



Royal Academy
of Engineering



Amazon Future Engineer Bursaries

Supporting women students from low-income households to study computer science or related engineering courses at university

**Applicant Guidance Notes
Deadline: 5pm, 7 May 2024**



Introduction

Amazon Future Engineer Bursary

The Amazon Future Engineer Bursary programme supports women A-level and BTEC/OCR (or Scottish equivalent) students from low-income households who wish to study computer science or related engineering courses in UK universities.

These bursaries will provide successful applicants with a financial support package worth £5,000 per year, for up to four years of study, to cover expenses related to attending university, including tuition fees or accommodation and living costs. By removing some of the financial barriers that may impact on university studies and career trajectory, recipients can commit to their courses and stand the best possible chance of success. Awardees will also gain exclusive access to networking groups, to meet positive role models, interact with like-minded peers, build long-term relationships, and benefit from collaboration opportunities.

The support package

If your application is successful, you will receive an exceptional package of support, including:

Primary

- up to £20,000 to support your studies for up to four years (depending on the course length, for example, three or four years)
- an annual weekend training and networking event
- access to valuable networks including Royal Academy of Engineering Fellows, Amazon representatives, and programme alumni for advice and support

Additional

- invitations to Academy events and opportunities to participate in other valuable activities such as the Academy stand at *New Scientist Live* and the *Big Bang Fair!*
- access to the Academy's quarterly journal, *Ingenia*
- promotion of other suitable opportunities for funding and other support available via the Academy and personal development opportunities offered by Amazon UK.

Eligibility criteria

Amazon Future Engineer Bursary

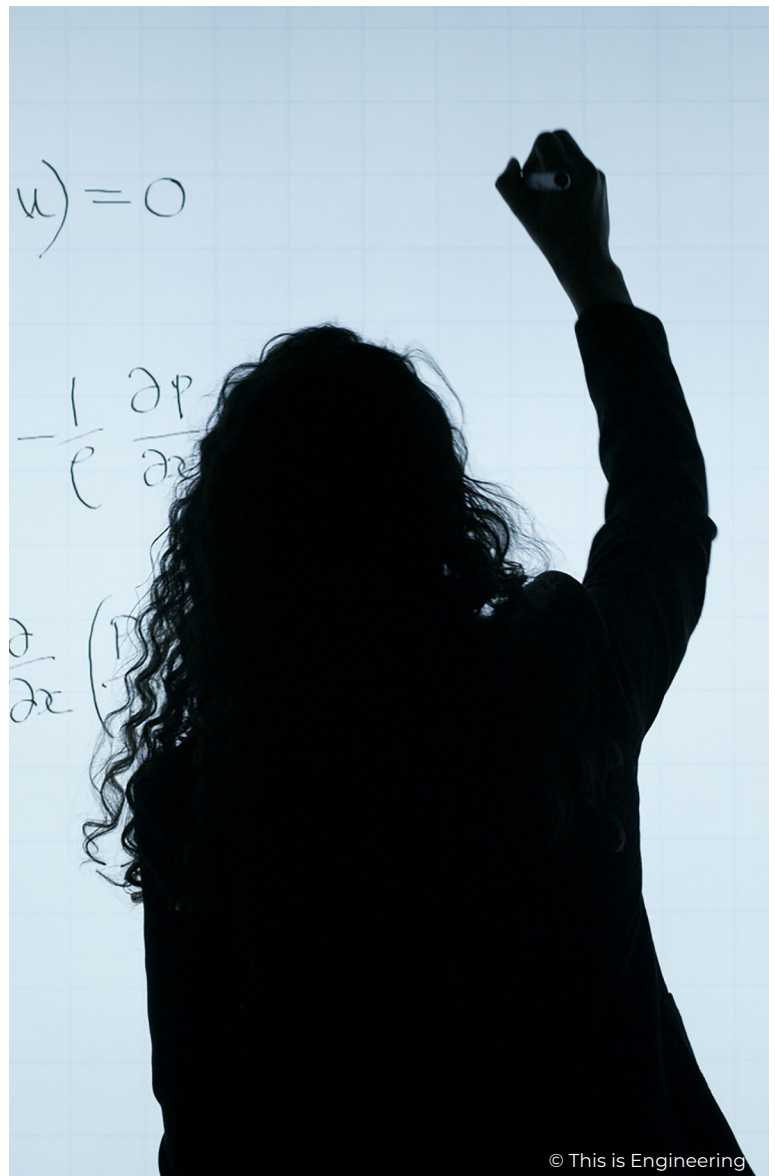
To be eligible for an Amazon Future Engineer Bursary you must:

