Royal Academy of Engineering

Fire Engineering Scholarship Programme (FESP)

Increasing Fire Engineering Capacity and Capability in the UK

Essential application guidance document

2026 (updated 27/10/26)

Deadline: 3 November 2026 at 4 pm

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1. Introduction to the Academy

The Royal Academy of Engineering (the Academy) is a charity delivering public benefit, a National Academy providing progressive leadership, and a Fellowship bringing together an unrivalled community of leaders from every part of engineering and technology. Our Patron is His Majesty King Charles III.

The Academy's Strategy 2030, "Engineering Better Lives," sets out a vision to unite a community of outstanding experts and innovators in engineering to drive positive societal impact. The strategy is built around three core goals: a sustainable and innovative economy, technology improving lives, and an engineering community fit for the future. The Academy's grant programmes support these strategic goals by investing in people, partnerships, and projects that advance engineering excellence, foster inclusion and diversity, and deliver meaningful societal impact in alignment with the Academy's vision and values.

2. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

The Fire Engineering Scholarship Programme is being funded by The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to increase the number of fire engineers and the availability of fire engineering education across the UK.

3. Programme Overview

Following the Grenfell Tower tragedy, the Grenfell Tower Inquiry highlighted the need to improve capacity and skills in the fire engineering sector.

The Inquiry recommended the creation of a panel which produced an Authoritative Statement in Dec 2025: Fire Engineers Advisory Panel: Authoritative Statement - GOV.UK. This led to the identification of Next steps on fire engineering profession reform - GOV.UK which highlighted the need to:

- develop higher education provision
- provide scholarships for prospective entrants
- support research and academic capacity

The UK Government have set up a £70m Building Workforce programme to increase capacity and capability of safety-critical professions: £70m funding to address building safety professional shortages - GOV.UK, of which £13m is dedicated to fire engineering education. It has also committed to regulating the fire engineering profession.

To help increase capacity and support the development of the next generation of fire engineering practitioners, researchers and innovators, the Fire Engineering Scholarship Programme (FESP) will provide eligible UK Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) with funding for the provision of full and part-time MSc scholarships in fire engineering for UK students to cover tuition fees and living costs. The programme will also provide funds to HEIs to support both a promotion and a marketing campaign for the scholarships, as well as an awareness raising campaign to support new entrants into the profession or engineers looking to upskill or reskill. This will help to increase the number of professionals in this safety-critical area of the built environment and boost economic growth in the UK through their contribution to building construction and remediation.

Strengthening of the fire engineering profession cannot be done without a strong fire engineering higher education sector offering innovative programmes of study, which are research-informed and up to date. These programmes are needed to upskill existing practitioners in fire engineering and related professions but also recruit new entrants into the profession.

4. Grant programme details

HEIs can apply to the Academy's Fire Engineering Scholarship Programme for grants for the activities listed below. An indication of what would be deemed eligible and ineligible spend against each strand is also given.

Activity Strand	Eligible Activity	Ineligible Activity
Full-time Fire Engineering MSc Scholarships for	- MSc tuition fees for UK students[1]	- Scholarships for MRes programmes - Scholarships for undergraduate fire

[1] Applications for other types of Level 7 (Level 11 in Scotland) programmes are encouraged (including Level 7 modules or units of an MEng), and applicants must make their case for how their proposal would deliver on the goals of the programme. See the *Is the funding for Level 7 scholarships and for Level 7 programme development limited to MSc programmes?* question on the FAQ page of our website for more information.

each of **AY27/28** and **AY28/29** And **Part-time** Fire Engineering MSc Scholarships for each of **AY27/28** and **AY28/29**	- Living costs for both full and part-time UK students - Scholarships for UK students studying within the UK only - Scholarships only available for entrants who have completed a minimum 2:1 honours bachelor's degree in engineering (BEng) or an integrated master's (MEng) or equivalent qualification and grade in a relevant engineering or scientific discipline. The degrees must be accredited by the Engineering Council or an equivalent body - Part-time MSc courses that commence in AY28/29 but extend into the following academic year(s)	engineering and any other engineering programmes. This includes elements of an MEng award which are at Levels 4, 5 or 6 (Level 7-10 in Scotland) - Living costs higher than the recommended living costs published by the HEI - Living costs for part-time students when the mode of delivery isn't on campus - Scholarships for overseas students - Scholarships for UK students studying on courses that are fully or part delivered overseas - Scholarships for any individual who doesn't hold an Engineering Council accredited BEng or MEng etc as outlined under eligible activity
Promotion and Marketing of MSc scholarships	- New content created specifically to reach your target audience - Social media campaigns across various platforms - Paid social media promotion - Production of videos and other interactive content - Online and printed content	- Activities which are already covered by existing budgets - Activities that won't reach the target groups, for example activities aimed at schools
Future fire engineering talent	- Awareness raising activities that promote fire engineering to the following identified groups: - Undergraduates or recent graduates, either studying or	- Activities which are already covered by existing budgets - Activities that won't reach the target groups, for example activities aimed at schools

