



## MSc Motorsport Scholarships

Supporting motorsport enthusiasts

**Applicant guidance notes**  
Deadline: 4pm 8 March 2024

# Overview

**The MSc Motorsport Scholarship Programme**, a new programme created with the support of Mission 44, aims to support individuals from Black or mixed Black ethnic backgrounds who wish to study a master's degree in motorsport (or a related eligible engineering course). These scholarships aim to help address the underrepresentation of Black or mixed Black ethnic engineers in motorsport and accelerate the rate of change.

**The Scholarship Programme has been developed** to address a specific recommendation within The Hamilton Commission's first report, Accelerating Change: Improving Representation of Black People in UK Motorsport. Sir Lewis Hamilton HonFREng formed The Hamilton Commission, alongside the Royal Academy of Engineering. The commission aimed to address the underrepresentation of Black people in UK motorsport and the STEM sector.

**Our programme provides financial and career support** to individuals from a Black or mixed Black ethnic background completing their masters in motorsport or a related engineering degree. Up to 10 awards will be made over two years.

These scholarships aim to **help address the underrepresentation** of Black or mixed Black ethnic engineers in motorsport



# Academy support

## Primary

- Up to £25,000 of funding to cover the full tuition fees and maintenance costs for an eligible motorsport (or engineering related) MSc course
- Dedicated training and networking events with motorsport representatives
- Dedicated motorsport experiences
- Access to career training and support, through the Graduate Engineering Engagement Programme (GEEP)
- Access to an online community forum to collaborate and communicate with other awardees and programme supporters

## As a result of completing the programme, awardees will have:

- Increased knowledge of the motorsport sector, including skills requirements, career opportunities and pathways
- Increased skills and confidence in completing job applications and performance in selection and interview processes, including assessment centres
- Increased professional and networking capital
- Membership within the programme's alumni community upon graduation
- Access to resources and planned activities to improve engineering employability



Up to  
**£25,000**  
of funding





# Eligibility criteria

## Applicants to the programme must:

- Be from a Black or mixed Black ethnic background **[1]**
- Be considered as a UK student and eligible for Home fee status and have the right to live and work in the UK.
- Be applying, or have applied, to one of the eligible Master's degree courses listed below, to start in the 2024/25 academic year.
- You must be studying full time.

## Applicants must either:

- Be in the final year of your undergraduate study on an engineering, or engineering related degree, as per the entry requirements for your chosen Master's course.

Or:

- If you are a graduate, you must have graduated within the last three years at the time you will enrol on your chosen Master's course.

Applicants must **first** meet the main eligibility criteria as outlined above. However, the selection panel has sole discretion in making the selection of the scholarship recipients and will prioritise applicants who are able to demonstrate they are also socio-economically disadvantaged.

## Evidence of being socio-economically disadvantaged could include:

For all applicants:

- During the final year of your undergraduate studies, are you, or were you, in receipt of any kind of funding – scholarship, bursary, grant etc – either from your university or the government, that was awarded based on your personal or household financial situation? **[2]**

For graduates:

- Are you currently in receipt of Universal Credit, or any other benefit e.g. Carer's Allowance or Personal Independence Payment?

Please note that you may be asked to provide evidence of any such funding, either in the form of an official award notification letter or in the case of state benefits an official government document, if your application is successful.

