

Policy on Scholarships and Exhibitions

1. All those gaining a Distinction or First in the FPE should be awarded an exhibition; all others, including near misses, should not be made an award and remain commoners.
2. Students will retain this exhibition for the remainder of their undergraduate career, without any formal requirement to achieve a first in subsequent exams. However, exhibitions are awarded on the presumption that exhibitioners will continue to work at a high standard in subsequent years and may be withdrawn from students who, in the view of their tutors and the Senior Tutor, fail to work diligently.
3. Any circumstances where a tutor would seek to exercise discretion to either allow or deny a first-year student an award because of mitigating factors would be exceptional, and would require the endorsement of the Governing Body.
4. Students who do not achieve a first in the First Public Exam but who then perform at a first-class level in a subsequent year will be awarded an exhibition. In subjects which have university exams in the second year of a three-year course, or in the second and third years of a four-year course, a first-class performance is understood to mean simply that the student achieves a first in those exams.
5. In subjects which do not have university exams in the middle years, tutors will make evidence-based recommendations for the awarding of exhibitions which take account of both performance in collections and tutorial reports.
6. Exhibitioners who perform at a first-class level in a subsequent year will be awarded a scholarship. In subjects which have university exams in the second year of a three-year course, or in the second and third years of a four-year course, a first-class performance is understood to mean simply that the student achieves a first in those exams. In subjects which do not have university exams in the middle years, tutors will make evidence-based recommendations which take account of both performance in collections and tutorial reports.
7. Scholarships are awarded on the presumption that scholars will continue to work at a high standard in subsequent years. Scholarships may be withdrawn from students who, in the view of their tutors and the Senior Tutor, fail to work diligently.
8. Students of Experimental Psychology and Law (where the FPE takes place at the end of Hilary Term in the first year), and of Classics (where the FPE takes place in Hilary Term of the second year) should be subject to the same process as their peers. In the case of Classics, students who perform at a first-class standard in the first year, as evidenced by collections and tutorial reports, will be promoted to an exhibition. Classics exhibitioners who subsequently achieve a first in Honour Moderations in the second year will be promoted to a scholarship. Classics students who achieve a first in Mods but who do not hold a previous award will be promoted to an exhibition only. Such students may then be promoted to a scholarship on the basis of first-class performance in the third year. Scholarships and exhibitions will be retained/upgraded/lost as in other subjects.
9. In Medicine, the award of a merit or commendation, together with a pass of the whole examination in the first sitting, should be regarded as a sufficient criterion for awarding an exhibition to a first-year medic. In the second year, the award of a merit or commendation, together with a pass of the whole examination in the first sitting, should lead to an award. This would either be an exhibition as the first award, or a scholarship if an exhibition had been awarded in the first year.

10. All students who achieve a first in the Final Public Exam will be awarded a scholarship, regardless of whether or not they held a prior award. This award is intended to recognise excellence on the part of all students who achieve a first at the end of their undergraduate career, whatever their prior exam record.