

Hume Information Session

Questions asked in the session

27th March 2025

1. *When will we get the outcome for Hume awards?*

It is anticipated that we will make first round offers of a Hume scholarship to successful applicants the week commencing 2nd June 2025. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified also.

2. *I am currently pursuing my master's degree here at MU. I would like to know if, in the scholarship application process (step 1), on the academic section, should I mention my ongoing master's, even though it is not yet completed.*

Yes, you can include your Masters degree with the anticipated completion date. See T&C's page 4.

3. *If you apply for WISH and aren't accepted will you still be considered for the normal HUME award?*

Your application is for the standard Hume fellowship awards, and you also have the option to apply for the additional WISH awards. See T&C's page 2.

4. *Please explain the Ireland residency requirement. If someone is not currently in Ireland, can they still apply and secure a visa after being admitted to the scholarship?*

You can apply for the scholarship from your home country. If you are a successful applicant and are awarded a Hume scholarship you must then secure a visa and reside in Ireland for the duration of your studies. You can find more information here: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/international>

5. *Would failing to obtain external funding in Year 1 or 2 impact the continuation of the Hume stipend?*

All scholars are expected to apply for external funding (e.g. Research Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship) during the 1st and 2nd year of their award. This is a

requirement for the continuation of Hume funding. See T&C's page 3. Your Hume funding is not cut if you are not successful in that external application but you must provide evidence that you have applied for external funding. See T&C's page 3.

6. *Do I need to apply for either MAP or WISH? Or can we apply for both?*

If you meet the eligibility criteria you have the option to apply for either/both WISH and MAP. See T&C's page 2 for eligibility criteria.

7. *If the proposal that my supervisor accepted differs from the one that he advertised, is my application acceptable? or it must be the same topic advertised to be eligible for the fund?*

The supervisors were asked to provide general research areas that they are willing to accept applications for. If the supervisor has agreed to supervise you and provide you with an academic reference for your application submission then you are eligible to apply. See T&C's page 7.

8. *Is there an application fee? If so, as a non-European student, how can I apply for a fee waiver?*

There is no application fee to apply for a Hume scholarship. However, if you are a successful applicant there is a once off €50 registration fee for your PhD programme which is not covered by your award. Also, there is an annual €150 student levy which must be paid by registered students. See Fees & Grants Office: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/student-fees-grants>

If you are a successful application you will be asked to apply for a non-EU fee waiver.

9. *Are there interviews after the deadlines for selected individuals?*

There are no interviews for applicants for the Hume Scholarship process. However, a supervisor may have multiple requests to supervise many students. Your supervisor may therefore decide to support your application or not support your application. If your chosen supervisor does not support your application then you cannot apply for a scholarship. See T&C's page 7 and 8.

10. *If my Hume application is not selected, do I lose the opportunity to apply to the research programme?*

If your Hume application was eligible but not successful, that means you have a commitment from the department and supervisor to support your application for a PhD programme in the first place. You can still apply for a research programme for Academic Year 2025-2026 once you meet the eligibility criteria of the University's Admissions and Student Recruitment team, but you will be self-funded.

11. *The top students from each department receive the scholarship, if I'm not wrong, but in terms of MAP, how is it chosen? Is it if one of the top scoring candidates are MAP they are transferred over to the MAP scholarship, and then the person in 3rd place for the normal scholarship moves up? Or will MAPs be reviewed independently? Say for example neither of the top 2/3 are MAP, and a lower scoring candidate is MAP, will they receive the scholarship?*

The Hume scholarship programme is a competitive process and applications are ranked at department and faculty review levels.

Separately, ALL eligible applicants who indicate they want to apply for MAP (and answer the questions asked) are assessed by the Access Office under different MAP criteria. If we received 8 applications for MAP within one department all 8 applicants are assessed by the Access Office under specific MAP assessment criteria. See T&C's page 2 and page 8.

12. *Could you please explain MAP category?*

Please refer to the T&C's page 2 for a full and detailed explanation.

13. *Can I apply for map if I belong from a developing country? Because it said candidate with socioeconomic problems as well*

Applications are welcomed from all prospective applicants around the world. Please refer to the T&C's document for a full explanation of the WISH and MAP awards, which is I think what you are asking.

14. *does applying for map or wish mean you are ruled out of applying for the hume scholarship, or can you apply to multiple?*

All applicants are applying for the Hume standard scholarship. In addition, if you meet the eligibility criteria advertised for WISH and MAP awards you can also

complete the section in the supplemental information at Step to indicate you wish to also apply for either WISH or MAP or both awards.
See T&C's page 2 and page 8.

15. Currently I am doing my MBA, which will be completed in July 2025. Can I apply now?

Yes, you can apply now, with current results to date. If you were successful in your Hume application any award is conditional of you meeting the eligibility criteria of a 2.1 or 1.1 degree. If you already have an UG award at 2.1 or 1.1 you already meet the eligibility criteria, but please include your MBA also.

16. how strict is the word count for the supporting documents? my abstract is 312 words currently.

The maximum word count included is a guide. A few words extra is acceptable ie you have 312 in this case and the max word count is 300. The quality of the proposal is most important.