**[1]** Black people including those with any mixed ethnicity with Black ethnic background(s)

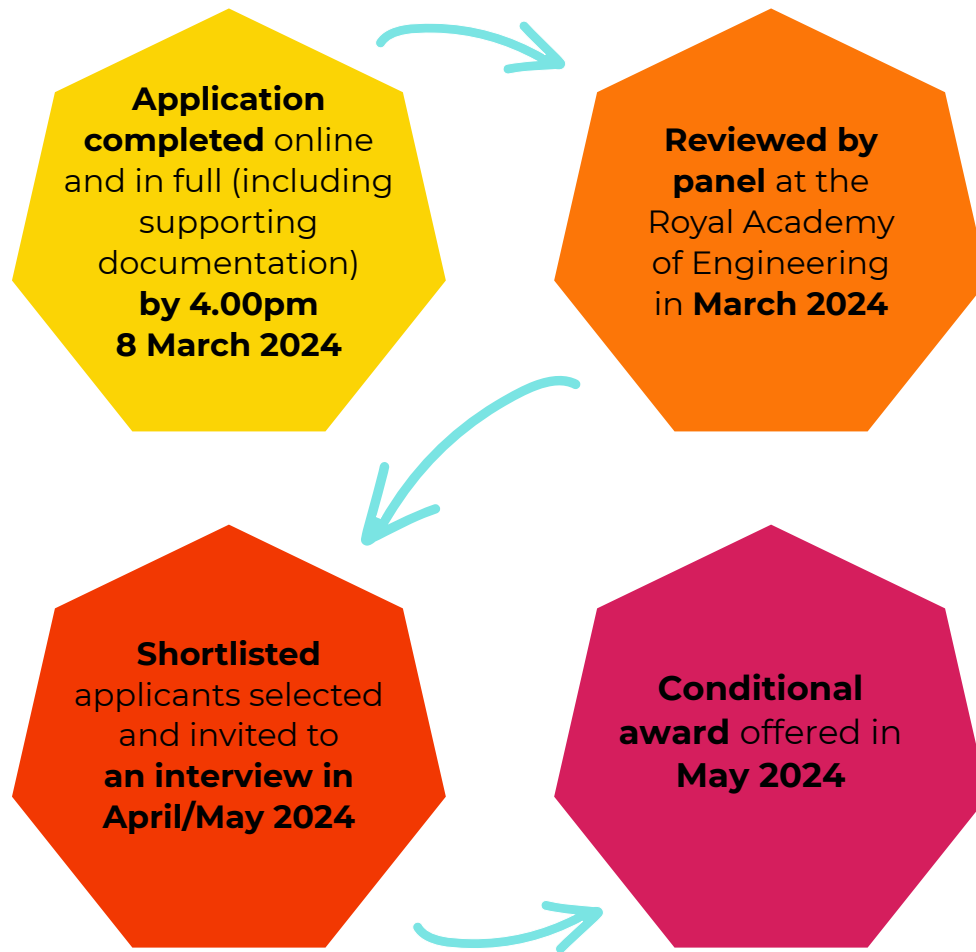
**[2]** This could include a low-income scholarship or bursary from your university either paid to you or towards your accommodation, a fee waiver, a hardship grant, a non-repayable maintenance grant, a means-tested maintenance loan from Student Finance etc, as long as the criteria on which these awards were made was low income or hardship.

## Eligible course list



Please see our full list of eligible courses by  
visiting our [dedicated webpage](#).

# Application process



# How to apply

**You must apply for the scheme yourself – you cannot ask anyone to apply on your behalf.**

The application form has six sections and should take two to three hours to complete fully.

You can save your progress at any time and come back to it later. All applications must be submitted via the Academy's Grant Management System (GMS), available here:

**<https://grants.raeng.org.uk>**

If you are not already registered, you must first register on the system and provide some basic details to create a profile. When you first register, you will need to wait around 10 minutes before you can access the application form for the first time.

After logging in to the GMS via the Academy website, click the RAEng Portal on the top left, and select MSc Motorsport Scholarships which will bring up the application instructions.

A summary of the guidance notes is embedded within the system itself, but the notes in this document are more detailed so we recommend you keep this document to hand when completing the form.

The main purpose of the application form is to identify whether you meet the eligibility criteria and the aims and objectives of the scheme.

You will have the option to download a PDF of your application after submission, which may be useful for future reference if you are invited to interview.