	have studied, BEng or MEng degrees in a relevant engineering or scientific discipline - practicing fire engineers wishing to gain new skills or qualifications - engineers, architects or practitioners in cognate areas looking to upskill or reskill - Overhead costs of HEIs for the organisation of paid internships in the fire engineering sector/industry for undergraduate students - Research placements for undergraduate students undertaking projects related to fire engineering within your HEI - Staff time for programme development related to fire engineering CPD/short courses/evening classes/and the development of research placements that are NOT Level 7 (Level 11 in Scotland) and are for a UK audience - Staff time for programme development related to "conversion" or "bridging" courses for those who have an engineering, architectural or other built environment HE background, but are	- Any other internship costs (that are not overheads) for undergraduate students to attend a paid internship in the fire engineering sector/industry - Level 7 (Level 11 in Scotland) credit-bearing fire engineering CPD/short courses/evening classes – apply via EPSRC grant call (see below) - Course fees for participants taking part in fire engineering CPD/short courses/evening classes that are NOT Level 7 (Level 11 in Scotland) - Course fees for participants taking part in "conversion" or "bridging" courses - Any undergraduate level programme development

	lacking in certain disciplines (e.g. maths, physics) to be able to apply for their MSc in Fire Engineering as long as the audience for these courses are based in the UK	

The above is not intended to be a definitive list of eligible and ineligible activity (with the exception of the scholarships themselves) but provides an indication of the types of activity that would be acceptable. Please use the contact details in Section 14 if you have any specific questions regarding eligible or ineligible activity or attend one of the applicant support webinars listed in Section 8, particularly if there was an activity you intend to deliver and it isn't listed.

HEIs can apply to the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) for:

- a doctoral training programme to support the next generation of researchers in fire engineering through a cohort based, highly tailored training programme
- the development of taught postgraduate (level 7 or equivalent) development programmes for the fire engineering community with innovative modes of study to cater for a range of audiences
- the development of level 7 or equivalent fire engineering continuing professional development training for the wider fire engineering community and adjacent professions wishing to upskill or re-train into fire engineering

The opportunity is listed on the UKRI funding finder as: ***Focal Award: EPSRC and MHCLG Fire Engineering Skills Hub.***

5. Eligibility criteria

Only representatives of UK HEIs can submit a grant application. This is **not** a programme for individual scholarship applications.

If you are from a **non-UK HEI,** or you are an **individual,** you are **not eligible** for the scheme. Please do not proceed with an application as it will not be assessed.

Applications will be accepted from single HEIs or from the lead HEI representative where a consortium application is submitted. The consortium lead may also apply as a single HEI, and single HEIs may submit their own application and be a collaborating HEI within any number of consortium applications.

Identification of the consortium lead should not be interpreted as recognition as the dominant partner or where the majority of scholarships will be provided.

6. Timeline and deadlines

The application round opens on **Tuesday 8 September 2026.**

Two application support webinars will be held on

- **Wednesday 16 September 2026 from 2:00pm-3:30pm,** and
- **Tuesday 29 September 2026 from 10:00am-11:30am**.

These webinars will be held jointly between the Academy and EPSRC, with a representative from MHCLG present. A link to register to attend one or both of these sessions is here. Upon registering, a link to the webinar will be sent via email.

