



A. The KMi Annual Summer Scholarship for people from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic Background 2021

1. The KMi Annual Summer Scholarship is for people aged 16 to 20 from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background.
2. An award winner will carry out a short computer science project in KMi, lasting up to 6 weeks during June-August 2021. The project may be conducted online, at the OU campus in Milton Keynes or through a combination of both.
2. An award winner will receive non-repayable funding of up to £4,000, which can be used for project costs or other living expenses. A payment schedule will be agreed which is appropriate to the needs of the awardee and their project.
3. The Scholarship is intended as a contribution towards costs and is not a tuition fee payment method.
4. An award winner will carry out their project under the mentorship of a KMi Academic Researcher or PhD student. The project findings will be shared with KMi, for example, by depositing a report in the OU's Open Research Online repository (ORO) or depositing data or code in the Open Research Data Online repository (ORDO), with support from a KMi academic.

B. Terms & Conditions

5. These conditions contain the terms of the KMi Annual Scholarship for people from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic Background. They set out the rights and responsibilities of each party which will apply in relation to your application for the scheme and, for successful applicants only.
6. Please read these conditions carefully before you apply and make sure that you understand them.

C. Eligibility

7. In order to qualify for a Scholarship, you must meet **all** the following criteria:



- You identify as being from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background
- You are aged 16-20 on the date of submitting the application
- You can demonstrate an interest in technology
- You are ordinarily resident in the UK
- You submit a project proposal on one of the listed KMi topics that you have co-developed with a KMi academic or PhD student
- You have 2 referees (one or both from your school, a friend or other person you know)
- You will be available to carry out a project which will start no earlier than 21st June and no later than 26th July and will run for 6 weeks.

D. Scholarship Payments

8. Successful applicants will receive their Scholarship by BACS directly into their bank account.
9. A payment schedule will be agreed which is appropriate to the needs of the awardee and their project. For example, you might receive two monthly payments of £2,000.
10. All payments will be subject to the University verifying that you are actively participating in study.
11. Scholarships do not normally have to be paid back, as they are a grant.
12. Any Scholarship payment made by The Open University in error or paid as a result of false information submitted will be recovered from the applicant.

E. Applications

13. Applications should be submitted to Miss Ortenz Rose by email to kmi-phd-recruitment@open.ac.uk and she will acknowledge that it has been received.
14. The deadline for getting in touch with a KMi academic or PhD student to express interest in making an application is midnight on 6 April 2021. They will provide information and



support to develop a project proposal and explain how an awardee will be supervised during the project.

15. The deadline for submitting applications is midnight on 10 May 2021. No further applications will be accepted after this date.
16. It is your responsibility to provide any supporting evidence required for your application. Any application form received which is incomplete cannot be considered.
17. Applications on behalf of another person will not be accepted.
18. The Open University accepts no responsibility for applications that are lost, delayed, misdirected, incomplete or cannot be delivered.
19. Only one application per person.
20. Awards will be made by a panel of OU staff, comprised of a Senior KMi academic, a People Services Representative and an Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Representative from the STEM Faculty. Funds are limited, and no guarantee of an award can be made.
21. £4,000 will be payable as detailed in these terms and conditions.
22. Successful applicants will be notified by email and letter on or before 31st May 2020. If the applicant rejects the Scholarship or the application is in breach of these terms and conditions, the award will be forfeited and The Open University shall be entitled to select another recipient.
23. The project will start no earlier than 21st June and no later than 26h July and will run for 6 weeks.
24. Successful applicants may be offered the opportunity to take part in promotional activity related to the KMi Scholarship for people from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic Background such as attending fundraising events or taking part in forums.

25. The Open University shall use and take care of any personal information supplied to it as described in its [Privacy Notice](#), a copy of which is available on request, in accordance with data protection legislation.
26. By submitting your application, you agree to the collection, retention, usage and distribution of your personal information in order to process your application and contact you.
27. The Open University accepts no responsibility for any disappointment incurred by the applicant as a result of entering the application process. The Scholarship is discretionary, and the decision of the panel is final.
28. The Open University will take all reasonable steps to continue the services offered as part of this scheme. There may be circumstances outside of our control where we are unable to provide those services in full or in part for reasons such as fire, flood, pandemic, terrorist acts or industrial disputes. Where those, or similar, circumstances arise we will minimise disruption so far as we are reasonably able to.
29. Promoter: The Open University, Walton Hall, Kents Hill, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA.

F. Frequently Asked Questions

How were the eligibility criteria decided?

The aim of the Scholarship is to offer participation in a summer project at The Knowledge Media Institute to underrepresented groups and ensure that a recipient receives the support they need to succeed in their project. The eligibility criteria were designed to encourage individuals from specific target groups to embark on computer science project with The Knowledge Media Institute at The Open University. Evidence shows that a relatively low number of people from these backgrounds – compared to white people – study at university or achieve first or 2.1 degrees.



Why do the entry criteria positively discriminate when The Open University claims to be "open to all"?

We want to do our best to ensure that the OU reflects the whole of our society. Among the visitors who come to KMi each summer, there has been an under-representation of people from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Background. We aim to ensure consistent representation through this annual Scholarship and create greater awareness of computer science research in not-yet-reached communities.

Why isn't the Scholarship open to all?

Scholarship funds are limited, it is therefore not possible to open the scheme up to all people. This limit on funds was considered when determining who the Scholarship would be available to. The eligibility criteria are in place to maximise the benefits of the scheme and ensure it reaches those who will benefit from it most.

What happens if I withdraw from the Scholarship?

Scholarships do not normally have to be paid back, as they are a grant. However, if you withdraw, or take a leave of absence, you will not receive further instalments until you resume activity.

What can the Scholarship money be spent on?

There are no restrictions on what you can spend the money on, however the Scholarship is intended to support you with project costs or other living expenses during the project.