

Migrant Futures Doctoral Studentships - Guidance for Applicants

For awards starting Autumn 2026

The following guidance sets out the categories of information required to apply for Migrant Futures Doctoral Studentships, along with some additional information on the process of selection. It is important that all applications are submitted and complete by the deadline stated.

What is available?

Two doctoral studentships for entry in 2026-27. These are fully-funded studentship that may be held on a full-time (FT) or part-time (PT) basis, pro-rata, over three years (FT) and six years (PT) and are at an equivalent rate to fully-funded UKRI studentships. They cover tuition fees and an annual stipend at the yearly UKRI rate (the current full-time UKRI rate, i.e. for 2025/26 entrants, is £22,780), together with a small annual research training and support fund.

The Migrant Futures Institute is offering two studentships:

One of the two awards for entry 2026-27 will be open to eligible home applicants who identify as migrants or refugees and from racialised ethnic minority backgrounds in *any* field of research and practice for which supervision is available at Goldsmiths, University of London. To be clear, applicants considered for this award need not be working on a migration related topic, but they should be able to describe how their work will enhance their own and others economic, creative and intellectual lives.

The second of these two awards will be open to all eligible home or international applicants - irrespective of background and experience - whose proposed PhD is focused on a topic related to migration, broadly conceived, including in relation to processes of race and racialisation. Proposals must be informed by the co-production of knowledge with people and groups from migrant and refugee backgrounds, and demonstrate potential for social and cultural impact.

Migrant Futures Doctoral Studentship holders will be Fellows of the [Migrant Futures Institute](#) and will be expected to contribute to developing and enhancing the research

culture of the institute through their research, creative practice and participation in MFI activities and events. Successful applicants from racialised backgrounds will also be invited to participate in the activities of [Generation Delta Goldsmiths](#).

Year of entry

2026 (Autumn)

Eligibility criteria

Applicants must be new or continuing doctoral students who will not have completed more than 1 year of full-time or 2 years of part-time registration by the start of the 2026-27 academic year.

In order to be considered for an award you must first have applied for and been accepted on to a place to study for an MPhil/PhD at Goldsmiths: eligible applicants from all subject areas available at Goldsmiths will be considered. **If you have not done so already, please ensure that you apply for a place to study in good time well before the Migrant Futures Studentship application deadline, and no later than Friday, 13 March.** We strongly encourage and recommend that you discuss your application with your supervisors / prospective supervisors prior to commencing your application.

Migrant Futures Doctoral Studentships are open to home and international applicants: at least one award will be made to a home applicant with migrant or refugee experiences and from a racialised ethnic minority background.

Application deadlines

17:00 on Friday, 27 March, 2026

How to apply

Applications will be made through the Goldsmiths Graduate School via the Migrant Futures Studentship Application form on the Gecko platform.

We will be holding an applicant information webinar via MSTeams on Monday, 9 February at 3pm. The link to that webinar and the studentship application form are available via <https://www.gold.ac.uk/fees-funding/scholarships/migrant-futures-studentships/>

For those unable to attend, a recording of the applicant information session will be made available after February 2026 via the above webpage.

You are advised either to attend or review the recording and to read through the following carefully that outlines what is required in the application form. Application will be via the Migrant Futures studentship form on the Gecko platform. **Please note - your answers cannot be saved on this form and submitted at a later date.** Therefore it is advised that you prepare and save the text for each section of your application (requested in sections 2 and 3) in a Word document or similar before you start this application:

1. Applicant details

You will be asked to supply your name, contact address, email and mobile numbers. You will also be asked the following:

a) to confirm that you have been accepted on to a place to study for the MPhil/PhD at Goldsmiths by the deadline for receipt of applications. Please provide your applicant number or your student number (Goldsmiths ID) if you have already commenced an MPhil/PhD at Goldsmiths. You will also be asked if you have already commenced your doctoral programme at the point of applying for these studentships.

b) to indicate if you are a home or international student, i.e.

- Are a UK National (meeting residency requirements), or
- Have settled status, or
- Have pre-settled status (meeting residency requirements), or
- Have indefinite leave to remain or enter

c) your gender identification and preferred form of address

d) whether or not you identify as:

- Having migrant or refugee experiences
- Having a racialised minority ethnic background

2. Proposal

Upload a proposal of no more than 2000 words outlining briefly:

a) the programme of research including research questions, practice and methodology, as well as ethical considerations;

b) contribution to field of study, practice and/or policy and social impact;

c) timeline and schedule of work.

3. Personal Statement

Please upload a personal statement of no more than 500 words describing in whatever way you deem appropriate your personal identity. You should also describe how your previous work/life/educational experiences to date have prepared you for and/or informs the research work proposed and how you will benefit from and contribute to the research culture of the Migrant Futures Institute. The latter may include reference either to their own migrant or refugee experiences and/or to work with and alongside people and groups from migrant and refugee backgrounds.

4. Two references (one of whom must be from a proposed or current supervisor)

References should comment, as appropriate, your research plans and your preparedness for doctoral study, as well as in the case of proposed supervisor, the suitability of the supervisory team and wider research environment. It is advisable to request these at the earliest opportunity to give the maximum time for people to respond.

NB. You are responsible for uploading the above references by the application deadline. Please ensure that your references indicate their institutional affiliation. You will be asked to provide contact details for each of your references.

Deadline for receipt of applications: Friday, 27 March 2026 (17:00 UK time)
--

Selection Criteria

- Research proposal's quality and feasibility of work plan as outlined in research proposal and in references.
- Preparedness for and commitment to research as outlined in the personal statement and references.
- Appropriateness of supervisory team and fit and potential contribution to research environment at Goldsmiths, including the Migrant Futures Institute, as indicated in personal statement and supervisor reference.

As a reminder, it is anticipated that at least one award will be made to a home applicant identifying as from a racialised ethnic minority background and who has migrant or refugee experiences.

Selection Process

- All applications will be reviewed by an internal selection panel convened by the Academic Directors of the Migrant Futures Institute.
- All candidates will be notified of the outcome of the selection process by the end of June, 2026.

Contact details

If you have any queries, please contact that Graduate School (graduateschool@gold.ac.uk) using the subject heading 'Migrant Futures Doctoral Studentships' and including your surname.

Find out more about [Goldsmiths scholarships and bursaries regulations](#).