

The Peter Hancock Scholarships 2025/2026 Applications

Closing date: 12 noon, 4th April 2025

Information for applicants

The history of the scholarship

The Peter Hancock Scholarship is a permanent endowment to provide an annual sum in perpetuity for the allocation of scholarships towards deserving, meritorious, in-need Honours Students who are at risk of not being able to commence and complete the final year (Year 2 Honours) of their studies or be so impacted by financial hardship that it would prevent them from achieving their potential.

The Scholarship is open to students of any department and of any nationality who can demonstrate a will and a potential to make a positive contribution to society through and beyond the successful completion of their Honours Degree. All successful applicants will have an experienced and supportive mentor made available to them from the Aber alumni.

The Scholarship Fund is the generous gift of Peter Hancock and his wife Patricia Pollard. Peter and Pat are alumni of the University and Peter was awarded a scholarship from the University in 1961. This scholarship was a critical factor in enabling him to commence and complete the Honours year of his degree in Geology. He went on to have a successful professional, business and academic career in Australasia and North America.

Things to consider when completing the application form

The University and the Donors welcome applications with ALL of the supporting evidence required. Incomplete applications will be excluded from the selection process. **Application forms must be typed** and then printed to be signed by the student and in Section 3 by a Personal Tutor and Head of Department. (Due to the current circumstances electronic signatures will be accepted and separate e-mail endorsements can be submitted by the Tutor and Head of Department if it's not possible to include them on the application form).

Eligible applicants will be assessed for shortlisting by the University-Donor Selection Panel and short-listed applicants interviewed by the panel to enable applicants to demonstrate their potential. The donors intend to award scholarships of £5,000 to each eligible candidate in 25/26 with monies awarded in three tranches commencing at the beginning of the 25/26 academic year and on satisfactory receipt of two reports submitted by successful Scholars.

Essential criteria for eligibility

- 1.) Students must provide evidence that they are at risk of being unable to proceed to and/or complete their final year of studies or be under such financial difficulty that it will significantly impact their studies.
- 2.) Students must have the potential to achieve a 2:1 Honours Degree or better.
- 3.) Evidence of will and potential for a successful career that will be of benefit to society demonstrated by activities and interests to date and career aspirations.

Completed forms should be e-mailed to: student-adviser@aber.ac.uk (Please note that we can accept good-quality images of supporting documents if you are unable to provide a scan). Please see the [Student Support Services website](#) for further guidance on the Scholarship and deadlines for applications.

Please note that completed applications and supporting documents cannot be returned.

Section A

Part 1: Your Personal Details

Student Number

First Name

Date of Birth

Surname/Family Name

Contact phone number

University email address

Term-time address

Home address

Are you an independent student (see below)?

Yes

No

- You are 25 or over before the start of the academic year
- You have been married or entered into a civil partnership before the start of the academic year
- You have care of a child or children
- You have supported yourself for at least three years before the start of your course
- You have no living parents or you are permanently estranged from your parents

Accommodation

Please tick as appropriate:

- Alone or the sole adult
- With your partner or spouse
- Halls of Residence
- Shared House
- With parent(s) or guardian(s)

Dependents

Are any adults or children financially dependent on you?

Yes

No

If yes, please indicate how many

Part 2: Course Details

Course title

Length of course

Department

Expected completion date

Year of Study

Mark at the end of Year One

Mode of study

Part-time

Full-time

Part 3: Department Recommendation

Can be submitted by e-mail to student@aber.ac.uk noting the name of the student in the subject line. To be completed and signed by your Personal Tutor and countersigned by the Head of Department.

Please tick the box if 'Yes'.

Has the student successfully completed part one of their course?

Has this student had to repeat their 1st year?

Has this student had to re-sit any modules?

Has there been any issues with the student's attendance?

Please give an indication to their potential degree grade:

Please include your detailed assessment and recommendation below. This will be a key element in the selection process of the applicants. (Continue on a separate sheet if needed).

Personal Tutor

Head of Department

Printed Name

Printed Name

Signature

Signature

Date

Date

Part 4: Your financial difficulties

Continue on a separate sheet, and attach, it if necessary.

4.1 - Please state- the reasons you are at risk of not being able to proceed to and/or complete the final year of your Honours Degree or having your studies compromised as to impact your potential to achieve a 2.1 honours degree or better, and the consequences for you if unsuccessful in this application to the Fund. Include any other information not covered elsewhere as to why you are in financial difficulty and require additional support.

4.1 Continue below

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page below the text. It is intended for the student to write their response to question 4.1.

4.2 - Please explain what steps you have taken to address your financial difficulties, e.g. reviewed your over- draft status, part time work, other grant applications sought, parental support.

Part 5: Information in support of your being deserving and meritorious

To address the criteria for this scholarship and explain why you believe you meet the requirements of being deserving and meritorious, aside from financial need, please provide a summary of the following:

5.1 Your contribution to the development of the department, fellow students, and to wider University life, e.g. through the active contribution to academic, social societies and sports clubs.

