

Q: What are the benefits of being a Laidlaw Scholar?

A: There are countless rewards to being a Laidlaw Scholar, including but not limited to:

- An insightful research experience;
- A comprehensive leadership development programme;
- A £6,000 Scholar stipend;
- A generous travel fund;
- Having the Laidlaw Programme listed on your HEAR degree transcript; and
- Joining a global network of Laidlaw Scholars and alumni.

Q: What are the programme requirements?

A: To successfully complete the Laidlaw Programme, Scholars are required to:

- Attend all Laidlaw events;
- Complete two, six-week summer projects (focused on research and leadership-in-action, respectively);
- Submit all required outputs by deadline;
- Complete a six-month ethical leadership masterclass (Oxford Character Project); and
- Be an active and engaged member of their cohort and of the global Laidlaw Scholars Network.

Q: I am in my third year at St Andrews. Am I eligible for the Laidlaw Programme?

A: To be eligible for the Laidlaw Programme, you must be a full-time undergraduate student who at the time of application has at least two summers remaining at St Andrews. Most applicants are in their first or second year of study. However, third year students who are on a five-year programme should be eligible.

Q: Can I study abroad or do a work placement if selected for the Laidlaw Programme?

A: Scholars are required to study in-person, full-time at St Andrews during their participation in the Laidlaw Programme (approximately 20 months, starting in early March of the first year). It is not possible for Scholars to study abroad or do a work placement during this time.

Q: What if I don't have prior research experience?

A: The Laidlaw Programme is designed to allow Scholars to explore their interest in research. Whilst some Scholars may enter the programme with prior research experience, most Laidlaw Scholars are first-time researchers.

Q: Who can serve as an academic supervisor during the summer 1 research project?

A: Any permanent academic staff member at the University can serve as a Laidlaw research supervisor (NB: postgraduate students are not eligible).

Q: How do I find an academic research supervisor?

A: First, decide if you wish to do a pre-defined or self-defined research project. If pursuing a pre-defined project, consult the list of pre-defined projects on the Laidlaw website and contact the designated research supervisor. If doing a self-defined project, consider your chosen research topic and research academic staff at the University to see whose research interests and

specialisations best match your project and contact them directly. NB: if choosing your own research project, it must be separate from any work you have submitted for credit.

Q: When are the two summer projects completed?

A: In the first summer, Scholars complete a 6-week research starting on the first day of the summer semester. On a case-by-case and with prior approval, Scholars may start or end their research project up to one week earlier or later. In the second summer, Scholars complete a 6-week Leadership-in-Action project (timing TBC depending on project type and Scholar preference).

Q: Do I have to live in St Andrews during the summer 1 research period?

A: Scholars must live in St Andrews (or a reasonable commuting distance away) and attend weekly, in-person events and workshops during the 6-week research period in the first summer. The summer 1 research period typically begins on the first day of the summer semester.

Q: What is the time commitment?

A: Participating in the Laidlaw Programme requires Scholars to use effective time management skills. Scholars are expected to work full-time for six weeks on their two summer projects. Over the course of the full programme, Scholars also attend an equivalent of six full days of leadership training development, attend a launch event and two celebration events, complete a six-month ethical leadership masterclass (one to three hours per month), and attend the Laidlaw Scholars Conference (one full weekend). Additional time should also be allocated to completing outputs and attending occasional informational sessions and ad hoc events.

Q: Am I required to attend all events?

A: Yes, an integral component of the Laidlaw Programme is a bespoke leadership development programme that runs throughout the entire programme. Scholars are expected to attend all events (barring exceptional circumstances). Please see sample event schedule below*:

YEAR 1

| Date | Event |
|--|--|
| March (2~ hours) | Launch event |
| March (Fri-Sun) | Weekend residential |
| Summer 1 (6 weeks: starting first day of the summer semester) | Summer research project, weekly in-person events, + 1/2-day leadership event |

| Date | Event |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| September (1 full day) | Leadership event |
| October (Fri-Sun) | Scholars Conference |
| November (2+ hours) | Celebration event (Year 1) |
| November – April (1-3 hours/month) | Oxford Character Project |

YEAR 2

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| March (1/2 day) | Leadership event |
| Summer 2 (6 weeks: timing TBC) | Leadership-in-Action project |
| October (1 full day) | Leadership event |
| November (2+ hours) | Celebration event (Year 2) |

**Please note: the above schedule is provided for illustrative purposes only; the actual programme schedule is liable to change.*

Q: Am I required to go overseas during my Leadership-in-Action project?

A: Unless you are already an international student at St Andrews, Scholars are expected to spend at least six weeks overseas during the Laidlaw Programme. Most Scholars will go overseas during the summer 2 Leadership-in-Action project, but you may also conduct overseas research during the first summer. Scholars have access to a generous travel fund to finance their travel.

Q: Can I re-apply next year if my application is unsuccessful?

A: Yes, as long as you still have two summers remaining at St Andrews at the time of application then you are very welcome to re-apply.