

Alton College Foundation Scholarships for Excellence

Terms and Conditions – Effective 1 Jan 2015

Background

In 1999 three Governors established The Alton College Foundation as an independent registered charity. In that time we have raised over £350,000, which has been used to improve the college and help both students and staff.

Since 2002 we have provided students with Scholarships through our **Scholarships for Excellence Scheme**. The sole objective of this scheme is to reward and encourage effort and excellence amongst students. To date we have awarded 232 Scholarships and seen our students achieve great things both in education and in their careers.

From January 2014 the Scholarship for Excellence Scheme changed to reflect the need to further raise standards and encourage excellence amongst students studying at the college.

As a result although applications can still be made by students prior to joining the college the eligibility criteria has changed, so that only students who have already commenced full-time studies at the college will be considered for shortlisting and selection (see full details for eligibility below).

Scholarship Subjects

The number of Scholarships awarded and subjects covered varies from year to year but cover a wide range of subjects at both A level and BTEC. These include:

- English
- Mathematics
- Sciences
- Medicine
- Languages
- Engineering
- Geography
- History
- Business Studies
- Music
- Art
- Drama
- Sport

In addition Scholarships are currently offered to talented artists on the one-year Art Foundation course, supported by Alton Decorative and Fine Arts Society (ADFAS).

The monetary reward associated with each scholarship is determined by our Sponsors and is paid annually to students whilst at college. More information will be provided on application.

Our Current Supporters

Alton College and The Alton College Foundation are extremely grateful to all those individuals and organisations that continue to support and fund this scheme, which, unlike other 6th form Scholarship schemes, do not use college funds.

We welcome enquiries from others wishing to add their names to the already impressive list of supporters below:

- Dischma Trust
- Ellis Campbell Charitable Foundation
- Rotary Club of Alton
- Alton Lions Club
- Alton Decorative and Fine Arts Society (ADFAS)
- Sir James Scott
- MTD Training
- Mrs Merry Frankel
- Alton Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Gaffney Cline and Associates
- Scholarship Alumni

Eligibility

1. You must be 18 years or younger, studying full-time at Alton College. The exception to this is students on the one year Arts Foundation Course applying for an ADFAS Scholarship.
2. You should be undertaking either a 2-year A level course, an equivalent BTEC course or the Arts Foundation Course. Students in either their first or second year may apply.
3. Students may also apply before they start their studies at Alton College, if you are predicted A or A* in most of your GCSE subjects, but additional information will be requested after commencing full-time studies at College, e.g. GCSE results.
4. You must have achieved A or A* in most of your GCSE subjects, or be exceptionally talented at sport or be a talented artist. In addition: -
 - a. If you are applying for Mathematics you must have achieved an A* in GCSE Mathematics and studying Mathematics and Further Mathematics at A level.
 - b. If you are applying for Medicine or Veterinary Science you must have achieved A* in at least two science GCSE subjects and be studying A level - Chemistry and Biology and either Physics or Mathematics.
 - c. If you are applying for Modern Languages you must have achieved an A or A* in a language at GCSE (preferably two) and studying at least one language at A level.
5. You should be working to Grade A or A* standard in your chosen A level subjects or D* in BTEC subjects.

How to apply

You must write a letter to the Alton College Foundation. This should be headed 'Alton College Foundation Scholarships for Excellence' and indicate the area for which you are applying e.g. a Mathematics Scholarship. In the letter you should state why you feel you should be awarded a Scholarship, your future plans for university and career (if known) and any significant hobbies or interests.

The Alton College Foundation will take into account your letter of application, your previous academic achievements e.g. GCSE grades, comments from your school and Alton College teachers and any predicted grades when assessing your suitability for a Scholarship.

Closing Date / Selection Process

All applications and references must be received by the **15th November**. Applications may also be made prior to joining the college from school, although you may be asked for supplementary information to support your application when you arrive at the college.

Shortlisting for interview will take place in **December** and if successful, you will be invited for interview in **December and January** (exact dates will vary each year). The interview panel will include College staff, Sponsors and Alton College Foundation Directors.

Decisions on the award of Scholarships are at the discretion of the interview panel and the Alton College Foundation and are final. Feedback will be given if requested.

The Scholars Commitment

1. You will be required to attend the awards ceremony to receive your Scholarship certificate. This will take place in **February**.
2. Scholars are encouraged to meet with their Sponsors whilst at the college. This is not only valued by our Sponsors but is also often beneficial to the Scholar.
3. All Scholars must submit an annual report (250-400 words) detailing their progress and achievements, and how they have used or intend to use the Scholarship money.
4. Scholars must demonstrate commitment throughout their time at the college. All interim results and reports from College will form part of the judgement of commitment. If the Scholar is felt not be sufficiently committed or leaves the college then any outstanding payments will be forfeited.

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Disclaimer

All information in this leaflet is given in good faith but the Alton College Foundation reserves the right to make changes.

January 2015