- be a woman
- currently be studying:
 - for at least 1 A level or Scottish Highers in science, technology, engineering, or maths; **and/or**
 - a full-time technical course such as computer science or other related computing or engineering courses (such as a BTEC, OCR or the Scottish equivalent) at a further education college
- be applying to study an eligible computer science or related engineering course, at a UK university (including eligible courses with an integrated foundation year)
- be a UK resident and eligible to pay 'home' fee rates for university
- be enrolling at a UK university and commencing study at the start of the 2024 academic year
- have been eligible for free school meals from the date you started your post-16 studies **and/or** have at least one parent or guardian in receipt of state benefits (not child benefit if this is the only benefit being received).

Eligible course areas:

- Electrical and electronic engineering
- Computer science
- Information technology
- Software engineering
- Artificial intelligence
- Computer games and animation
- Business computing
- Computer-aided engineering
- Computational mathematics
- Computational physics
- Other course areas computing, such as applied computing, computer forensics, creative computing

Applicants can also study a combination of course areas, for example electronic engineering and computer science



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What to expect

Financial support

An award value of £5,000 per year for up to four years

Each bursary will be available for up to four years depending on the duration of the course undertaken.

What can you use your funding for?

The funding is intended to provide financial assistance throughout your course to help with tuition fees or accommodation and living expenses. Note: each grant payment will be released upon condition of you providing continued proof of enrolment at the start of each term. In the first year only, two terms of funding will be released in January.

