



Gold Opportunities Fund

The University of Bath believes in attracting the brightest minds from all backgrounds and giving them every opportunity to excel. And Bath's flagship scholarship programmes allow supporters to do just that – to attract talented students of all backgrounds and help them succeed and thrive while they are here.

Bridging gaps, creating futures

The award-winning Gold Scholarship Programme for undergraduate students offers up to 50 bright young people from disadvantaged backgrounds the best possible start, and a chance to enjoy world-class education Bath provides. As well as financial support, Gold Scholarships provide disadvantaged scholars with skills workshops, mentoring, volunteering opportunities, and paid industry placements. Many of these activities are made possible by the Gold Opportunities Fund, a special initiative designed to help students gain a sense of belonging and stand out among the crowd.

From dreams to reality

The Gold Opportunities Fund was created in 2019 by the generosity of alumna and past scholarship recipient Kate Aldridge (MSci Mathematics & Physics). Kate wanted Gold Scholars to be able to afford to take up additional personal and professional development activities, to both boost their future career prospects, and help them stand out in a competitive job market. Knowing from personal experience that many Gold Scholars often need to work, or return home during vacation periods to save money, Kate felt establishing the Gold Opportunities Fund could give Gold Scholars more financial agility to pursue development opportunities instead.

Since its inception, the Gold Opportunities Fund has garnered additional support from other generous alumni and supporters too, and continues to be a lifeline to Gold Scholars.





Life-changing impact

By specifically awarding grants to Gold Scholars, the Fund has become incredibly - and increasingly - important. For example, it can cover expenses for a student to gain a professional qualification, help students travel to educational conferences, or even compete in an elite sports camp.

For Pharmacology student Hannah, the funding allowed her to complete 'Malaria: from the Genes to the Globe', a virtual course delivered by edX at Harvard University.

“The Fund helped me challenge myself and deepen my knowledge. I liked that the course explained malaria’s economic impact.”
– Hannah

For School of Management student Jack, the funding allowed him to access a year of training with the Code Academy. Doing the coding courses around his studies, Jack developed self-discipline and time management, while also gaining a highly sought-after skill, since coding experience greatly increases the chance of progressing to interview.

“I’m so grateful for the Gold Opportunities Fund and the generosity of donors. It made training with the Code Academy a reality. I would not have been able to cover the cost of my training recommended by my tutor without it.”
- Jack

Your support is vital

The broad range of Gold Opportunities Fund grants reflects the wonderful diversity of interests and aspirations of our Gold Scholars. 100% of our Gold Scholars come from a low-income family and research shows that graduates from disadvantaged backgrounds go on to earn less than peers from high income families – even when studying the same course, in the same place.

A golden opportunity

That’s why gifts to the Gold Opportunity Fund are so important. They enable us to give Gold Scholars the chance to explore new experiences, enrich their skills and pursue their dreams. We are currently exploring opportunities for donors to contribute to the Opportunities Fund and help even more Gold Scholars.

- £3,000 could fund up to 10 Gold Scholars to do a qualification or course like Hannah and Jack
- £8,000 could fund up to 10 Gold Scholars to travel to a conference or participate in an elite sports camp
- £15,000 could fund up to 10 Gold Scholars to take overseas internships ranging from conservation to business