modules and one (1) elective module in the first year.
- Have successfully passed all seven modules.
- Have obtained a minimum of 70 academic credits.
- Have achieved a minimum grade of Merit for all completed modules.
- Maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the programme, ie. Be free of serious disciplinary offences or academic misconduct.
- Maintain 90% attendance in accordance with programme requirements, including residential weekends and connect sessions.

6. Scholarship Categories and Assessment Criteria

Applicants may apply for **one scholarship category only**.

Applicants are required to submit:

- A completed scholarship application form;
- A 500-word essay addressing the prescribed essay question;
- Supporting documents relevant to their achievements, contributions and experiences;
- Any additional information requested by the Scholarship Selection Panel.

7.1 Dean's Excellence Award

Description

This prestigious award is reserved for applicants who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and intellectual excellence.

Assessment Criteria

Selection will be based on demonstrated academic excellence. Applicants are expected to have achieved outstanding prior academic performance, such as graduating with First Class Honours or attaining a GMAT score of 700 or above.

Successful applicants should embody the University of Birmingham's commitment to rigorous scholarship and intellectual distinction.

Applicants should also demonstrate strong performance within the MBA programme and be on track to achieve distinction-level results across modules completed during the first year of study.

Essay Question

"Why should you be awarded the Dean's Excellence Award?"

The essay should provide evidence of:

- Consistent academic achievement and intellectual capability;
- Critical thinking, analytical skills and academic engagement;
- Contributions to the learning environment through class participation, discussion and group work;
- Commitment to personal and professional development through continuous learning activities; and
- Clear future goals and how the scholarship will support these aspirations.

Supporting evidence should be appended where applicable.

7.2 Global Citizenship Award

Description

This award recognises individuals who actively contribute to a diverse, inclusive and globally engaged learning community.

Assessment Criteria

In keeping with UoB's commitment to an inclusive and globally minded academic environment, this award will be granted to applicants whose cultural, professional or personal experiences enrich the diversity of perspectives within the MBA classroom.

Essay Question

"Why should you be awarded the Global Citizenship Award?"

The essay should demonstrate:

- Strong intercultural awareness and the ability to work across cultures;
- International work, volunteer or community experiences that contribute to positive global outcomes;
- Contributions towards cultural diversity and inclusion;
- Exposure to diverse industries, regions or socio-economic contexts;
- Experience navigating complex global or cross-cultural environments; and
- Contributions that broaden perspectives within the classroom and learning community.

Applicants should also demonstrate a strong global outlook through:

- Participation in global-focused initiatives;
- Interest in addressing global challenges such as sustainability, inequality or development; and
- Leadership in internationally oriented or socially impactful activities.

Supporting evidence, awards or nominations should be appended where relevant.

7.3 Responsible Leadership Award

Description

This award recognises individuals who have demonstrated, or show significant potential for, principled and responsible leadership in business.

Assessment Criteria

Applicants should demonstrate how they have led initiatives or influenced positive change within their workplace, industry or community, with a clear emphasis on ethical, sustainable or socially responsible outcomes.

Essay Question

"Why should you be awarded the Responsible Leadership Award?"

The essay should provide evidence of:

- Responsible leadership in practice;
- Impact of actions on stakeholders or communities;
- Making decisions guided by ethical principles;
- Commitment to fairness, accountability and transparency;
- Contributions towards social impact, inclusion or community development; and
- How they intend to further develop as responsible leaders.

Supporting evidence such as awards, commendations or testimonials may be submitted.

7.4 Community Engagement Impact Award

Description

This award recognises applicants who have shown exceptional commitment to the betterment of society through voluntary service, grassroots activism or social impact initiatives.

Assessment Criteria

Applicants should demonstrate how their efforts have created meaningful and measurable benefits for communities, particularly underrepresented or disadvantaged groups.

Essay Question

"Why should you be awarded the Community Engagement Impact Award?"

The essay may focus on one or both of the following dimensions:

Tangible Social Impact

Evidence may include:

- Improved outcomes for specific communities;
- Delivery of impactful programmes or initiatives; and
- Positive social change arising from the applicant's efforts.

Inclusion and Equity

Evidence may include:

- Work addressing inequality, accessibility or social justice;
- Initiatives supporting disadvantaged or marginalised populations; and
- Advocacy for inclusive and equitable practices.

Applicants are encouraged to submit supporting evidence such as:

- Awards and commendations;
- Testimonials;
- Community partner endorsements; or
- Public recognition of contributions and impact.

7.5 Women in Business Leadership Award

Description

This award celebrates women who have demonstrated exemplary leadership, innovation and influence in their professional, entrepreneurial or community-based roles.

Assessment Criteria

Assessment may consider:

- Career progression and increasing leadership responsibilities;
- Experience leading teams or managing projects;
- Contributions to organisational performance, innovation or transformation;
- Professional recognition through awards or commendations;
- Leadership contributions during academic or formative years;
- Community involvement, volunteering or social impact initiatives; and
- Potential to inspire and influence future generations of women leaders.

Essay Question

"Why should you be awarded the Women in Business Leadership Award?"

The essay should demonstrate the applicant's leadership achievements, aspirations and alignment with the values of the scholarship.

Supporting evidence should be appended where applicable.