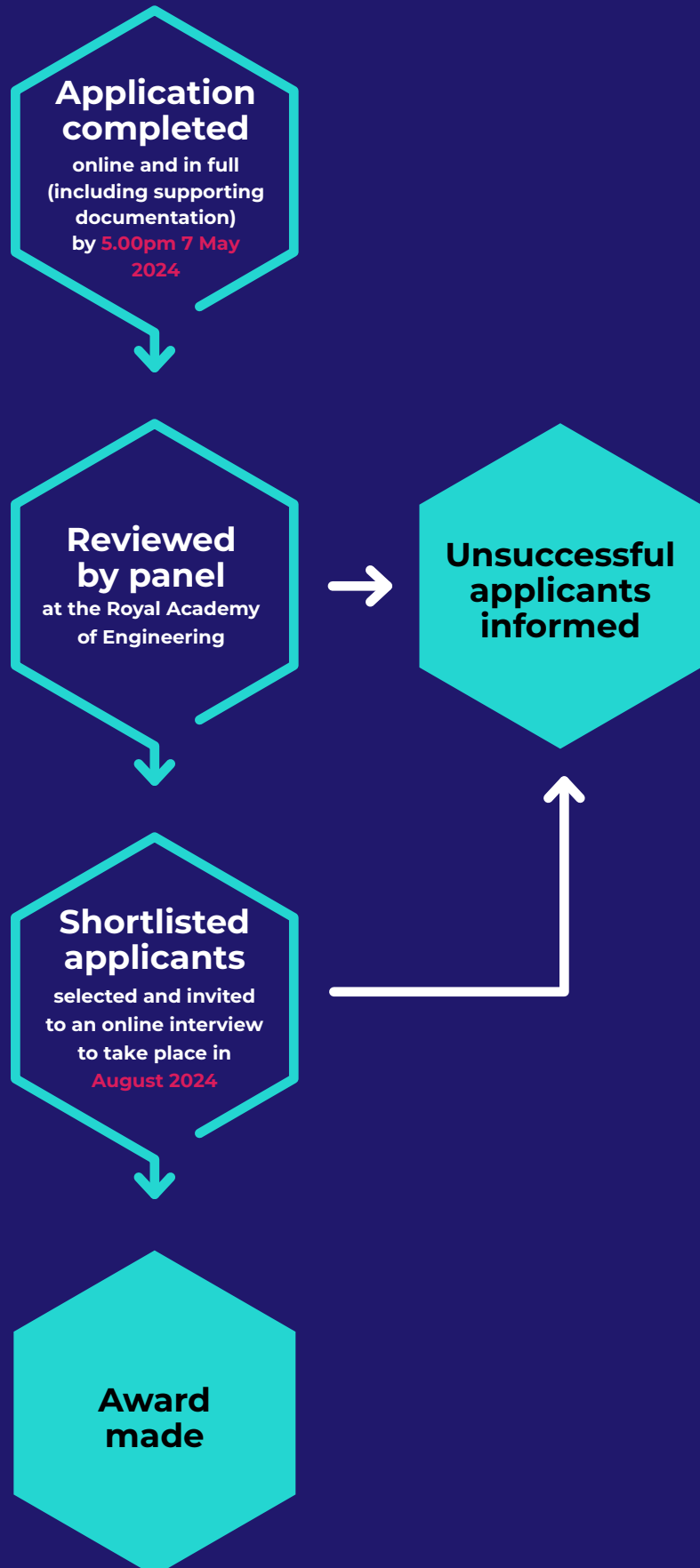
Training and mentoring

- An annual training and networking weekend
- Access to networking and alumni groups for advice, collaboration and support.

Reporting

An end of year report is expected each year, to provide an update on how your studies are progressing and detailing how you have benefited from the bursary.

Application process





How to apply

The student is the person who must apply to the bursary.

All applications must be submitted by 5.00pm 7 May 2024, via the Academy's online Grant Management System (GMS) available at <https://grants.raeng.org.uk>. All applicants must first register with the online system and provide some basic login details to create a profile.

After registering and logging in to the online grants system, select the 'RAEng Portal' tab on the top left-hand side of your screen. Here you will be presented with a list of all Academy schemes that are currently accepting applications.

Find the Amazon Future Engineer Bursary and click on 'Start an application'; here you will be presented with the 'Instructions' screen, where you will see instructions on how to use the system, and links to the five sections of the application form. The application form should take between two to four hours to complete, depending on whether you have already considered the questions prior to applying.

A link to the guidance notes is embedded within the system itself. However, the guidance given below may be

more detailed so we recommend you keep this document to hand.

Many of the questions have word limits, which are designed to keep your answers focused and to give you an indication of the level of detail we require. In such cases, the number of words you have used will be displayed beneath the question and updated in real time.

You can save your work at any stage in the application process and return to it later. You can answer the questions in any order you like so you may freely skip some sections to return to later. It is therefore worth viewing the application early on for an indication of what is required. You can download a PDF of your applications after submission, which is recommended for reference. There is only one application stage and those meeting the eligibility criteria will enter the assessment stage.

If you have any questions concerning the application or the online system, please contact Lauren Pattle, Higher Education Bursaries and Scholarships Manager, at lauren.pattle@raeng.org.uk



What to expect in your application

All applications must be submitted via the GMS, available here:
<https://grants.raeng.org.uk>

Note: Before completing the application form, applicants are asked to complete a Diversity Monitoring Form to help the Academy monitor and assess its equality, diversity and inclusion policy. The information will be treated as strictly confidential, non-attributable and only reported when collated. It is gathered, stored and used in compliance with the [Academy's Privacy Notice](#) in line with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018. The information will only be used for statistical purposes with access restricted to staff involved in processing and monitoring the data. It will not be seen by anyone involved in any selection processes. No information will be published or used in any way that identifies individuals. We will retain your personal information for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal information is processed. The length of time we hold on to your personal information will vary according to what that information is and the reason for which it is being processed. Please refer to the Academy's Privacy Notice document for more information.

Once you access the application form as a registered user, it should autocomplete your name and contact details. You must ensure your email address and telephone number are recorded accurately, as this will be how the Academy will contact you regarding your application. You must also provide a personal email address that will remain valid for the entire duration of your studies. This must not be a parent or guardian's email address; it must be your own.

The following pages outline the questions you will be asked to answer and notes to explain what is expected from you in each.

Please note that you will also be required to upload documentation as proof of some of your answers before submitting your application.

Questions

Section 1 – Eligibility criteria

Q.1.1

You will only be eligible for an **Amazon Future Engineer Bursary** if you are going to be studying an appropriate computer science or related engineering course, for example electrical and electronic engineering, computer science, artificial intelligence, or software engineering.

You need to confirm that you have reviewed the list of eligible course areas given in this document and available on the Academy's website, and that you believe the course you are studying falls into one of these areas.

Q.1.2

You need to confirm that you are a resident of the UK and eligible to pay UK home fees at university (if you cannot confirm this, you are not eligible).

Q.1.3

You must also be able to demonstrate at least one of the following:

- I have been continuously eligible for free school meals since the start of my post-16 studies
- I have a parent/guardian in receipt of State benefits

Q.1.4

You will need to upload official documentation to evidence each of the following statements you have ticked in the section above.

