



Adam Smith Scholarships

Part of Fife College

Adam Smith 300 Enterprise Scholarship

Guidelines for Applicants



**Do you have
a great creative
business idea and need
some help getting it to
the next stage?**

**If so, an Adam Smith 300
Enterprise Scholarship
Could be for you!**

Amazing opportunity! Become a 'Designer in Residence' and support your new creative business

Do you need some funding for resources to help get your business idea off the ground, or space and access to equipment to get you started? You may even need some help and advice to find out more about 'start up' opportunities.

If so an Adam Smith 300 Enterprise Scholarship could be for you!

What is the Adam Smith 300 Enterprise Scholarship?

Fife College is delighted to have partnered with Fife Council, OnFife and Business Gateway Fife to offer this amazing scholarship opportunity to a student looking to start their own creative business.

All four organisations are committed to encouraging enterprise and this scholarship was very fittingly announced three years ago on *Adam Smith's 300th Birthday*.

Thanks to a generous donation from Fife Council of £10,000 and in-kind support from OnFife and other partners we hope to award this scholarship for many years to come.



Who Can Apply?

Fife College Graduates

This scholarship is open to Fife College students who have successfully completed a full-time course and graduated from the College within the last four years.

You have a creative business idea that you are looking to take further to the concept stage and need a helping hand.

You should live in Fife with easy travelling distance to the Design Suite at the Adam Smith Theatre in Kirkcaldy and have a business idea that ideally would support the Fife community.

Due to the nature of the award, this scholarship is only suitable for one individual within the creative industries aged 18+.

What Do You Receive?

The successful applicant will receive:

Cash award - £1,000 payment, made in two installments (January and June) to help with startup resources or materials that would help support your new business such as digital tech, software, materials, online courses, travel, research. Please outline how you would make best use of the fund in your application.

Designer in Residence – Amazing opportunity to be the 'Designer in Residence' in the new state of the art Design Suite at Adam Smith Theatre in Kirkcaldy, thanks to OnFife. This will give you access Tuesday-Saturday from January-September to high spec computers running Adobe Creative Suite, a dedicated Maker Space, breakout spaces, 3D printer, laser cutter, Raspberry Pi and VR equipment, as well as free access to a range of workshops, talks and events.

Mentoring - Advice and support to help you get your business off the ground will be available through regular contact with Business Gateway, including access to business talks, workshops and one-to-one mentoring. You will also have regular check-ins with the other partners to support you.



What is expected of you?

This scholarship is suitable for those looking to start a creative business and award winners are expected to use the Design Suite at Adam Smith Theatre as a vital resource throughout their time as Designer in Residence. It will be a base to inspire you, develop your ideas and support the growth of your business. To build confidence, gain experience, develop a network of clients and a professional portfolio, you will be expected to use the Design Suite at least once a week and make the most of the facilities and opportunities available to you.

- ❖ Exchange skills with OnFife staff and the local community
- ❖ Lead talks, workshops and drop-in activities relevant to your skills and expertise

- ❖ Create content about the scholarship to be shared with relevant partners
- ❖ Respond to live briefs from OnFife
- ❖ Support aspects of running the Design Suite
- ❖ Support and encourage others to use the Design Suite e.g. peers/students
- ❖ Be a conduit between Fife College and OnFife

How to Apply

A link to the application form is available on the Fife College website, *Scholarships Apply Now* – if you require a hard copy form please get in touch. Please remember to explain clearly why you should be considered for an Adam Smith 300 Enterprise Scholarship.

What Happens Next?

References: We may ask a Fife College staff member who knew you for a reference.

Tour: Those shortlisted will be invited to a tour of the Design Suite the week prior to the interview. However, we would encourage candidates to have an induction ahead of applying for the scholarship, these can be booked via onfife.com

Interview: Candidates will be shortlisted by Fife College and then invited to attend a short in-person interview in the Design Suite, with a panel representing the four partner organisations.

Presentation: If you are successful, you will be invited to attend a small presentation event to award you with your scholarship and certificate. We will also ask you to complete a BACS form with your bank details so we can make the £1,000 payment to you.

Key Dates

- ❖ Closing date for applications is **Monday 9 November 2026** at midnight
- ❖ Students should hear whether or not they have been shortlisted by mid November 2026
- ❖ Final award will be made by early December.

Got a question?

If so, just drop us an email, scholarships@fife.ac.uk

Our Scholarship Recipient 2025/26

Iwona Wrobel, HND Visual Communication



Creative student, Iwona Wrobel is the third recipient of the Adam Smith 300 Enterprise Scholarship.

Created in partnership with Fife Council Economic Development, OnFife and Business Gateway Fife, the scholarship was launched in June 2023 to mark Adam Smith's 300th anniversary.