The application round closes on **Tuesday 03 November 2026 at 4.00pm.**

The application review period will run from **Friday 06 November – Thursday 10 December 2026.**

Award winners will be notified **w/c 14 December 2026.**

7. How to apply

All applications must be submitted via the Academy's online grants system available here: https://grants.raeng.org.uk

All applicants must first register and provide some basic login details to create a profile. Please note, it may take around 10 minutes before you can log in after registering. Please ensure that you have registered for an account at least one week prior to the deadline to make sure you can access the system. After that date, any potential access issues may not be rectified in time for the submission deadline, which is 4pm on Tuesday 3rd November 2026.

The application should be submitted by the applicant. We recommend leaving plenty of time to complete the application form ahead of the deadline and thoroughly going through your application prior to submission. While the guidance notes are embedded within the system itself, we recommend you keep this document to hand when completing the application form. Many of the questions have prescribed word limits which are designed to keep your answers focused and indicate 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.

The application form has seven sections in addition to an opening general information section and should take about 3-4 hours to complete (off line) and approx. 82 minutes (online) to copy and paste answers, complete tables, and carry out final checks prior to submission. The sections requiring completion are shown below, and further information is provided in Section 9 below:

1. General Information
2. Section A – Programme Alignment
3. Section B – Student Support and Safeguarding
4. Section C – MSc Scholarships
5. Section D – Promotion and Marketing of MSc Scholarships
6. Section E – Future Fire Engineering Talent
7. Section F – Total Funding Requested
8. Section G - Declaration

8. Relevant policies and statements

Diversity and Inclusion

The Royal Academy of Engineering is committed to diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from all underrepresented groups across engineering. It is the Academy's policy to ensure that no applicant is disadvantaged or receives less favourable treatment because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Before you commence your application, you will be asked a few diversity monitoring questions to help the Academy monitor and assess our diversity and inclusion policy. It will only be used for statistical purposes with access restricted to staff involved in processing and monitoring the data. No information will be published or used in any way that identifies

individuals. The Academy will retain personal information as per our Data Retention Policy in line with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

The information will be treated as strictly confidential, nonattributable and will not be seen by anyone involved in any selection processes. You will need to complete the diversity monitoring section before you can submit the grant application form but can choose "prefer not to say" as responses.

National Security

The Academy is the UK's National Academy for engineering and technology and seeks to increase the potential positive benefit that innovations can have for society, whilst reducing the risks of harm. Hence, in all our activities, we seek to minimise the risk that technology developed as part of work that we support could be misused by a foreign state to build a capacity to target UK interests in a hostile fashion or to control or repress their population. There is a risk that for some grant activities, failure to protect IP and a lack of due diligence into collaborators could result in sensitive technology being transferred to and misused by a hostile or repressive foreign state. As such all applicants should ensure they are familiar with the Academy's Policy on National Security-Related Risks.

Use of generative AI tools in funding applications and assessment

The Academy has aligned with other UK funders around the use of generative AI tools in funding applications through the Research Funders Policy Group joint statement.

Regarding the use of AI, applicants are fully responsible for all the content presented in their grant applications. The grant process does not penalise the use of generative AI tools, but it is imperative to ensure that the application reflects the applicant's own voice and ideas. It is not acceptable to solely rely on generative AI tools to write the entire grant application from start to finish. While these tools may be used to assist in various aspects, the application must primarily represent the applicant's own work.

Applicants must provide clear acknowledgement if they have used generative AI tools in the process of writing their grant applications. This includes disclosing the name of the tool used and describing how it was utilized. The following style should be employed for referencing:

I acknowledge the use of [insert AI system(s), version number and link] to generate materials for background research, styling, proofreading, etc.

Or,

I acknowledge the use of [insert AI system(s), version number and link] to generate materials that were included within my final assessment in modified form.

Reasonable Adjustments

We want to ensure all applicants can participate and present their best selves during the application process, and for the duration of the Fire Engineering Scholarship Programme if you are successful.

If you need any adjustments or changes to support your participation in the process or throughout the programme, please contact stylli.charalampous@raeng.org.uk Senior Programme Manager for Further and Higher Education, to discuss your needs.

All information shared will be treated confidentially in line with GDPR principles. For more details, please see the Academy's privacy policy.

We encourage you to get in touch at least 10 working days before the submission deadline, so we can respond accordingly and tailor possible adjustments to your circumstances.

9. Application form

Completing the Application Form

During the application process, you have the flexibility to save your progress at any stage and return to the form whenever needed. This allows you to answer questions in any order, and if you prefer, you may skip certain sections and revisit them later.