Your school, college, or academy will need to provide a signed statement on letter-headed paper to prove that you have been continuously eligible for free school meals since the start of your post-16 studies. You don't have to be actually claiming free school meals, just eligible.

Your parent/guardian will be able to provide you with the most recent proof of their receipt of state benefits.

Q.1.5

Additional information: the information below that we ask you to provide does not affect your eligibility to apply for a bursary

- I am currently in, or have been in, the local authority care system
- I have **NOT** attended a fee-paying school at any time since the age of 11
- **I HAVE** attended a fee-paying school at any time since the age of 11
- I am the first generation in my immediate family to attend university
- Prefer not to say

Q.1.6

Only if you HAVE attended a fee-paying school: please explain the source of funding. For example, you may have been in receipt of a scholarship.



Questions

Section 2 – Education

Q.2.1

AS, A levels, Scottish Highers and BTEC/OCR or Scottish equivalent qualifications Please list the qualifications that you will take exams in, in the 2023/2024 academic year, including your predicted grades.

If you have qualifications from subjects no longer continued from Y12, please list the subjects and grades achieved. Please also list any existing OCR qualifications and grades.

Please ensure that you are clear as to which are A levels, which are AS levels, which are BTECs, and which are OCR qualifications (or the Scottish equivalents in all cases).

Q.2.2

Does the course you have applied for include an integrated foundation year?

If your course is a three-year degree course, please tick 'no'.

If your course is a four-year course with an integrated foundation year, please tick 'yes'.

Please note that an integrated foundation year, is NOT a foundation degree.

Q.2.3

Does the course you have applied for include a year in industry/industrial studies?

If your course includes a year in industry, please tick 'yes'.

If your course does not include a year in industry, please tick 'no'

Q.2.4

What is the funding value you are applying for?

Note: The amount you can ask for is either £15,000 (for a 3-year course) or £20,000 (for a 4-year course).

Q.2.5

Please list all the universities and the courses that you have applied for, including the course numbers.

Q.2.6

Please upload screenshot(s) of your UCAS dashboard, displaying the eligible degree courses and higher education institutions you have applied to.

If available, please upload university offer letters, and/or proof of offers that you have accepted.

Q.2.7

Where do you hope this qualification will lead you?

Here you need to describe, in up to 150 words, what plans you have after you finish your university studies.



Questions

Section 3 – Case for support

This section is focused on the selection panel understanding more about you as a person, your ambition, drive and passion for computer science, technology and engineering, and how you want to use it to make a difference to the world. You may wish to draft your answer elsewhere (e.g. in word), so that you can refine it before submitting your final answer here.

Q.3.1

Why should you be awarded a bursary?

In 250 to 300 words, tell us a bit about yourself, your goals, and ambitions, and how this bursary will help you to achieve them. What sets you apart from others? What would you use the bursary for? We are also interested to hear about what has inspired you to choose computing or engineering.

Q.3.2

How have you used engineering outside of school?

In 250 to 300 words, highlight how you have engaged with engineering outside of your school or college, and how you relate engineering to your experience/problem-solving. Tell us about a time when you have used engineering to identify/solve a problem outside of school or college, and how you went about it. You may not have used engineering to solve a problem specifically, but you may have improved something, adapted something, invented something or been creative with something. All of these are characteristics of an engineer!

Q.3.3

Amazon uses 14 leadership principles to drive it's business. Every engineer is expected to “think big” and demonstrate “ownership”.

In 250 to 300 words, demonstrate your ability to “think big” and take “ownership”. Pick a big problem in your school or your community that you think could be solved with the help of computer science, engineering or technology. Describe the problem, the impact it has, and describe your “think big” solution that uses computer science, engineering or technology.

Q.3.4

Tell us how you think computing or engineering can be used in the future to address at least one of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Innovation and creativity in engineering, computing and technology are crucial to solving some of the world's greatest threats and challenges. The UN have developed 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be addressed to ensure a sustainable future for the world and its population. Review the list of SDGs at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/#> Choosing at least one, although you may choose more, tell us (in 250 to 300 words) how you think engineering, computing and technology could be used to address the challenge(s).



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Questions

Section 4 – Referee details

The referee must be one of your teachers or tutors. We advise that you talk to them before applying for the bursary, to get their permission to use them as a referee.