7.6 Environmental Activism Award

Description

This award honours applicants who have actively contributed to environmental sustainability and advocated for meaningful environmental change.

Assessment Criteria

Applicants should demonstrate active involvement in initiatives that promote environmental sustainability and social responsibility.

Essay Question

"Why should you be awarded the Environmental Activism Award?"

The essay should provide evidence of:

- Leadership or involvement in environmental campaigns or projects;
- Initiatives that address environmental challenges;
- Promotion or implementation of circular economy practices;
- Environmental education and awareness programmes;
- Contributions to climate action, conservation or resource efficiency; and
- Advocacy for sustainable practices or behavioural change.

Particular consideration will be given to applicants who demonstrate a long-term commitment to environmental stewardship and the ability to mobilise others towards positive environmental outcomes.

Supporting evidence such as awards, project reports, certifications or testimonials should be submitted where relevant.

7. Assessment and Selection Process

Stage 1 – Eligibility Screening

SIM and UoB staff shall conduct an initial review of all applications to verify that applicants satisfy the eligibility requirements.

This includes verification of:

- Admission into the MBA programme;
- Completion of the required modules;
- Academic results;
- Attendance records;
- Supporting documentation submitted.

Applications that do not satisfy the minimum eligibility requirements shall not proceed to further assessment.

Stage 2 – Application Assessment

Eligible applications shall be assessed holistically based on the applicant's academic achievements, professional experience, leadership potential, community contributions, supporting evidence and alignment with the selected scholarship category.

The assessment shall generally take into consideration the following components:

- Academic Achievement
- Personal Essay

- Profile and Supporting Evidence
- Interview Performance

Stage 3 – Interview Assessment

Applicants will be invited to attend an interview with the Scholarship Selection Panel.

The interview may assess:

- Motivation for applying for the scholarship;
- Authenticity of achievements and contributions;
- Alignment with the selected scholarship category;
- Communication and reflection abilities;
- Leadership potential and future aspirations.

The Panel may request additional information or supporting evidence arising from the interview.

Stage 4 – Selection Panel Deliberation

The Scholarship Selection Panel shall review all application materials and interview outcomes before making a final decision.

The Panel shall consider:

- Eligibility requirements;
- Academic performance;
- Essay quality;
- Supporting evidence;
- Interview performance;
- Alignment with the objectives of the scholarship category.

The Panel reserves the right:

- Not to award a scholarship in any category;
- To recommend fewer than six scholarships in any year; or
- To request additional information before making a final decision.

Final Approval

The final award recommendation shall be endorsed by the panel through the agreed UoB-SIM approval process before notification to recipients.

8. Scholarship Selection

The Panel's decision shall be final. Requests for reconsideration will only be accepted on procedural grounds, such as evidence of administrative error. Any appeal must be submitted in writing within fourteen (14) days of notification of the outcome.

9. Recipient Obligations

Scholarship recipients are expected to:

- Sit for all required assessments and examinations.
- Maintain satisfactory academic performance and conduct.
- Comply with all academic integrity and disciplinary requirements.
- Contribute actively to the UoB-SIM community through sharing of learning experiences, talks, briefings, open houses or other engagement activities.
- Serve as ambassadors for UoB and SIM where appropriate.

10. Scholarship Disbursement

The scholarship shall be disbursed as a one-time reimbursement after the recipient has:

- Accepted the scholarship offer;
- Remained eligible under all scholarship conditions; and
- Paid all programme fees due to SIM in accordance with the approved payment schedule.

Payment shall be credited to the recipient's nominated bank account.

Any overseas bank charges shall be borne by the recipient.

The scholarship reimbursement will ordinarily be processed in November of the award year.

11. Revocation, Withdrawal and Termination

UoB and SIM reserve the right to suspend, revoke or terminate a scholarship where:

- False, misleading or incomplete information has been provided;
- The recipient breaches any scholarship condition;
- Academic misconduct, plagiarism or dishonesty is established;
- Serious disciplinary action has been taken against the recipient;
- The recipient withdraws, transfers or is removed from the programme; or
- The recipient ceases to meet eligibility requirements.

UoB and SIM may jointly require full or partial repayment of the scholarship amount where deemed appropriate.

12. Data Protection and Publicity

All personal data collected as part of the scholarship application, assessment and administration process shall be handled in accordance with applicable data protection regulations and institutional policies.

Scholarship recipients agree that UoB and SIM may:

- Use their name, image, achievements and testimonials;
- Feature them in interviews, videos, photography and promotional materials; and
- Publicise scholarship outcomes through institutional communication channels.

Such use shall be for marketing, publicity, reporting and stakeholder engagement purposes across UoB MBA Portfolio. SIM to request separate express consent for this from the scholarship recipients.

13. Application Process and Timeline

The MBA Scholarship application exercise shall normally open in April on the second year of each January MBA intake

Indicative timeline (on the second year of each intake):

Activity	Timeline
Scholarship Application Opens	April
Scholarship Application Closes	May
Eligibility Screening and Application Assessment	June
Interview Assessment	July to Aug
Selection Panel Deliberation and Final Approval	July to Aug
Outcome Notification and Scholarship Reimbursement	November
Presentation at MBA Symposium	November

The timeline may be adjusted annually based on operational requirements.