

Quick Guide to Carnegie Vacation Scholarships

Who is it for?

- Undergraduate students who are either of Scottish birth, descent, or with at least two years secondary education in Scotland; and attending one of the fifteen Scottish universities.
- Approaching their final year of study: year 3 of a 4 year degree, or year 3 or 4 of a 5 year degree.
- On track to achieve a 2:1 or higher in their final degree classification.

What's a Vacation Scholarship?

- It enables students to gain research experience and skills while undertaking lab work, field work, library or archive visits, interviews, surveys etc.
- It aims to encourage students to consider postgraduate studies.
- It is for new, innovative research projects that would not normally be part of the student's course.
- The project must address a specific hypothesis or research question.
- It may lead to new scientific, academic or intellectual knowledge, a new product, technology, or creative product.
- It must result in a final report, provide opportunities to present research findings to others and enable the acquisition or development of specific research skills and/or knowledge.
- The student must design his, or her, own project and write the research proposal.
- An academic has to provide supervision during the project and advise on the design of the proposal.
- The scheme provides a stipend of £250 per week .

What it isn't

- The scholarships can't be used for language study or for participating in summer schools.
- It does not support work placements or volunteering activities.
- It can't be part of the student's assessed course work: e.g. it can't be the same topic as the final year dissertation, although it could address a sub-set of issues or questions that could be expanded into a thesis.
- It can't be the continuation of an existing project.

When

- At any time between May and August.
- It is full-time, 35 hours a week, for a maximum of 12 weeks and a minimum of 2- typically 6-8 weeks.
- Weeks do not necessarily have to be consecutive.

Where

- The research project can be undertaken at the student's own university, a host research organisation or elsewhere, as long as relevant supervision and resources are available.
- It can take place in Scotland or anywhere else in the world.

How are proposals assessed?

- The applications are assessed by researchers in the Scottish universities and members of staff of the Carnegie Trust.
- When assessing applications, the Trust will look at the:
 - Academic ability of the student
 - Quality of the proposed research
 - Feasibility of the project