The Equal Access Petition

We are calling on all universities in England to open their doors to asylum seekers, people with Discretionary Leave to Remain or Humanitarian protection. The current European refugee crisis is the largest humanitarian disaster in generations. We need everyone to play their part in helping people who have fled war and persecution to find safety and rebuild their shattered lives. We are asking universities to:

1. **Classify all those seeking asylum as home students for fee purposes**
2. **Offer at least 10 scholarships that cover study and maintenance costs for people who have come to the UK seeking refugee protection**
3. **Publicise their Equal Access policies so that potential students can easily apply**

Individuals who are waiting for a decision on their asylum application, or who have been granted Discretionary Leave to Remain as a result of an asylum claim as well as those who have been granted Humanitarian Protection do not have the same access to university as home students. Many are forced to abandon their education. They cannot access student loans and grants and must pay international fees. Most asylum seekers are denied the right to work and must live on government hand outs of just £36 a week. They cannot afford up to £30,000 a year in university fees. Someone who has fled their country of origin to avoid war, torture or persecution is not the same as an international student who has chosen to study in Britain.

The Equal Access campaign is supported by a broad coalition including:

Please sign below if you support equal access to higher education for students seeking refugee protection in Britain.

Name	Email	Signature