**The application form has six sections** and should take two to three hours to fully complete.

# Application questions

## Section 1 – Applicant details

### Q. Ethnic Background

Please confirm that you identify as being from a Black or mixed Black ethnic background.

### Q. UK Resident

Before progressing any further please confirm by ticking the box below that you are considered a UK student, eligible for Home fee status, and have the right to live and work in the UK.

To be eligible for an award you will need to normally reside in the UK (not just for your course) and be eligible to pay the equivalent of UK home fees (not international fees). If you do not meet this criteria please do not progress any further with this application. We reserve the right to ask you for proof that you meet this criteria at a later date.

### Q. Institution

Please enter the name of the higher education institution you currently attend, or previously attended.

### Q. Course Details

Please enter the name and type of course you are currently studying, or that you graduated from in the last three years.

Your course must be being completed at a UK Higher Education institution.

### Q. Course Completion Date

Please enter the year and month that your current degree will finish, or the year and month you graduated.

### Q. Courses applied to

Please list the MSc course(s) you have applied to study at, for the 2024/25 academic year.

If you have not yet applied, then please write out the courses and institutions which you intend to apply to.

Important note: Please refer to the eligible course list on our website and write out course names in the following format, (including the name of the institution, followed by the course). e.g. Cranfield University, MSc in Advanced Motorsport Engineering.

### Q. Please upload proof of application\* to an eligible course(s) and/or proof of confirmation of a place at an eligible course.

\*If you have not yet applied to an eligible course, you can still apply for this award, however, you will be expected to provide proof of application prior to interview.





# Application questions

## Section 2 – Socio-economic status

Applicants must **first** meet the eligibility criteria as outlined in Section 1. However, the selection panel has sole discretion in making the selection of the scholarship recipients and will prioritise applicants who are also able to demonstrate they are socio-economically disadvantaged.

### For all applicants:

During the final year of your undergraduate studies, are you, or were you, in receipt of any kind of funding – scholarship, bursary, grant etc – either from your university or the government, that was awarded based on your personal or household financial situation?

This could include a low-income scholarship or bursary from your university either paid to you or towards your accommodation, a fee waiver, a hardship grant, a non-repayable maintenance grant, a means-tested maintenance loan from Student Finance etc, as long as the criteria on which these awards were made was low income or hardship.

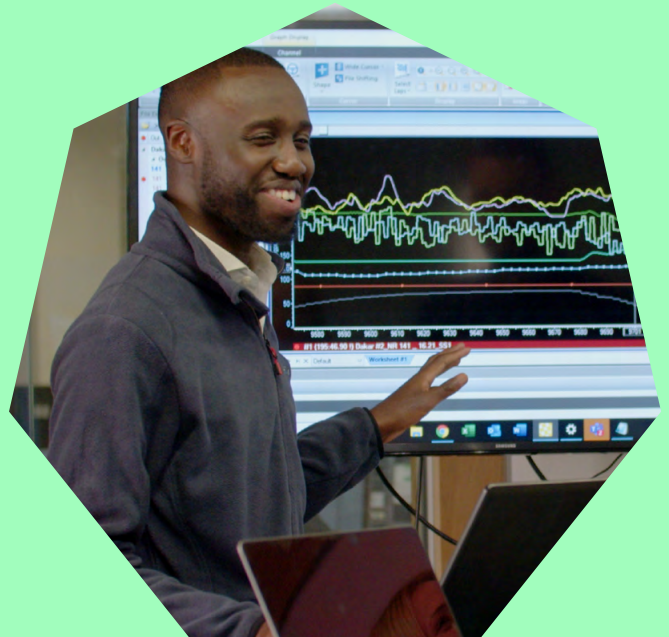
If you were in receipt of any kind of funding, please provide further information.

### For graduates:

Are you currently in receipt of Universal Credit, or any other state benefit, e.g. Carer's Allowance or Personal Independence Payment?

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit (or any other benefit), please provide further details of the benefit you are in receipt of.