It is advisable to familiarise yourself with the application steps early in the application process to gain a clear understanding of what is required.

You should also ensure that you have any necessary documentation to hand when you start completing the application.

You may also choose to copy and paste the questions into a document to work on off-line and log back onto the system to upload your answers once complete.

After logging into the online grants system https://grants.raeng.org.uk and selecting Fire Engineering Scholarship Programme in the 'Start application' section, you will be presented with the 'Instructions' screen.

Here you will see some general instructions on how to use the system, as well as links to each of the sections of the application form given below:

General Information

When you start an application, the system will automatically pull through the name and contact details provided when you registered on the system.

Are you applying as a single HEI or as the lead HEI of a consortium? Please select whichever applies.

If the lead HEI of a consortium is selected, the lead HEI will be asked to:

- *provide a consortium name*
- *provide the names of the other HEIs that are part of the consortium*
- *in no more than 400 words, describe how the consortium intends to work together collaboratively over the course of the funding period and detail the consortium governance mechanisms that have been worked through as part of preparation for this funding submission.*

All applicants will be required to answer the following, irrespective of whether this is a single HEI submission or a consortium submission:

Name of your Higher Education Institution: Please enter the full legal name of your HEI that would be used as part of the contract. If this is a consortium application, then the name of the lead HEI should be entered here.

Name of Department: Please enter the name of the department of which the applicant represents.

Job Role: Please state your job role/title.

Are you applying to the *Focal Award: EPSRC and MHCLG Fire Engineering Skills Hub* fund to develop the same MSc programme for which you are also applying to this Fire Engineering Scholarship Programme? Select yes or no.

What is the proposed start date and end date for the funding? Please add the start and end date of the funding period, noting that all grant

expenditure and activities must occur within these dates. This can be updated after submission if required.

Section A – Programme Alignment

Funding is available to support MSc programme(s) in fire engineering which align with the Fire Engineers Advisory Panel's Authoritative Statement of the knowledge and skills to be expected of a competent fire engineer.

A1 - Are you applying for one or more MSc programmes? The same MSc programme delivered both full-time and part-time is classified as a single MSc programme. Please select Single Programme or Multiple Programme.

If you are applying for support for more than one MSc programme, please make sure your answers to the next two questions cover each programme. If your response differs between programmes, clearly state which MSc programme each part of your answer refers to.

A2 - In no more than 700 words, explain how the content of the MSc programme for which you are applying for funding aligns with the Authoritative Statement and the direction of reform for the profession. This includes the recognition of the fire safety strategy as the central function, and the responsibilities and attributes of a competent fire engineer. Your response should also evidence the emphasis on the ethical practice fundamental to ensuring life safety. Please include references to curriculum content, specialist fire engineering teaching capacity, capacity to support research-led teaching, student assessment, links with industry etc.

The Selection Panel will be looking for applicants to demonstrate the following in their response to this question:

- Clear alignment between the MSc curriculum and the expectations set out in the Fire Engineers Advisory Panel's Authoritative Statement, including the knowledge, skills, behaviours and ethical standards expected of a competent fire engineer;
- Specialist fire engineering teaching capacity with recognition given to government's commitment that the fire safety strategy is the central, protected function of the profession;
- Emphasis on the ethical practice fundamental to ensuring life safety;
- Demonstrable fire engineering research capability sufficient to support research-led teaching, dissertation supervision, and engagement with

emerging fire safety challenges, including the ability to contribute to the future development of the profession;
- Assessment of students' ability to apply fire engineering knowledge to realistic design, risk and regulatory scenarios;
- Evidence that students develop skills necessary to work effectively within multidisciplinary design, construction and regulatory environments;
- Clear routes towards accreditation or professional recognition;
- Meaningful links with industry, professional bodies, and the fire sector;
- Evidence that provision will widen access across geography, career stage (including accessibility for those in work), and student background.