17. I'm a 2024 Fall MPhil student at TCD, and I'll be finishing my coursework before the deadline and submitting my thesis end of May.

You can apply for Hume now even though you have not yet completed your MPhil, once you comply with the eligibility criteria in the T&Cs on page 3.

18. Since I won't have my final grade by the time the form is due, what should I put under "Final Grade" and "Level/Class of Award"?

Applicants in the final year of the qualifying degree apply on the basis of expected results. Should results be unavailable at the time of award offers, applicants with the highest ranking will be made conditional offers (subject to confirmation of actual results). If the required qualification is not achieved, the university shall deem the applicant ineligible and rescind the conditional offer. This also detailed in the T&C's on page 4.

19. which reference style (e.g., Harvard) should we use and which kind of font (e.g., Times new roman, 12, 1.5)?

We have not prescribed the reference style, you can use what you deem appropriate. We do not prescribe which font you must use either, but Times Roman 12 point is fine with 1.5 spacing.

20. once we open the application can we save our progress and re-open it multiple times until we finish it?

Yes, you can start your application and save it midway through completion and come back to it another day to complete your application. This applies to Step 1 (form) and Step 2 (document upload) of the application process.

21. Is there any template for the research proposal? How do you count no. of words in case I also want mention question title - do you count it in word counts?

We do not provide a template for the research proposal. Please see the Step by Step Guide for Applicants page 8 for additional information on what you should include in your research proposal, also, please consult your supervisor to discuss your research proposal before submission.

22. Does the word count for the research proposal include footnotes?

The word count is a maximum guide for your research proposal text, footnotes are included in this max word count, the full bibliography should be uploaded as supplemental information in a separate section – please see Step by Step Guide for Applicants.

23. how extensive do we have to be with citing in the proposal?

Please discuss this with your supervisor if you are unsure of using citations.

24. My University was not in the Maynooth University database? Am I eligible? I manually entered the details.

I assume you mean your university was not pre-populated in the application form in Step 1 of the application form. Each applicant will have a different college they attended so you do have to enter this manually.

25. Can you include abstract in supplemental or a gantt chart?

The abstract is included in the research proposal section.

A Gantt chart can be included in the supplementary material section as a document upload, which is part of Step 2.

26. Can you have joint supervision across different departments?

Yes, if you are a successful applicant, a supervisory team will be put in place for you which may be across departments. At application stage you include only 1 supervisor from your home department of application and that supervisor must be the one to provide you with an academic reference.

27. Can the potential supervisor be the academic reference or is it better to offer a reference from a second individual in the faculty?

Please refer to the Step by Step Guide for Applicants. It is critical that you only upload an academic reference from your MU supervisor on the reference template provided. If you do not upload the required MU supervisor reference your application will be ineligible. We do not request an external reference.

28. is an application without a master degree because the applicant will graduate later on (e.g., june/july), or without a language certificate, worth less?

The minimum requirement for applicants is a 2.1 or 1.1. undergraduate degree. Please do include your Masters Degree details also, you can provide your final grades at a later date if you are a successful applicant. There are minimum English language proficiency requirements which are outlined in the T&C's document page 4.

29. Where can we find the research topic?

You can find a research topic and supervisor on the Hume webpages:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/graduate-research-academy/john-pat-hume-doctoral-awards>

30. is there a section to expand on your academic course, what it entailed etc?

At application stage for a Hume scholarship we only request the name of the colleges and title of courses on the form. The details of your academic course should be discussed with the MU supervisor you contact so they can provide you with an academic reference.

31. So the professor will directly send me the academic reference that I upload ?

Yes. Once you make contact with your chosen supervisor and they are happy that you are a good fit for their research area, they will provide you with a signed academic reference, which the applicant has the responsibility to upload to their application. Without the MU supervisor academic reference your application is ineligible. See the Step by Step Guide for Applicants.

32. Regarding fees, someone living more than 5 years in the country would be paying EU fees?

You can be assessed by our Fees & Grants office for fee status. Generally, if you meet the residency criteria outlined on the application form you will be assessed for EU fees. If you do not meet the residency criteria you can apply for a non EU fee waiver as part of the Hume award.

33. Is a scan of the original transcript sufficient at the application process? Is there any additional certification / validation required?

Yes, please upload a pdf scan of your official transcript to your application.

The Admissions team may come back to you at a later date requesting additional verification of your award.

34. Can you be successful without submitting documents for the optional sections?

In Step 2 of the application process we have some essential document uploads and non-essential document uploads. These non-essential documents may not strengthen your application depending on your research area. Please take a look at the application assessment process in the Call document on page 5. You can also discuss this with your MU supervisor.

35. (1) In applying tuition fee waivers, as international students, can we expect the full tuition fee covered? (2) I've missed this: why do we need to apply an external scholarship after getting the Hume?

EU fees are automatically covered for successful Hume awardees. If you are a non-EU applicant and are successful you can apply for a non-EU fee waiver.

Part of the T&C's of receiving a Hume scholarship this year requires you to apply for externally funded Research Ireland scholarships. You will need to provide evidence of this. If you were successful in the Research Ireland awards you would surrender your Hume scholarship. See T&C's page 3.