

LIFE-CHANGING OPPORTUNITIES

SUPPORTING MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL STUDENTS AT MERTON AND OXFORD





Investing in the Leaders of the Future

More than one third of the current students at the University of Oxford, and half of the students at Merton College, are postgraduates. In today's knowledge-based economy, individuals increasingly need more than a first degree to build a successful career. Graduate students go on to become outstanding leaders in every sector – science, business, government, and the arts. They enrich and enlighten our lives and take on the greatest challenges of our era.

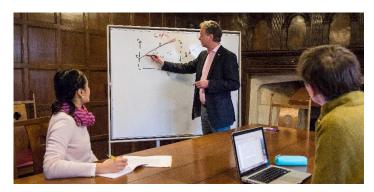
The research that our graduate students do during their time at the College adds value and insight to today's complex world and supports the work of our Fellows, particularly in the Sciences. Our graduates also enhance the life and world-renowned reputation of the University and Merton by attracting brilliant outside academics.

Full Graduate Scholarship funding is crucial for recruiting and retaining outstanding master's and doctoral candidates, from all backgrounds and on an international scale. Currently, only half of Merton's postgraduates are fully funded by the College or other sources. Unfortunately, this does not match up to the levels of support offered at the leading US universities, and it is often the case that some of the best applicants choose to attend other institutions.

Enhancing Graduate Study at Merton and Oxford

On average, it costs £31,000 per year to fund a graduate student in the

Humanities and Sciences (exact costs may vary according to field of study and nationality), and £43,000 per year for graduates in Medicine and on the MBA programme. In the longer term, Oxford is seeking to provide full funding for every graduate student, and thereby, achieve needs-blind admission.



Endowment donations of £1 million are therefore sought for Graduate Scholarships, and where possible, advantage is taken of joint funding opportunities with other bodies, such as the University's Clarendon Fund. We also welcome support for Graduate Scholarships on an ongoing basis and seek commitments that will last for four years or more. At present, a donation of £60,000 would fund the living costs of a graduate scholar for the duration of a four-year doctoral programme of study.

Merton's Governing Body has placed the funding of more Graduate Scholarships extremely high on the College's strategic agenda. Following significant progress on financial support for undergraduates during the recent 750th Anniversary Campaign, the College is now turning its attention to expanding funding for graduate students. We are delighted to offer naming opportunities against the full funding of both endowed and non-endowed Graduate Scholarships.

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