A3 - In no more than 300 words, please explain how the proposed MSc provision will remain sustainable beyond the period of funding, including future student demand, institutional commitment, maintenance of specialist expertise and, where relevant, academic workforce development. *Please include in your response the number of UK students required to enrol to make the MSc programme(s) viable. This information will be treated confidentially.*

The Selection Panel will be looking for applicants to demonstrate the following in their response to this question:

- evidence of expected future student demand and recruitment strategies beyond the funding period;
- institutional commitment to continued delivery of the programme, including financial or strategic support from the university;
- plans to maintain and strengthen specialist fire engineering expertise within the institution;
- approaches to succession planning where programmes rely on a small number of key staff;
- development of early-career researchers, doctoral students or future academic leaders in fire engineering;
- collaboration with other universities, research centres, industry partners or professional bodies to sustain capability and resilience;
- plans to embed programme content, teaching resources or partnerships into longer-term institutional arrangements;

- how the proposed activity will contribute to the long-term capacity and capability of UK fire engineering education and research.

Section B – Student Support and Safeguarding

B1 - Please explain how the HEI will ensure that all students on the MSc programme(s) will receive exceptional academic, pastoral and other support in an inclusive environment that recognises their diverse needs and allows them to succeed in their studies.

The Selection Panel will be looking for applicants to demonstrate the following in their response to this question, however, applicants should not restrict their answers to only covering these things:

- Proactive, personalised academic guidance that helps students understand expectations, make strong module/dissertation choices, develop advanced study and research skills, and receive timely, constructive feedback that improves their performance.
- Accessible, integrated pastoral support that recognises students as whole people, with clear routes to help for wellbeing, belonging, disability support, workload pressures, finance, housing, particular diversity characteristics (including intersectional), and personal circumstances—delivered without stigma and with appropriate confidentiality.
- A coherent support ecosystem where tutors, programme teams, professional services, careers staff, and student peers work together, using early engagement data and regular check-ins to identify issues quickly and connect students to the right support before problems escalate.

B2 – Please explain how the HEI will invest in each individual enrolled on the MSc programme(s) to support them in their career journey and progression into the fire engineering profession post degree?

The Selection Panel will be looking for a broad spectrum of answers to this question, but are specifically interested in how applicants demonstrate the following:

- how they will provide discipline-specific careers coaching
- how they will provide structured employer engagement and networking opportunities, and

- how they will practically prepare students for engineering recruitment processes

B3 – The Academy has a duty of care to safeguard the health and wellbeing of anyone participating in its programmes and applies its own policy to its work. The Academy has identified this programme as requiring safeguarding considerations.

Please explain how you will ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of all programme participants, including scholars undertaking MSc courses as well as individuals participating in any awareness raising activities you will run.

We are looking for you to show that you have specifically considered how you are managing safeguarding risks at application stage and during programme participation. Beyond this, the selection panel will be looking for applicants to demonstrate the following considerations:

1. health and safety, particularly related to any events or live fire demonstrations

2. wellbeing, especially relating to emotive subjects and ethics of fire engineering

3. general emotional and mental health related to MSc studies

Section C – MSc Scholarships

C1 + C2 - Full-time Fire Engineering MSc Scholarships for Academic Year 27/28 (C1) and Academic Year 28/29 (C2)

If you are applying for multiple courses, please clearly provide all requested information for each course.

1. **Please provide the full name of the MSc programme(s), if confirmed, and whether these are existing or under-development.**
2. **If the programme(s) has not yet been approved through your HEIs internal quality assurance processes, please tell us at what stage of development it is currently at?**
3. **What is the mode/intended mode of delivery of this programme(s)? For example, block release, fully online or in person.**
4. **How many scholarships are you applying for per programme?**

5. **Please detail current challenges being faced with respect to each course, providing evidence of these challenges and how you intend the available scholarships to help address this. For example, please explain how you are seeking to expand your available places through this programme. If this is an existing MSc programme(s), please provide student enrolment numbers for UK students only for the last three academic years.**

Provide the response to the above questions in the relevant year on the system for AY27/28 (C1) and AY28/29 (C2). If you are **not** applying for full-time scholarships, or are **not** applying for both years, please type the words **"Not Applicable"** in C1 and/or C2 as appropriate.

C3 + C4 - Part-time Fire Engineering MSc Scholarships for Academic Year 27/28 (C3) and Academic Year 28/29 (C4)

If you are applying for multiple courses, please clearly provide all requested information for each course.