Please note that you may be asked to provide evidence of any such funding, either in the form of an official award notification letter or in the case of state benefits an official government document, if your application is successful.



# Application questions

## Section 3 – Case for support

This section will help the review panel who judge your application to understand more about you as a person, your passion and interest for motorsport and engineering, and how you want to make a difference to the world around you.

Each question has a short word count of 250, so consider each question carefully, so that you can make the most of your responses. You may consider drafting answers to your questions on a separate document, before submitting your answer on the system.

### **Q1 – Why should you be awarded a scholarship?**

This is your chance to tell us a bit about yourself, your goals and ambitions, and how this scholarship will help you to achieve them. What sets you apart from others who might apply? We are also interested to hear about your interest in the motorsport sector, and/or what inspires you about engineering. *250-word limit*

### **Q2 – Describe a project, situation, or piece of work, involving engineering in any form, that excites you. Why does it excite you, and how has it left a positive impression of what being an engineer could mean for you?**

Engineering is everywhere. It underpins our daily lives and helps ensure our readiness for the future. We are curious to hear from you about an engineering project or piece of work that excites you. What is so exciting about it? *250-word limit*



### **Q3 – This programme is designed to improve diversity across the motorsport industry. What else, in your opinion, could the sector do to improve diversity and inclusion?**

What more can be done to improve diversity and inclusion? Are there lessons to be learnt from other sectors or other sports? *250-word limit*

### **Q4 – Video message**

**Please prepare a video message, using a smart phone or equivalent, which responds to the following three questions:**

1. What influenced or inspired you to become an engineer?
2. What excites you about the prospect of joining the motorsport sector?
3. Why should you be selected for this award?

Your video must not exceed 4 minutes, there must be no limitations on the length of time the content is available to be viewed, and it must not be password protected.

# Application questions

## Section 4 – Statements and declaration

**Please include a personal reference and state clearly in what capacity the person knows you.**

Important: your personal referee should be either an academic staff member from your course (course tutor etc) or if you are currently employed, then it can be someone you currently report to in your role, or someone who knows you in a professional capacity. The reference must be submitted on headed paper.

The reference should be no more than 1 page of A4, and should include:

- How the referee knows you and why the referee supports your application to this award
- Anything relating to your character and/or competency, that the referee feels is relevant for your application

Your referee should not be a family member or personal friend.

Please upload a letter of confirmation from your Higher Education Institution.

This letter should confirm the following:

**Either:**

You are studying a relevant undergraduate degree at a UK higher education institution and have satisfactory academic standing.

**Or:**

Your degree certificate, confirming your final degree classification.

This letter must be on letter-headed paper from your higher education institution and must be submitted as a PDF.

Note: It is worth asking for / locating this early in the application process as the deadline will not be extended for missing documentation.



**The Royal Academy of Engineering** is harnessing the power of engineering to build a sustainable society and an inclusive economy that works for everyone.

In collaboration with our Fellows and partners, we're growing talent and developing skills for the future, driving innovation and building global partnerships, and influencing policy and engaging the public.

Together we're working to tackle the greatest challenges of our age.

### What we do

#### Talent & diversity

We're growing talent by training, supporting, mentoring and funding the most talented and creative researchers, innovators and leaders from across the engineering profession.

We're developing skills for the future by identifying the challenges of an ever-changing world and developing the skills and approaches we need to build a resilient and diverse engineering profession.

#### Innovation

We're driving innovation by investing in some of the country's most creative and exciting engineering ideas and businesses.

We're building global partnerships that bring the world's best engineers from industry, entrepreneurship and academia together to collaborate on creative innovations that address the greatest global challenges of our age.

#### Policy & engagement

We're influencing policy through the National Engineering Policy Centre – providing independent expert support to policymakers on issues of importance.

We're engaging the public by opening their eyes to the wonders of engineering and inspiring young people to become the next generation of engineers.

