

# Army Officer Scholarship Scheme

The Army Officer Scholarship Scheme provides financial support for future Army officers while they are studying for A-Levels, Scottish Highers or exams of an equivalent level. If you are awarded a scholarship, you will be guaranteed a place at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst on the Regular Commissioning Course, which you are expected to attend following university.

The Army Officer Scholarship automatically includes a provisional award of an Army Undergraduate Bursary (Standard), so you won't have to apply for it separately. You'll just need to meet the criteria for the Undergraduate Bursary to have the award confirmed. Army Scholars may also apply for the higher Tiers of Bursary Awards (Technical and Enhanced).

The Army Officer Scholarship selection board takes place at Westbury in July each year.

## Who can apply?

The scheme is open to anyone at a school or college in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, or at an Army secondary school overseas that educates students to A Level standard (or equivalent). Successful candidates will be of high academic ability and display leadership potential. You will need to meet, or be expected to meet (Scottish candidates only), the minimum academic attainment in your GCSEs or equivalents. For more details, go to 'What qualifications do I need?' You will also need confirmation from your headteacher that you are studying A-Levels, Scottish Highers or equivalent exams. You will also be required to complete an online medical questionnaire and have a full medical examination.

## When should I apply?

You should apply at the beginning of Academic Year 12 (1 September), with your GCSE or equivalent results. Some Scottish candidates will have a mix of actual and predicted results from their SNQ exams. You must be under 18 on 1 August of the year when you attend the Selection Board at Westbury.

## How do scholarships work?

If you are granted a scholarship, your parents will receive one payment of £3,000 (for Academic Year 13). You will also be guaranteed a place at Sandhurst, as long as you continue to meet all the eligibility requirements, including the medical standards.

## What qualifications do I need?

Candidates seeking an Army Officer Scholarship must have achieved English Language, Mathematics and either a Science subject or a Foreign Language, at a minimum grade 4. Further they must have obtained an indicative level of 46 ALIS points gained from their best 7 subjects at General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE).

National Numerical GCSE Grades (England)	Scottish National Qualification SNQ Level 6	Scottish National Qualification SNQ Level 5	Scottish National Qualification SNQ Level 4	BTEC Level 2	DSFC Points Tariff
9	A			Distinction*	8
8	B				7.5
7	C	A		Distinction	7
6	D	B		Merit	6
5		C		Pass	5
4		C			5
3		E	A		4

Candidates seeking an Army Sixth Form Scholarship who have gained educational qualifications in the Scottish education system must have achieved or be **predicted to achieve** an SNQ Level 5

award of at least Grade C in English Language, in Mathematics, and in either a Science or a Foreign Language. Further they must have obtained **or be predicted to obtain** at least 43 points from their best seven Scottish National Qualifications.

### **How does the application process work?**

1. The first step is to apply online.
2. If you meet all the eligibility criteria, we'll send you a link to fill in an online medical questionnaire.
3. If everything is ok with your medical questionnaire, you'll have an interview with a Senior Careers Adviser at an Army Careers Centre.
4. After your interview we'll send your application and reports from the Senior Careers Adviser and your headteacher, to be reviewed by a Scrutiny Board (you don't need to attend).
5. You will also have a medical examination at your nearest Army Assessment Centre. After that you will be invited to attend an assessment at the Army Officer Selection Board in Westbury, Wiltshire. This involves a two-night stay.

### **What are the medical fitness requirements?**

Army life can be physically tough and some medical conditions can prevent you from joining, so as part of your application you'll need to fill in an online medical questionnaire. Before you go to the Army Officer Selection Board at Westbury you'll have a medical examination, and at Westbury you'll do some physical tests. Find out more about the Army's medical requirements.

### **What commitments does a scholarship involve?**

If you accept a scholarship you must complete 1 year of training at Sandhurst, and then serve a minimum of 3 years in the Army. We hope that you will make a career in the Army. If you want to withdraw from the scholarship scheme you can, but you will need to refund the money you have received.

### **What other financial support is available?**

We expect all Army Scholars to read a first degree at university and that is why the Scholarship award also includes a provisional award of an Army Undergraduate Bursary (Standard). That Bursary provides a grant of £2,000 for each year of your university course (a total of £6,000 or £7,000 if you do a four-year course). You can also apply for the higher Bursary Tiers which offer funding of £16,000 (Technical Bursary) and £24,000 (Enhanced Bursary). If you want to be a doctor or dentist in the Army, and you are studying medicine or dentistry, you can apply for an Army Medical Services Bursary.

### **What does the Army look for in future officers?**

Successful candidates are usually mature young men and women with a wide range of interests that often extend beyond school activities and reflect leadership qualities and a sense of civic duty.

### **Can I join any Regiment?**

Army Scholars can apply to join any Regiment or Corps for which they are eligible, provided they enter Sandhurst before their 30th birthday. Find out more about the Army and which Regiment or Corps might suit you. Your Candidate Support Manager and Senior Careers Adviser can also give you help with this choice. You don't have to make a final decision about which Regiment or Corps you want to join until you are at Sandhurst.

If you are planning to join the Army as a Professionally Qualified Officer (doctor, vet, lawyer, etc) you will undertake a shorter Sandhurst course before commissioning into your chosen Corps.