1. **Please provide the full name of the MSc programme(s), if confirmed, and whether these are existing or under-development.**
2. **If the programme(s) has not yet been approved through your HEIs internal quality assurance processes, please tell us at what stage of development it is currently at?**
3. **What is the mode/intended mode of delivery of this programme(s)? For example, block release, fully online or one day a week.**
4. **What is the duration of this programme(s)? For example, two years part-time.**
5. **How many scholarships are you applying for per programme?**
6. **Are you planning on seeking funds for subsistence and travel for scholars (only if course delivered on campus)?**
7. **Please detail current challenges being faced with respect to each course, providing evidence of these challenges and how you intend the available scholarships to help address this. For example, please explain how you are seeking to expand your available places through this programme. If this is an existing MSc programme(s), please provide student enrolment numbers for UK students only for the last three academic years.**

Provide responses to the above in the relevant year on the system for AY27/28 (C3) and AY28/29 (C4). If you are **not** applying for part-time

scholarships, or are **not** applying for both years, please type the words **"Not Applicable"** in C3 and/or C4 as appropriate.

C5 - In no more than 300 words, please outline here how the HEI will conduct the selection and awarding process for the scholarships, ensuring students meet the required thresholds of the funder as outlined below, and while ensuring a fair and inclusive process.

All applicants should note the below requirement from MHCLG with regards to the eligibility criteria for students awarded scholarships:

The Fire Engineers Advisory Panel's Authoritative Statement outlines that a competent fire engineer needs strong technical knowledge and the ability to work across disciplines with an understanding of core architectural and engineering principles. To support the entrance of suitable individuals that have existing engineering education onto courses supported by the Building Workforce Programme through scholarships, the below requirement should be set for scholarship applicants:

1. Completed a minimum 2:1 honours bachelor's degree in engineering (BEng) or equivalent qualification and grade in a relevant engineering or scientific discipline. The degree must be accredited by the Engineering Council or an equivalent body.

Or

2. Completed an integrated master's (MEng) or equivalent qualification in a relevant engineering or scientific discipline. The degree must be accredited by the Engineering Council or an equivalent body.

All scholars will need to be UK-domiciled (i.e. living in the UK on a permanent basis), eligible to pay UK home fees, and study in the UK campus of the HEI they are registered at, not any satellite campuses abroad.

Section D – Promotion and Marketing of MSc Scholarships

*Please refer to Section 4 of this Essential Application Guidance Document for an **indication** of the likely eligible and ineligible activity associated with this funding strand.*

D1 - Are you seeking funding to enable you to deliver against your marketing and communications plan to support the recruitment of

students to your MSc Programme(s)? Please answer Yes or No to this question.

If you answer **yes** to Question D1, you will be taken to the following two questions:

D2 Funded - In up to 300 words, please outline how you are intending to attract students to your MSc programme(s) by detailing your specific marketing and communications plan. Your answer should outline the content you intend to create using the additional funds requested, your target audience, how you intend to ensure visibility of the available scholarships to that target audience, and a timeline and targets for each element, ensuring you cover both academic years if appropriate.

D3 - Funded - In up to 300 words, please provide a detailed justification of the funds you are requesting, including how they will be used and the profile of expected spend for each of academic years 26/27, 27/28 and 28/29.

If you answer **no** to Question D1, you will be taken to the following question:

D2 Unfunded - As part of your HEIs commitment to support the future of fire engineering in the UK we expect HEIs applying for scholarships under this scheme to have considered a specific marketing and communications plan. This is to ensure the HEI fills the scholarship places they are requesting and show, where courses are already well subscribed, how they intend to increase numbers on those courses, demonstrating appropriate value for money. Please outline how you intend to ensure visibility of the available scholarships to your target audience, and a timeline and targets for each element, ensuring you cover both academic years if appropriate.

Section E – Future Fire Engineering Talent

Funds are available for an awareness raising campaign to promote fire engineering to the following identified groups:

- undergraduates or recent graduates, either studying or have studied, accredited BEng or MEng degrees in a relevant engineering or scientific discipline;
- practicing fire engineers wishing to gain new skills or qualifications;
- engineers, architects or practitioners in cognate areas looking to upskill or reskill.

To be eligible, activities will need to be suitably focused. Activities for undergraduate students could include a paid fire engineering research placement within your HEI, a model for which is outlined below, and which draws on best practice from an existing Royal Academy of Engineering programme.