The first recipient, Jeanette Sendler, an HND Creative Industries: Television student, used the award to launch a filmmaking business focused on historical content for museums and archives. Her work has included documentaries on the Linen History of Fife and seaweed collector Margaret Gatty. Jeanette also took up a residency in the Design Suite at the recently refurbished Adam Smith Theatre in Kirkcaldy, supported by OnFife, and received business mentoring from Business Gateway Fife.

Following the inaugural award, the scholarship's second recipients, HND Jewellery student, Clark Rennie, and

HNC Sound Production student, Kevin Cranston, each received £500 in funding, tailored mentoring and advice from Business Gateway Fife, and access to professional facilities within the Design Suite at the Adam Smith Theatre.

Building on the success of the award, this year's scholarship was awarded to Iwona Wrobel, an HND Visual Communication graduate and founder of IW Design Studio. Iwona received £1,000 in funding, a Designer in Residence opportunity within the Design Suite at the Adam Smith Theatre, and dedicated mentoring from Business Gateway Fife. During her residency, she delivered her pilot project Stories You Can See on the Map – Migrants' Journeys, working with ESOL students across the College to transform their personal experiences into visual maps. Her project demonstrated the power of design to bring people together, create connection and give individuals a creative voice.

The Adam Smith 300 Enterprise Scholarship continues to support and celebrate entrepreneurial talent across the College's creative and digital programmes, helping students turn their business ideas into reality.

“Throughout my journey with Fife College, I was lucky to meet inspiring lecturers who believed in me and showed me that anything is possible. This scholarship means a lot to me – it's a chance to keep growing and help others achieve their potential.” – Iwona Wrobel

The Partners



Adam Smith Scholarships

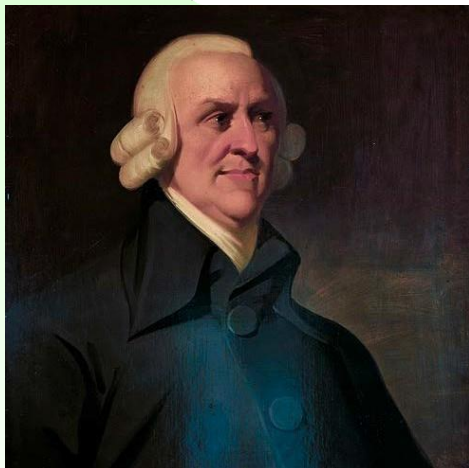
Part of Fife College

Adam Smith Scholarships

Adam Smith Scholarships is part of Fife College and was created to support our students – to develop opportunities, open doors and transform lives!

It does this by awarding scholarships and has presented over 2,000 scholarships to our students and awarded over £1.6 million since it was created in 1997.

Through partnerships with businesses, charitable trusts and individual donors the Scholarship programme provides recognition, a financial award, and in some cases, work experience, internships and trips to support and encourage students to achieve their full potential.



OnFife

OnFife is one of Fife's largest cultural organisations and manage some of Fife's favourite places – from historic buildings to mobile libraries, award-winning new destinations to much-loved community hubs, they take care of museums, theatres, galleries, libraries, and archives across multiple venues in Fife. We make jaws drop, hearts warm, eyes light up and imaginations run wild. A registered charity, we help people learn, laugh, be inspired and make connections.

Read more at onfife.com



Business Gateway Fife

Business Gateway provides a wide range of support and advice to individuals looking to *set up in business*, and newly formed and existing businesses looking to *grow and develop*.

Our experienced *business advisers* provide tailored advice, with access to a range of business information including market research, supplier and company lists, credit checks and statistics. They also deliver a varied programme of *fully funded workshops*, including start-up sessions and skills events.



Fife Council Economic Development

The Economic Development team supports businesses at every stage of their journey. We provide a range of support for existing businesses and potential investors. Our services are designed to fit your needs and could include:

Research and statistics to support the development of your business

- Guidance on recruiting and maintaining your employees
- Advice on the skills and training needed to support your workforce
- Financial advice on grants and incentives
- Marketing and PR support
- Advice on where your business will be located and finding the right property
- Support to grow and expand your existing businesses.

Whatever you need, from information and introductions to help and advice, please email Fifemeansbusiness@fife.gov.uk

Who was Adam Smith?

Adam Smith (1723-1790) was born in Kirkcaldy. His Father, a customs officer, died before he was born and Smith was raised by his Mother.

He became a philosopher and economist who is best known as the author of *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth Of Nations* (1776), one of the most influential books ever written.

The *Wealth of Nations* deeply influenced the politicians of the time and provided the intellectual foundation of the great nineteenth-century era of free trade and economic expansion.

adamsmithglobalfoundation.com/history

For further information, please contact:

Lyn Gold
Scholarship and Alumni Engagement Lead
Fife College
Calaiswood Cres, Dunfermline,
Fife, KY11 8SJ

01383 559 028
scholarships@fife.ac.uk
www.fife.ac.uk