Ideally, they will let you have their work email address so that the Royal Academy of Engineering can contact them if needed but, if they do not want to share this with you, you will need the telephone number of your school/college/sixth form.

Please upload your reference here

In this box, you need to upload the reference that your chosen member of staff has provided for you. This must include the following: your general attitude towards your learning, your attendance rate, your academic standing, confirmation of the A-levels, BTECs, OCRs, or the Scottish equivalent you will be sitting this year, and any other information they feel is relevant.

Your reference must be on school, college, or academy letterheaded paper.

If your referee would prefer to upload the reference themselves, within the portal, there is an option for you to invite them to do so.

Section 5 – Confirmation

In this final section it is mandatory to confirm that all the information provided in the application is wholly accurate at the time of submission, and that you have permission from any person you have included contact details for, and to use any additional evidence that you may have uploaded.

Please note that the Royal Academy of Engineering will undertake checks as appropriate, and that any false information will disqualify you from receiving the bursary.

Application timeline

Applications will be submitted electronically on the Academy's GMS, and then reviewed and assessed by a selection panel comprising partners and Fellows of the Royal Academy Engineering.

Application deadline
5.00pm on **Tuesday 7 May 2024**

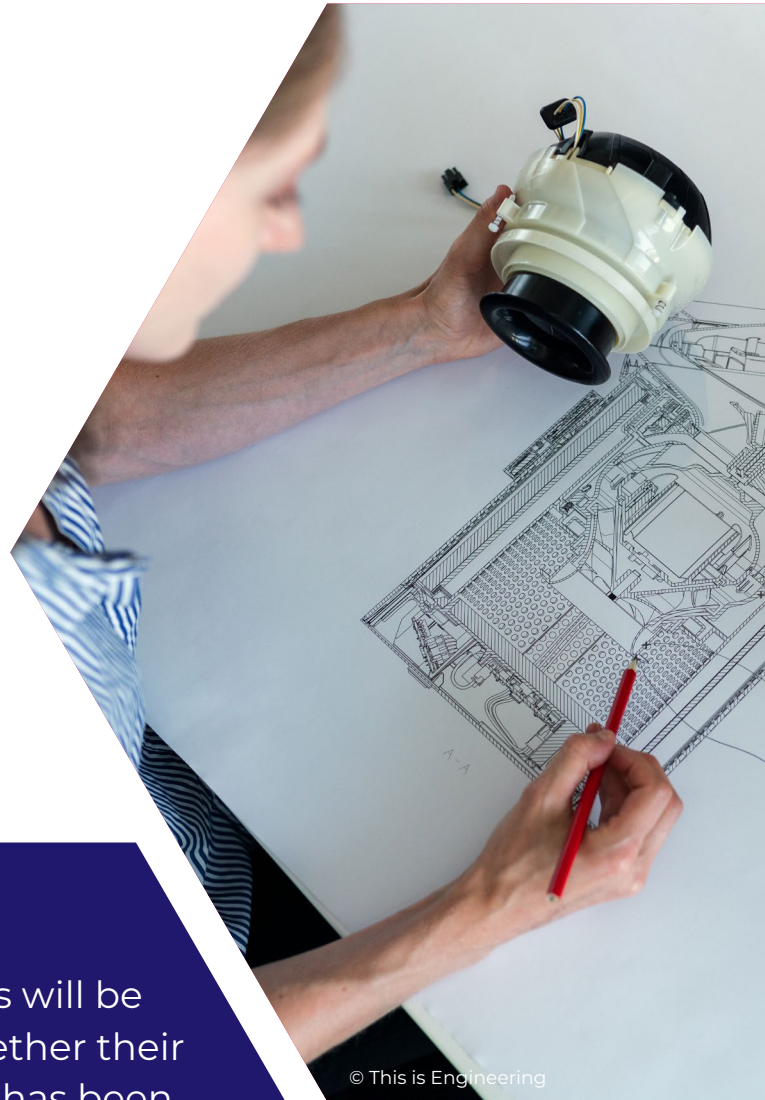
Applicants will be notified whether their application has been shortlisted by **July 2024**

If shortlisted, you must be available to attend an online interview held in **August 2024**

Applicants will be informed of the Royal Academy of Engineering's decision in **August**

Contact

If you have any questions about your eligibility, the programme, or problems with your application, please contact Lauren Pattle at lauren.pattle@raeng.org.uk



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About us

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 everchanging 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.