*Please refer to Section 4 of this Essential Application Guidance Document for an **indication** of the likely eligible and ineligible activity associated with this funding strand.*

E1 - Are you seeking funds to cover activities relating to raising awareness of fire engineering amongst targeted groups of individuals in the UK who would be prime targets for the course in future years? Please answer Yes or No to this question.

If you answer **Yes** to Question E1, you will be taken to the following four questions:

E2 – In up to 300 words, please describe the activities you are seeking to deliver to raise awareness of fire engineering as a postgraduate study option and career pathway, as well as any upskilling or reskilling programmes you intend to develop for the targeted groups. *Please include who you aim to engage and how you will reach them.*

Applicants may consider hosting Fire Engineering Research Placements within their HEI's for undergraduate students replicating a model similar to the Academy's Research Ready programme. Whilst the Research Ready model is for research placements in the field of AI, we believe the model can be adapted to fire engineering. If applying to host research placements, we recommend adopting the following funding model, which ensures that students receive a payment that meets the government's recommended national living wage:

***Research Placements**			
	Year 1	**Year 2**	**Comments**
Student Stipend	£ 3,813	£ 3,946	Based on the Government's national living wage (legal minimum) which is currently £12.71/hour or £476.63 per 37.5 hour week

Student Travel	£ 225	£ 233	To cover entire placement
Events & Activities	£ 250	£ 259	To cover entire placement
Student Accommodation	£ 2,400	£ 2,484	Variable cost per HEI, but no more than £300/week
HEI Administrative Costs	£ 1,250	£ 1,294	To cover HEI costs for administering the placement
Total per placement	**£ 7,938**	**£ 8,216**	

*Costs based on existing research ready model and assume an 8-week placement. Applicants must submit pro-rata costs for placements that cover a shorter duration.

**A small inflationary increase has been included for Year 2.

E3 – In up to 300 words, how will the proposed activities support a stronger and more diverse pipeline of potential applicants to both full and part-time MSc-level fire engineering provision? *Please explain how the activities will address barriers to awareness, access or participation, for the target groups.*

E4 - How will you measure the effectiveness and impact of your future fire engineering talent activities? *Please include clear outputs and outcomes, such as numbers reached, engagement levels, expressions of interest, follow-up activity, applications influenced, and any learning that will inform future activity.*

E5 - Please provide a detailed justification of the funds requested, including how they will be used and the profile of expected spend over each of the academic years.

Please breakdown the use of funds over the three academic years of 26/27, 27/28 and 28/29.

Section F – Total Funding Requested

In this section you will need to show the costing for the scholarships you covered in previous sections along with an overall budget for all elements you have requested funding for.

F1 - Scholarship Summary Table

Below is an extract of the scholarship summary table that must show the cost for an individual student.

- For each programme named in the table below, you must complete every cell of the table in that row.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Programme Name	**FT or PT**	**AY27/28 Number of Scholarships (Starting between September 2027 and March 2028)**	**AY27/28 Tuition Cost in £ (Total per scholar across the whole course period)**	**AY27/28 Living Cost in £ (Total per scholar across the whole course period)**	**AY28-29 Number of Scholarships (Starting between September 2028 and March 2029)**	**AY28/29 Tuition Cost in £ (Total per scholar across the whole course period)**	**AY28/29 Living Cost in £ (Total per scholar across the whole course period)**

If you do not need any funds for a particular element of a programme, then please just enter a **0 (zero)** in the relevant cell. We also need the following column headings completed fully for each programme:

Columns

A. For each different MSc programme, you need a separate line and provide the full name.
B. Please state whether it is full-time (FT) or part-time (PT). If it is the same MSc programme delivered both full and part-time, it will need two lines, one for each element.
C. Input how many scholarships you are requesting for the academic year 2027/28 that start between September 2027 and March 2028.
D. Please provide **one** tuition fee figure for a **single** student for the academic year 2027-28. If part-time, enter the total tuition fee of the entire MSc as at the academic year of enrolling. We will contact successful applicants regarding the profile of fees across the full duration of the part-time course.
E. Living costs for the academic year 2027-28
    - **Full-time scholars** can receive the recommended living costs for master's students published by the HEI. Please enter this in Column E.
    - **Part-time scholars** will be provided with £ 2,500 to support their travel and subsistence for those travelling for on-campus attendance only. This will be paid in equal sums across the

duration of their course. If the mode of delivery is on campus, enter £2,500 in Column E, otherwise enter 0 (zero).

