



Lloyds Banking Group’s employability programme, Lloyds Scholars, is now open for new recruits

Lloyds Scholars is Lloyds Banking Group’s award-winning social mobility programme that is having a positive impact on employability for students from lower income households. The programme is now recruiting its 2017/ 18 university intake of students from across the UK. For the first time, it is also open to students planning to study at Queen’s University, Belfast.

Lloyds Scholars offers talented undergraduates at its nine partner universities financial support, paid internships, professional mentoring and a wealth of opportunities to develop their employability skills.

Now entering its sixth year, a recent survey of the 600+ past and present Lloyds Scholars demonstrates that the Group’s investment in education and skills, as part of its commitment to Help Britain Prosper, has had a significant social impact and made a considerable difference to young people’s employability:

* 94% say the programme improved their employability skills and increased their ability to pursue a successful career ii
* 91% are employed or in further study within six months of graduating. [[1]](#endnote-1)
* 87% say that the programme has made them feel more positive about their future ii
* Over half would have chosen a different career path to the one they are on now, had it not been for the scholarship i
* £21 million of social value has been created by the programme[[2]](#endnote-2)
* Scholars typically earn £13,000 more than the average graduate, one year after graduating iii

The benefits of being a Lloyds Scholar are:

* A dedicated mentor from Lloyds Banking Group throughout their time at University
  + 84% of those on the programme list opportunities to learn from colleagues as a benefit of the programme ii
* Financial support to help them through university life
  + 99% say this has been a valuable factor in the programme ii
* Two paid summer internships within Lloyds Banking Group
  + 98% feel that the internships had a positive impact on their employability skills ii

In return, all Scholars commit to volunteering at least 100 hours of skills based volunteering per academic year, helping further support their employability prospects. Additionally, this is of great benefit to the local causes being supported and, to date, Scholars have contributed £1.2 million worth volunteering time to their local communities. ii

Katie Taylor, who graduated from Lloyds Scholars last year and who is now working at the Bank of England said: “Without Lloyds Scholars I could not have done two London internships. Also, having the opportunity to have a mentor in such a senior position, as an 18-year old, was amazing.”

David Rowsell, Head of Education and Employability Programmes, Lloyds Banking Group, said: “Lloyds Scholars has had a positive social impact on students and their communities to date and we look forward to continuing this with the recruitment of our sixth cohort. This programme is a key part of the Group’s commitment to helping Britain prosper, having committed to support over 1,185 undergraduates by 2020, and we welcome applications from all eligible students planning to study at one of our partner universities.”

Applications are open from 03 – 26 May 2017. To be eligible, students must come from homes where household income is under £25,000 and have been offered a conditional place at one of the nine partner universities involved.

More information is available at <http://www.lloyds-scholars.com>.

**About Lloyds Scholars**

To date, 600 Scholars have participated in the programme, including 156 Scholars who have graduated and joined the Scholars Alumni Network. 632 internships have been completed since 2011.

The nine partner universities are:

* University College London
* University of Bath
* University of Birmingham
* University of Bristol
* The University of Edinburgh
* University of Oxford
* The University of Sheffield
* The University of Warwick
* Queen’s University Belfast

The Lloyds Scholars programme provides students with support for their academic and vocational development and offers a complete financial and support package including:

* Annual bursary of £1,000 to help with the cost of living and study materials
* Additional annual cash awards based on academic achievement
* End of course excellence awards
* Two paid internships with the Group (salary pro-rata £18,000)
* Mentoring and development of a support network with senior employees of the Group
* Development workshops to build employability and broader transferable skills
* Access to Lloyds’ graduate programme

Scholars, in return, agree to:

* Volunteer a minimum of 100 skills-based hours each year in their local community
* Promote and champion the Lloyds Scholars programme to future generations

To be eligible for the programme students must come from homes where the household income is under £25,000 and have a place at one of the leading Universities taking part in the programme.

1. Results conducted in 2017 by external evaluator, Envoy Partnership, to assess the impact of the programme and calculate its social value

   ii Results conducted in 2016 by external evaluator, Envoy Partnership, to assess the impact of the programme and calculate its social value [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Analysis was undertaken by an independent consultancy and led by an SROI practitioner who is accredited by Social Value UK. The SROI was undertaken in accordance with the Cabinet Office guidance and the figures given are based on data gathered between February 2012 and July 2016 [↑](#endnote-ref-2)