

## **James McAvoy Drama Scholarship**

### **Application Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions**

Bafta winning and Golden Globe nominated actor James McAvoy is committed to nurturing the creative potential of young Scots who experience barriers to access and participation in drama at the Junior Conservatoire and RCS short courses.

James is a graduate of the BA Acting programme at RCS and Patron of the Junior Conservatoire of Drama. The Glasgow-born actor has funded the new James McAvoy Drama Scholarship to enable young people to experience the world-class drama training at RCS as he did.

The scholarship aims to support applicants who would otherwise find meeting the cost of tuition fees at RCS a barrier to accessing pre-Higher Education drama training at the Royal Conservatoire.

#### **The application criteria is as follows:**

- The applicant must be applying for a drama short course or Junior Conservatoire of Drama. These courses can be found on the website and can include weekly classes for young people, drama credit rated short courses, drama specialist intensive weekends, summer schools and our Junior Conservatoire of Drama. It does not include any short course where the subject specialism is dance, music, production or screen. If you would like to clarify whether the course you are interested in is eligible, please contact Short Courses using our contact details below.
- The applicant must be aged 25 or under at the time of application, and must be able to provide proof of this status.
- The applicant must be resident in Scotland at the point of application, and must be able to provide proof of this status.

#### **Exclusions:**

- The scholarship is intended to help meet the cost of tuition fees only at RCS. The cost of travel, subsistence or accommodation are not eligible.
- There is no restriction on the number of times you are able to apply providing the course applied for is different each time and funds permitting.
- You are only eligible to apply for support for the Junior Conservatoire of Drama once you have been successful at audition for this course of study.

Please use these guidelines to help you complete your application for potential assistance with RCS drama tuition fees.

FAQs for completing the scholarship application

### **Who is entitled to apply to the James McAvoy Drama Scholarship?**

Any student/family who is able to demonstrate a need for financial support in order to allow them to enrol on a drama short course and the Junior Conservatoire of Drama is entitled to apply, and who meet the criteria of being aged 25 or under at the time of application and resident in Scotland.

### **When should I apply for assistance?**

Students must apply for scholarship support **BEFORE** making an online application for any drama course. We regret that once a term/course has begun we are unable to accept applications for scholarship.

The majority of our short courses are open access and places are offered on a first come first served basis. Therefore, we do advise applying for support as soon as possible in order to avoid disappointment. Please be advised that a bursary application does not constitute a place reserved on your chosen course; to confirm that your place is secure would require a separate online booking for the course in question.

Due to the time required for processing scholarship applications, deadlines will be **ten working days before** the course/term start date. We endeavour to process all scholarship applications within ten working days of the application being received.

Students can apply for scholarship for more than one course. We require one scholarship application per course, per applicant.

Students applying for assistance towards drama weekly classes need only return one application form for the full academic year from the point of enrolling.

Please see our Terms and Conditions for further details of your contract with us when enrolling for a short course.

### **How do I know if the course I wish to study is eligible?**

Only short courses with drama as the subject specialism are eligible for this funding. These courses can be found on the website and can include weekly classes for young people, drama credit rated short courses, drama specialist intensive weekends, summer schools and our Junior Conservatoire of Drama. It does not include any short course where the subject specialism is dance, music, production or screen, teaching or CPD events. If you would like to clarify whether the course you are interested in is eligible, please contact Short Courses using our contact details below.

## **How is my application assessed?**

Each application is considered by a panel of Royal Conservatoire staff on its individual merits using the scholarship criteria and information provided by applicants.

As an indication (and not an exhaustive list), we use criteria such as disability, receipt of benefits, low progression school, low or no income household, etc. to assess each application. It is therefore in your best interests to provide us with as much information and evidence to support your application as possible and to ensure that it is both truthful and accurate.

We use the details you have provided to determine what percentage of a course fee we might be able to support.

It is always useful for us to have an indication of the percentage of course fee you might require in order to be able to participate. Please note however that the funds are limited and we expect to receive a large number of applications each year.

## **How will I know the outcome of my application?**

We endeavour to process all scholarship applications within ten days of the application being received. Short Courses will then email you with the outcome of the panel decision.

## **My scholarship application has been successful, what happens next?**

If your application is successful you will be contacted by email in the first instance informing you of the scholarship amount awarded, along with a "promotion code" and a link to the booking page for your chosen course.

This code should be entered at the payment stage of the booking process. The bursary amount will then be automatically deducted from the full course fee and you can proceed with the balance of payment.

At this stage you can choose to make payment in full or select online instalments (available for weekly courses, Junior Conservatoire of Drama and summer schools only). Please refer to the online booking instructions for further details or contact the Short Courses team.

Please remember that we apply a card transaction handling fee of 3% for all bookings made by credit card.

## **My scholarship application has been unsuccessful, what happens next?**

All unsuccessful applicants have the option to appeal; this can be done within ten working days of you being informed that your application has been unsuccessful.

For more information on the appeals process, please contact the Short Courses team.

**What if I wish to withdraw from a drama course once it has begun and I am in receipt of scholarship?**

The offer of an award is made subject to your taking up a place on the course of study. It is a condition of this award that failure to complete the course will result in the award being treated as a loan to be repaid by a date to be specified in that event.

Please refer to our Terms and Conditions for further details on your contract with us when enrolling for a course and our cancellation policy.

**I still don't understand the application form and/or process, can you help?**

We are happy to provide guidance on any part of the scholarship application process, please just ask using the contact details provided below.

**How can I get an application form?**

All applications for a James McAvoy Drama Scholarship are made online through the [www.rcs.ac.uk/shortcourses](http://www.rcs.ac.uk/shortcourses) section of our website.

**Get in touch**

If you require further information or need assistance with completing this form or if you need it in another format, please phone us on 0141 270 8213 or e-mail [shortcourses@rcs.ac.uk](mailto:shortcourses@rcs.ac.uk) and we would be happy to help.