F. How many scholarships you are requesting for the academic year 2028/29 that start between September 2028 and March 2029.
G. Please provide **one** tuition fee figure for a **single** student for the academic year 2028-29. If part-time, enter the total tuition fee for a single student for the entire MSc as at the academic year of enrolling. We will contact successful applicants regarding the profile of fees across the full duration of the part-time course.
H. Living costs for the academic year 2028-29
    - **Full-time scholars** can receive the recommended living costs for master's students published by the HEI. Please enter this in Column H.
    - **Part-time scholars** will be provided with £ 2,500 to support their travel and subsistence for those travelling for on-campus attendance only. This will be paid in equal sums across the duration of their course. If the mode of delivery is on campus, enter £2,500 in Column E. Otherwise, enter 0 (zero).

F2 – Overall Budget Table

The table below is an extract from the budget table on GMS and should contain the final funds requested under each element. Please complete all relevant sections in full. We recognise that some costs may fall in future academic years, for example, AY29-30 for part-time students, which is why we are asking for the total costs of part-time students to be entered as at the year of enrolment. We will work with successful applicants regarding the full payment profile of the grant.

Expense	AY 26/27	AY 27/28	AY 28/29	Totals (This column will autofill)
FT Scholarship Tuition		*	*	
FT Scholarships Living Costs		*	*	
PT Scholarships Tuition		*	*	
PT Scholarships Living Costs		*	*	
Promotion and Marketing	*	*	*	
Future Fire Engineering Talent	*	*	*	
Subtotal (This row will autofill)				

The **grey shaded cells** cannot be completed because MSc scholarships may only start from September 2027. No scholarship costs should be entered for academic year 2026/27.

The **yellow shaded cells** will auto-fill based on the figures entered elsewhere in the table and cannot be completed manually.

Please complete all cells marked with an asterisk (*) on the GMS. Enter the exact funding required for each activity in the academic year in which the funds will be spent (or in which academic year the scholar enrols in the case of part-time students). These being:

- Full-time (FT) scholarships tuition (total tuition fees for the number of scholarships being requested),
- Full-time (FT) living costs (total living costs for the number of scholarships being requested),
- Part-time (PT) scholarships tuition (total tuition fees for the number of scholarships being requested),
- Part-time (PT) living costs (total living costs for the number of scholarships being requested (on campus delivery only)),
- Promotion and Marketing
- Future fire engineering talent.

If, for any of the above, you are not seeking funding, then please just put a **0** (zero) in the relevant cell on GMS.

Section G – Declaration

Applicants should read and agree the declaration section before finally submitting their application.

10. Assessment of Application

Applications will be reviewed and assessed by a Selection Panel of up to seven individuals, including experts in fire engineering from both industry and academia, who will make the decision on who to award.

Each application will be reviewed by three individuals, and the panel will meet to review applications and make their final awarding decisions. No panellist will review an application where a conflict of interest has been declared. The Panel will meet in early December to deliberate and make final decisions on who to award.

The Selection Panel will review and provide a score for all sections of the application (Sections A-F) and Section 9 above provides some indication of what they will be looking for applicants to demonstrate in their responses to some questions. An indication isn't provided for all sections, in particular Sections D-F, as the Selection Panel will be looking for HEI's to demonstrate creativity and innovation in their planned activities, and they will assess the extent to which the application aligns with the aims and objectives of the award and delivers value for money.

The Academy will not be holding interviews for the Fire Engineering Scholarship Programme.

All applicants will be notified whether their application has been successful during w/c 14 December 2026. After this we will move to the agreement stage, and we will work with each successful HEI on the final schedule of works, the phasing of payments, and the monitoring and reporting schedules.

Unsuccessful applicants will be offered an appointment where we can provide feedback on their application face to face. We do not provide written feedback.

11. Grant agreement

If you are successful, your funding will be awarded under the Basic Terms and Conditions found on the Academy's website.

This agreement has been developed to ensure funding aligns with our Academy values, is used for the purposes for which it was awarded and is managed in compliance with our own funders' agreements, UK legislation and funding best practice.

12. Contact details

If you have any questions, please refer to the FAQs on the programme's webpage or contact highereducation@raeng.org.uk