5.2 Your main interests and activities outside of, and before studying at, Aberystwyth University which reflect your greatest interests and demonstrate your potential to have a successful career and to be of benefit to society.

5.3 Your ambitions for a successful career, how it can contribute to society, and the other interests and activities you wish to pursue after graduating.

5.4 Your understanding of mentoring, its potential between a scholarship recipient and an Aberystwyth alumnus, and how participating in an alumni-supported mentoring programme could enhance your confidence and employability.

Section B

(Supporting evidence can be submitted by good quality photographs if a scanner is not available)

Part 6: Income

A: All Students

	Monthly	Evidence Needed	Check list
Maintenance loan		Student finance notification letter and last 3 months bank statements, one showing receipt of loan instalment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parental contribution		Annotate on bank statements or provide a letter/email from family stating total contribution over the academic year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintenance grant / other support grants		Student Finance (or other) notification letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aberystwyth University bursary		Notification letter confirming your bursary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher training grant		Notification letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional / career development loan		Loan agreement and payment schedule	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability / incapacity benefits		Benefit decision notice	<input type="checkbox"/>
Part-time earnings (term time)		Annotate payments on bank statements or P45 if work has ended	<input type="checkbox"/>

B: Students with partners and/or dependents

Partner's net earnings		Annotate payments on bank statements or P45 if work has ended	<input type="checkbox"/>
Partner's benefits, pensions, etc.		Notification letters	<input type="checkbox"/>
Partner's maintenance		Relevant proof	<input type="checkbox"/>
Partner's learning allowance		Student Finance breakdown or bursary notification	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dependents grant			<input type="checkbox"/>
Childcare grant			<input type="checkbox"/>
Tax credits		Award notification from HMRC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Income support		Notification letters	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing benefits / Council tax		Benefit decision notice	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other benefits (e.g. - Universal credit / income - please specify)		Notification letters / relevant proof	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part 7: Expenditure

All students	Monthly	Evidence Needed	Check list
Food / household / toiletries / laundry		Documentary evidence not required for these categories as standard figures are used for assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utility bills (gas / electricity / water)			<input type="checkbox"/>
Telephone			<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothes and shoes			<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure			<input type="checkbox"/>
Rent / mortgage		Tenancy or mortgage agreement. Should also be annotated on your 3 month's bank statements.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Insurance (building, life, contents)		Notification document	<input type="checkbox"/>
Council tax		Current council tax bill	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daily travel to University			<input type="checkbox"/>
Travel to and from home for holidays			<input type="checkbox"/>
Other expenditure - e.g. internet			<input type="checkbox"/>
Car costs			<input type="checkbox"/>
Health costs (eye care, dental care, diagnostic tests)		E.g. - invoice for diagnostic tests	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuition fees (if not paid by grant, loan, or parent)			<input type="checkbox"/>
Other course costs (field trips, materials)		Confirmation from your department that the trip is compulsory. Include dates, location, and costs to you. Receipts needed for items over £50.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Childcare - registered		Letter from childcare provider confirming the cost	<input type="checkbox"/>
Childcare - unregistered			<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintenance payments		Relevant proof (CSA letter or bank statements)	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL			<input type="checkbox"/>

Part 8: Debts

Please list your debts below, including those to the University

Creditor - person or company owed	Amount	Nature of debt (e.g. - rent, overdraft, credit cards, store cards)

Part 9: Disability / Dyslexia / Medical needs

Please tick as appropriate:

Yes

No

Do you have a disability or a chronic medical condition?

Have you applied for Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)?
If yes, please provide a copy of your disability support letter

Are you happy for this information to be shared with the
University's Accessibility Services team?

Part 10: Declaration

I certify that all the information given on this form is correct and complete and I understand that giving false information may constitute fraud and the University may pursue such matters through criminal prosecution.

I understand that giving false information or failing to disclose all relevant information may render me liable to disciplinary action by the university and I may be required to repay any grants obtained by me as a result.

I understand that the terms and conditions of the award will require me, if successful; to submit regular reports to trigger payments in instalments.

I understand that these terms will require me to notify the University of any change in financial circumstances or withdrawal from the University and that I may be required to repay part/all of the award.

I give permission for enquiries to be made of the relevant authorities to substantiate the information provided.

I understand that section A and B of this application will be viewed by the donors, Peter Hancock and Patricia Pollard as part of the selection process and understand the University will seek to facilitate contact between the donors and award recipients for mentoring, support and updates.

Signature

Date

Confidentiality: In accordance with GDPR, all information will be treated in the strictest confidence and will not be divulged to anyone unconnected with the administration of The Peter Hancock Fund, nor any other person or organisation external to the University other than Peter Hancock and Patricia Pollard and your designated alumni mentor without your permission.