

BOVTS - Student Financial Support

- **Who is on the Hardship Fund committee?**

Currently, Fiona Francombe (Principal/CEO), Julia Trow (Head of Finance), Julia Heeley (Student Support Manager) and Ali de Souza (Director of Drama) sit on the board that decides the allocation of funds. Marchia Abokie chairs this meeting but does not vote.

- **How are Hardship funds allocated?**

Anonymised data from applications received by Marchia are presented to the committee. Each individual case is considered and Marchia informs students if they have been successful after each meeting. The Terms of Reference for the Hardship Fund Committee can be found [here](#).

- **Where can I find the BOVTS Hardship Fund form?**

The link to the form can be found [here](#). If you have any questions about the application process or form then please contact Marchia Abokie at marchia.abokie@oldvic.ac.uk.

- **When are the deadlines for the BOVTS Hardship Fund?**

The deadline can be found on the Hardship Fund form itself. Marchia will send out reminders a few days before the deadline.

- **How much can I get from the BOVTS Hardship Fund?**

The awards are capped at £2,100 per application and is normally paid in three instalments of £700 each month. There is no standard award amount and an award to one student does not set a precedent in respect of an award to another student.

- **What happens if I miss the BOVTS Hardship Fund application deadline?**

We understand that students may not be able to apply by the deadline or have issues happen after the deadline that cannot wait until the next meeting of the committee. You can contact Marchia directly and we will assess applications on an ad hoc basis throughout the year.

- **Can I apply for the BOVTS Hardship Fund more than once?**

Yes, you can apply once per term and if you have unforeseen circumstances you can apply again within the same term, if needed.

- **How is any BOVTS Hardship Fund award paid to me?**

Most payments will be made directly to the student's chosen bank account by BACS transfer. If the student has a debt to a third party and has given permission to pay this from their award, this will be paid to the third party. The amount paid to the student will be reduced accordingly. If the amount to be paid to the student is over £2,000, this may be paid in instalments, spread throughout the year. The student will be informed of the payment dates. We may request additional, up-to-date information before an instalment is paid and may recalculate an award and adjust instalments still to be paid. We do not usually reclaim funds already paid. The Team will check that the student is still fully registered on the course before releasing future instalments.

- **How do I apply for the UWE Student Support Fund?**

You can apply for the fund [here](#).

The Student Support Fund is a significant fund provided by UWE Bristol to support UK undergraduate and postgraduate students who may need extra financial support to remain in higher education.

Applications open on the 18th September.

Please note that those students who are self-funding need to meet UWE's Minimum Required Provision (MRP) as advised by National Association of Student Money Advisors (NASMA)

The Minimum required provision is, for Full-time undergraduate students who are not eligible for statutory funding due to previous study and all full-time postgraduate students must have sufficient income to cover their living costs (after payments for tuition fees are accounted for) to be eligible. The minimum required provision (MRP) is the sum of the composite living costs and rent and/or mortgage payments over the assessment period. The student's total assessed household income must be at least the MRP minus £1,500 to be eligible for an award from the Student Support Fund. For example, a single student with a 39-week assessment period and rent of £500 per month will have a MRP of: CLC: $£100 \times 39 = £3,900$ Rent: $£500 \times 9 = £4,500$ + Total: $£78 \times 39 = £8,400$ To be eligible for an award, their assessed income must be at least: $£8,400 - £1,500 = £6,900$

Also, there is a section on the application asking that students have to confirm that they have completed a Blackboard lesson, BOVTS students can skip that part of the application, by just ticking yes to this question.

Please remember that UWE will only email you via your UWE email address and NOT your BOVTS email address.

- **What is the UWE Summer Fund and when can I apply?**

The UWE Summer Fund is a fund provided by UWE Bristol to support UK undergraduate and postgraduate students who may need extra financial support to remain in higher education during the summer break.

Applications open on the 18th September.

Please remember that UWE will only email you via your UWE email address and NOT your BOVTS email address.

- **What scholarships and bursaries are available to me?**

A list of UWE Scholarships and bursaries are available [here](#).

BOVTS has some scholarships, however, most of those scholarships are for undergraduate acting students.

Some bursaries are chosen by the individual charities and students are put forward for those scholarships by their tutors. Please speak to your tutor or Marchia regarding these.

There are no scholarships available for postgraduate students here at BOVTS.

- **Why is my course not eligible for some of the internal scholarships?**

Some donors have specific wishes as to what courses they wish their funding to be directed towards (known as restricted funds). As a charity, the School is legally obliged to follow charitable guidelines and the wishes of the donor. The donor's web pages should give more information about the criteria but if you have any further questions, please contact Marchia.

- **Where can I find a list of external scholarships?**

For Postgraduate Students you can find the list [here](#).

For Undergraduate Students you can find the list [here](#).

- **Where can I get help with applying for bursaries and scholarships?**

For help with applying to UWE Scholarships or BOVTS financial help please contact Marchia.