

External Sources of Funding for Students

Below is a list of funding sources that may help prospective students of Architecture and current students who are experiencing difficulty in securing funding to support their studies. Please note this is not a comprehensive list of external funding options and we encourage you to search online yourself.

The Architectural Association School of Architecture is a private Higher Education Institution and is not a University. This means the funding AA students are eligible for may be different to general advice given for Universities. Please check relevant websites for up to date information.

UK Grants and Loans

Funding is available for the Experimental BA (Hons) (ARB/RIBA Part 1) programme and Diploma MArch (ARB/RIBA Part 2) programmes. Eligible students may be able to apply for a tuition fee loan of up to £6,000 per year. Eligibility will depend on fulfilling certain criteria based on:

- Your nationality or residency status
- Your age at the start of the course
- Any previous study at higher education level

UK students are eligible for the Tuition Fee Loan and Maintenance (means-tested) Loan. For further details and to check if you are eligible, visit the Student Finance website: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

Home (UK), Ireland and EU applicants who hold pre-settled or settled status to the Taught Postgraduate programmes are currently eligible to apply for a Master's Loan. Further information can be found on UK Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/masters-loan>.

For the PhD programme a Doctoral Loan is available, further information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/doctoral-loan>.

Disabled Student's Allowance (DSA) is support to cover the study-related costs for students who have a mental health problem, long term illness or any other disability. This can be on its own or in addition to any student finance. Further details can be found on the UK Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsa>.

International Student Loans & Grants

The AA is currently recognised by a number of countries for student loan/government grant purposes including the following:

- Canada (check with your local province)
- Germany (DAAD)
- Malaysia
- Norwegian Loans
- USA (Private loans)

The AA is also happy to apply for recognition from other countries/funding bodies, provided the required advance notice is given.

Previous AA Students have received support from the following organisations:

Undergraduate Studies

- Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD - Germany) <https://www.daad.de/en/>

- Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) Scholarship (Malaysia) <http://www.malaysiascholarships.my/2012/10/majlis-amanah-rakyat-mara-scholarship.html>

Graduate Studies

- Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD - Germany) <https://www.daad.de/en/>
- Sallie Mae Loan (USA), see additional information below - www.salliemae.com
- Capes Government (Brazil) <http://www.capes.gov.br/>
- Conicyt National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (Chile) <http://www.conicyt.cl/>
- Fundacion para el Futuro de Colombia - COLFUTURO (Colombia) <http://www.colfuturo.org/>
- Instituto para la Formacion y Aprovechamiento de Recursos Humanos (IFARHU) <http://www.ifarhu.gob.pa/ifaweb/>

Sallie Mae Loan (USA)

Applying for Sallie Mae Loan

- Only for USA citizens.
- Apply through the www.salliemae.com website.
- Need to select “Career Training School” when applying.
- Select the “Career Training Smart Option Student Loan (930) – this is the only loan the school is profiled for.
- For location, select “Outside the U.S.”
- Can search using the Department of Education Assigned School ID: 00924700
- School Name: Architectural Association School of Architecture
- The amount you request should not exceed the cost of attendance minus other financial aid
- Once you have submitted your loan application and it has been approved by Sallie Mae, please notify your Admissions Coordinator that you have applied for a Sallie Mae loan.
- The AA will then check and certify your loan with Sallie Mae.

Sallie Mae Loan payments and Tuition Fees

- You are required to pay your deposit payment directly from your own funds in line with the AA deadline for securing your place on the programme. This is usually 31 May if you hold an unconditional offer, or once your conditions are met no later than 31 July.
- Loan payments will be disbursed in three equal disbursements in line with term fee due dates in September, January and April.
- Third-party agent Western Union Business Solutions, acts on our behalf receiving the Direct Loan funds in USD and then exchanges the funds into GBP according to their daily exchange rate. The exchange rate fluctuates across the academic year.
- The funds are paid directly to the AA. We will then deduct term fees due and reimburse you with the remaining balance left. If any term fees are outstanding after the loan payment has been deducted, the AA finance department will contact you to arrange payment of outstanding balance.

Scholarships and Bursaries

Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

The RIBA offers a range of prizes, scholarships and bursaries designed to support and reward students, graduates, academics and practitioners. These schemes are designed to support the work of the RIBA in promoting educational standards and encouraging students, academics and practitioners to exceed them.

For further information visit the Scholarships and bursaries section of the RIBA website: <https://www.architecture.com/education-cpd-and-careers/studying-architecture/advice-on-funding-your-architectural-studies/funding-opportunities-for-students-of-architecture#>

You may also find further advice and guidance in the General advice on funding your architectural studies section: <https://www.architecture.com/education-cpd-and-careers/studying-architecture/advice-on-funding-your-architectural-studies>

British Council

The British Council website lists a selection of scholarships and bursaries, searchable by subject or institution. There are also links available for international students looking to receive financial assistance whilst studying in the UK.

For more information: <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships>.

Chevening – UK Government Scholarship

The Scholarships, which are funded by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and partner organisations, operate in 118 countries worldwide. The programme provides full or part funding for full-time one-year master's degrees in any subject and at any UK University. For more information and eligibility details: <http://www.chevening.org/>

Undergraduate Studies

The Berkeley Prize Essay Competition and Travel Fellowship prizes. For further information please see the website www.berkeleyprize.org/

Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam (Malaysia) www.jpa.gov.my

Graduate Studies

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) lists funding opportunities from different councils for postgraduate and research which include opportunities in knowledge exchange and partnerships, and international research.

<https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/>

Said Foundation offer scholarships for one-year Master's degree in the UK for Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian students. <https://saidfoundation.org/scholarships/>

Additional Useful Links

<https://www.beetroot.com/>

<https://www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/>

<https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/>

<https://www.egas-online.org.uk/>

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/>

<https://www.internationalscholarships.com/>

<https://www.stapleytrust.org/>

<https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/schemes-at-a-glance>

Online Funding search database / tool: <https://fundsonline.org.uk>