

The Jill Willows Scholarship

Application Information 2026/27

Who can apply?

The Jill Willows Scholarship is open to the following full-time students:

- **BSc/BSc (Hons) Year 2 and Final Year** at Harper Adams University
- **FdSc Final Year** at Harper Adams University
- **BVetMS Year 2 and Year 4** at the Harper & Keele Veterinary School

Note: Engineering students are not eligible to apply

Additionally, we are pleased to offer one John Oldacre Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship match funded by the legacy of Jill Willows to Year 2 and Final Year BSc or Final Year FdSc students, enrolled on full time undergraduate courses at Harper Adams University, excluding those students studying engineering.

Applicants who are studying at Harper Adams University will be considered for both scholarships, and applicants studying at the Harper & Keele Veterinary School will be considered for the Jill Willows Scholarship only.

Background

Jill Willows was someone who cared deeply about the rural community and the role of young people in shaping the future of rural life. The Jill Willows Scholarship **is particularly targeted at those considering a career in the rural sector.**

The John Oldacre Foundation awarded £1m to the University to provide funding for scholarships to be match funded by other charities or industry partners.

Opportunities

If awarded, the successful recipient(s) will receive an award payable for one year only valued **up to a maximum of £1,500.**

The award will be paid in two equal parts; 75% to be paid in February 2027 and the remaining balance in May 2027. Payment is conditional on the scholar(s) remaining registered as a full-time student at Harper Adams University or the Harper and Keele Veterinary School. They must pass all modules of study during the continuation of the scholarship and submit a letter of thanks for the sponsor to the Development Trust prior to the receipt of each payment.

This is a competitive award which will be evaluated on the merit of the submitted application, academic achievements to date and interview. The Development Trust embraces diversity and promotes equality of opportunity and access to higher education. The Trust has been successful in supporting a wide range of

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students. It strongly encourages applications from students of all backgrounds. Where there are two applicants of equal merit, preference will be given to applicants who are from backgrounds that are underrepresented in UK higher education.

The decision of the Scholarship Panel is **FINAL** and they reserve the right to withdraw their award at any time should they feel this action is required.

Application Process

Your application must include the following three documents, which should be saved in PDF format, named

1. Consent Form, 2. Covering Letter and 3. CV and emailed to DevelopmentTrust@harper-adams.ac.uk by 12 noon on **Friday 6 November 2026**. Email subject: **Jill Willows**

1. **Consent Form** – this must be completed and signed to show that you have read and understood the Privacy & Data Protection Notice
2. **Covering letter** of no more than two pages, addressed to Mrs Doris Taylor and including the following information
 - Why you have selected to study your chosen course;
 - How you have been involved in your local community and what difference this has made to you and to others;
 - Your career aspirations and how you plan to make a difference within your chosen field.
3. **CV** – no more than 2 pages

Application Deadline: 12 Noon Friday 6 November 2026

Shortlisted applicants are required to attend a panel interview on **Tuesday 1 December 2026**. (Please note that an alternative interview date cannot be arranged).



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Privacy and Data Protection Notice

How your personal information will be used:

As part of your application, Harper Adams University will process your personal data as it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest (the provision of educational scholarship programmes) or in the exercise of official authority vested in Harper Adams University as data controller.

Personal information that you supply to Harper Adams University may be used for the following purposes:

- To administer your studies and record academic achievements
- To assess and process your scholarship application
- To publicise your scholarship
- To administer communication between you and your sponsor(s)
- To assist in pastoral, welfare, or additional needs services
- To administer the financial aspects of your scholarship
- To monitor equalities procedures and compliance
- To manage quality and effectiveness of provision including external audits
- For careers advice and alumni relations including fundraising

We may share your information with other departments in the University to carry out the purposes listed above. We will also share your personal data with the scholarship provider/sponsor; in this case for the purposes listed above.

Your personal information may be shared with third parties with your consent, where disclosure without your consent is required or permitted by law or where the University instructs or works with a third party for the purposes listed above. Your information will not be shared externally for marketing purposes.

The University may use automated profiling of personal information for the purposes of improving services, enriching your experience with the University or signposting events and activities that may be of interest.

Your personal information will be retained by the University for the period specified in the **Records Retention Guidelines**. You have the right to access your personal information (in a format that is usable to you for other purposes), correct inaccurate or incomplete information or request that your personal data be deleted or processing restricted.

For further information about how your data is used by the University, please view the **Data Protection Policy** and Layered Notice. The complaints procedure for Data Protection and Freedom of Information can also be found on the **University website** or contact the Data Protection Officer on dpo@harper-adams.ac.uk. The complaints procedure also sets out your right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner.