

## DETAILED CONDITIONS OF TENURE OF THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

Studying at Oxford is a wonderful experience! Rhodes Scholars may read for any full-time postgraduate degree at the University of Oxford, subject to the few Rhodes requirements and a couple of exceptions outlined below.

We expect Rhodes Scholars to study at Oxford for two years, this is not a one-year Scholarship. A third year of full Scholarship is available for those who choose to read for the DPhil (PhD), subject to the notes below.

See '[Introducing our Courses](#)' for details of the different types of courses offered by the University of Oxford.

*Degree options for two-year tenure :*

- **BA with Senior Status** (also known as the 2<sup>nd</sup> BA) : this degree, offered by Oxford, is open only to those who hold a first undergraduate degree. The degree is taken over two years, rather than the normal three, see [here](#). Please note there is an exceptional deadline for Rhodes Scholars applying for 2<sup>nd</sup> BA of 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of December.
- **A one-year taught Master's course** (MSc, MSt, BCL, MPP) followed by a second 1-year Master's course. Note the exceptions listed below, under 'Caveats'.
- **A two-year taught Master's course** (MPhil, BPhil).
- **A two-year MSc by research**

*Options for pursuing DPhil on the Rhodes Scholarship*

- **Direct entry to the three-year DPhil** (NB three-year refers to fee liability, Oxford DPhils are advertised as 3-4 years in the graduate prospectus): Scholars in the Medical Sciences or Maths, Physical and Life Sciences may apply direct to the DPhil. (The Social Sciences & Humanities Divisions in Oxford normally require a Master's qualification for entry to DPhil, see below).
- **A one-year taught Master's course** (MSc, MSt, BCL) : Scholars who read for a one-year taught Master's course may apply to progress to DPhil in their second year.
- **A two-year MPhil or BPhil** (or MPhil/BPhil) : Scholars taking the MPhil/BPhil (or the two-year BCL/MPhil route) may apply to progress to DPhil in their third year.
- **Four-year DPhil programmes**, eg the Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) and the Doctoral Training Centre (DTC) programmes. Scholars may pursue these programmes only if alternative funding is obtained for the final (4th) year of the programme. Interested Scholars or applicants should contact : [registrar@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk](mailto:registrar@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk) before applying.

*Caveats/Exceptions:*

- The **MFE** (Masters in Financial Economics) and the **MBA** (Masters in Business Administration) are professional degrees : Scholars may read these degrees on the Scholarship, **but only in the second year** of the Scholarship
- The **MPP-MBA** or **MPP-MFE** combination is not available (that is, neither the MBA nor the MFE may be pursued in the second year for those who take the MPP (Masters in Public Policy) in their first year
- **The four-year Accelerated Graduate-Entry course in Medicine** is not tenable on the Rhodes Scholarship

### Notes on the discretionary third year of Scholarship

As above, Scholars may apply to progress to DPhil via a one or two year Master's degree. Interested Scholars will be required to make an application to the Trustees, in their first and/or second year. The proposed doctoral thesis will normally be an outgrowth of work done in the Master's course, since beginning a wholly new topic inescapably leads to unfunded overruns. The Academic Committee of the Rhodes Trust will look for outstanding academic performance, combined with a strong rationale for DPhil, in the context of intended career path.

Approval of the third year will be contingent on meeting any conditions placed on admission by your academic department. The DPhil rarely makes sense for a Scholar who intends a terminal professional or other degree.

Scholars who take the Master's route to DPhil should expect to spend at least four years in Oxford. The Trust will pay full University tuition for any Scholar progressing to DPhil from a Master's course, ie 4 years (12 terms) in total.

**PLEASE NOTE**, however, that at present the Trust is unable to provide stipend or living expenses in the final (fourth) year. Securing endowment funding to support all Scholars in the final (fourth) year of the DPhil is a very high strategic priority for the Trust, but we are not there yet. Any Scholar embarking on the DPhil must, therefore, consider carefully how they will support themselves in that final year.

*Additional notes:*

*DPhil within the Medical Sciences Division* : Under a long-standing agreement with the Medical Sciences Division, Scholars progressing to the DPhil via a Master's degree in this Division, may attract divisional funding for the fourth year. Scholars intending to take this route should talk to Mary Eaton.

*4-year CDT courses* : Scholars or candidates interested in a 4-year programme within one of the Centres for Doctoral Training should contact [registrar@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk](mailto:registrar@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk).

Alternative sources of funding could include self-financing, grants, other external scholarship support, loans or family support. The Rhodes Trust will require appropriate evidence of alternative funding.

*The Rhodes Trust reserves the right to vary these conditions at any time without notice. For the latest, definitive, conditions please see <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/files/conditions-of-tenure>.*