

Template email to send to your old school

This letter outlines how your old school can help refugee and asylum seeking students apply for university bursaries and scholarships

Subject: Help for refugee and asylum seeker students applying to university this year

Dear (*teacher's name*)

I am a former student at xxxx school, I left in xxxx and am now studying xxxx at xxxx university.

I'm writing to give you some helpful information for current students at the school who are refugees or asylum seekers and are applying to university. I am sending details of all the [universities which offer scholarships for refugees and asylum seekers](#). I am a member of my university's Student Action for Refugees (STAR) group and we have been working to help refugees get into university which is why I have decided to contact you. The current list of scholarships and bursaries is at the STAR website www.star-network.org.uk

Students who are asylum seekers or have limited leave to remain after an asylum claim do not have access to student loans in the same way as British students. They are also likely to be charged high international fees. The entitlement to fees and loans is different in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland; all the details on [eligibility to pay home fees](#) and [access to student finance](#) are set out on the UKCISA website at www.ukcisa.org.uk. There may well be students in this situation at your school so it's important they understand their entitlements and apply to one of the universities on our list which has a scheme in place to help them cover the costs.

For further advice and guidance you may want to get in touch with the following organisations:

- [Refugee Support Network](#) - advice line specifically on access to higher for asylum seekers and refugees.
- [Just for Kids Law](#) - guidance on access to university for those with Discretionary Leave to Remain who have not necessarily claimed asylum in the UK.
- [Migrant Children's Project](#) - advice line providing information and legal advice for migrant children and young people.
- [UKCISA](#) - can answer questions about eligibility for student finance and home fees and other complex queries.

Yours sincerely,
(Your name)