# Financial Declaration Form: Essential Information
# Astrophoria Foundation Year – 2027/28

## Guidance notes

### A. Points you must consider in your financial planning

#### 1. The Financial Declaration Form

Submitting this form gives your college and, through it, the University of Oxford an assurance that you will be able to pay your course fees and otherwise support yourself financially during the whole period of your studies at Oxford. If you are admitted to study for an undergraduate degree at the University after successfully completing your foundation year, you must understand that neither the University nor the colleges can commit to support you financially, and that non-payment of fees may lead to suspension or withdrawal from the University and college (as explained at paragraphs 9 and 10 below) and you will be liable to pay any outstanding debt (including any fees unpaid by third parties who previously agreed to fund your studies). Please do not complete and submit the form until you are sure that you will be able to meet your fees and living costs for the duration of your undergraduate course.

#### 2. UK Government funding

Although there are no course fees payable for the Foundation Year you will need to pay course fees from year 1 of your undergraduate course. Home undergraduates undertaking their first degree will usually be eligible to access UK government funding for the full amount of their course fees, and Home (UK) students will usually be able to access help with living costs. Students from the Republic of Ireland (ROI) or those who have been granted settled or pre-settled status under the EU settlement scheme will be charged fees at the Home rate as long as they meet the residence requirements. Please visit www.gov.uk/student-finance for more details on all UK government support available and how to apply.

#### 3. Oxford Bursary or Crankstart Scholarship

During your Foundation Year your term-time accommodation costs will be covered and the Programme will provide you with a non-repayable bursary to cover your living expenses.

Provided you pass the Foundation Year and progress to year 1 of your undergraduate degree then, if you are a Home student, you will need to apply to be means tested by your regional funding agency. The University will then automatically assess you for an Oxford Bursary (or, for UK students with a qualifying household income, a Crankstart Scholarship). Student Fees and Funding will notify you and your college if you are eligible to receive an Oxford Bursary or Crankstart Scholarship. For details of Oxford's support, visit www.ox.ac.uk/funding.

#### 4. University and college scholarships

The University and colleges provide a limited number of undergraduate scholarships. These scholarships are very competitive and you can normally apply in the January of the Foundation Year, prior to year 1 of an undergraduate degree. For more information, please visit www.ox.ac.uk/ffsearch. You should only list a University or college scholarship as a source of funding on these forms if the University or college has notified you in writing that you will be receiving an award.

#### 5. Paid work

Typically, students do not take on paid work during term time. Academic work should be your priority throughout term, and any paid work should not interfere with this. Undergraduates should refer to college rules and guidance before seeking paid work during term time. Generous non-repayable bursaries are

available to eligible UK/Home students from lower-income households each year to help with the costs of studying and living in Oxford. For details of Oxford's support for new entrants, visit www.ox.ac.uk/funding. Colleges and the University may have opportunities for limited paid employment for undergraduates.

Some undergraduates undertake paid work outside of term time, but all undergraduates are reminded that academic work is also expected of them during each vacation and it should take priority over other commitments. If you are an international student with a UK visa, you should also check your visa to make sure you understand the limitations on paid work.

## 6. Specific course-related costs

The living costs set out on this form do not include specific costs which may relate to some courses of study, such as field trips or consumables. These costs will usually increase annually in line with inflation and more information can be found at www.ox.ac.uk/ffchanges-fees.

You should consult your Course Information Sheet or the course pages accessible via www.ox.ac.uk/courses to see whether any course-related costs apply to you. You will need to cover any such costs in addition to the fee and living cost amounts set out on this form.

## 7. Annual inflationary increases to fees and likely living costs

The University limits the amount by which it can increase its fees annually and more information about this and how any increase will be calculated can be found at www.ox.ac.uk/ffchanges-fees. Estimated course fees for future years are calculated using the most recently available fee rates and include an estimated inflationary increase of 6% year on year. Actual increases may be higher than those estimated but will not exceed 6% each year, or the Consumer Price Index (CPI) if higher. Increases made by reference to CPI will use the March CPI published by the Office for National Statistics in the April immediately preceding each September when new fees are published, to apply to the following academic year (so there is a time-lag of 18 months between the CPI figure consulted and the point when the increased fees become payable). The percentage increase may vary between subjects. See www.ox.ac.uk/ffchanges-fees for full details. For full-time, Home undergraduate students current University policy is to charge fees at the level of the cap set by the government.

Estimated living costs for future years are calculated using the most recently available rates and include an estimated increase of 3% year on year, although this rate may vary depending on the national economic situation. Please note that for students undertaking a year abroad as part of their course, the living costs will vary from those shown, depending on the destination and the activity undertaken. The most up-to-date information on fees and living costs can be found at www.ox.ac.uk/funding.

## 8. Dependants

The living costs set out on this form are for a single person; you will need to plan how you will fund any dependants whom you plan to bring to Oxford with you. Please review the living costs for dependants (e.g. a partner or child) information included on the University website at www.ox.ac.uk/uglivingcosts. Information on government funding available for Home (UK) students with dependants can be found at www.gov.uk/student-finance/extra-help.

## 9. University Terms & Conditions

The University's Terms & Conditions (see: www.ox.ac.uk/students/new/contract) include your legal obligation to pay the fees and charges due from you to the University. A failure to pay fees when due may lead to your access to University premises and facilities being suspended or removed and may lead to withdrawal from the course.

### 10. College student contract

You will also have a contract with your college and will have a legal obligation to pay the fees and charges due from you to your college. Failure to pay fees and charges when due may lead to consequences imposed by your college, which may include suspension for non-payment, and you may be excluded from college premises and domestic services.

### 11. A note on any separate financial checks for college accommodation

The Financial Declaration form is an integral part of the admissions process. Colleges may separately undertake rent assurance processes (e.g. credit control, deposits, tenancy agreements) for students who apply for college accommodation and colleges may require you to provide evidence of your ability to pay for your college accommodation (if applicable). During your Foundation Year your term-time accommodation costs will be covered by the Programme. Rent assurances are undertaken outside of the Financial Declaration process and are unrelated to the process of satisfying the conditions of an offer of admission to the University of Oxford.

## B. Where can I find more information about fees and living costs?

Information about fees and living costs is provided on the University's Fees and Funding website at www.ox.ac.uk/funding. The website gives likely living costs for study at Oxford, explains what living costs you will need to budget for and helps you consider other costs (e.g. cost of dependants, set-up costs).

## C. Sources of funding for your course fees

### Home fee status (first UG degree)

Although there are no course fees payable for the Foundation Year you will need to pay course fees from Year 1 of your Undergraduate course. If you apply for a tuition fee loan, your college may require you to provide them with a copy of your Financial Notification (Student Finance Breakdown) from your funding agency so that they are aware of any UK government fee support that you will receive. Please note that if you are deemed ineligible for, or do not elect to access, UK government fee support after Year 0 of your course you will remain liable for meeting your course fees for this period.

### Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering

In accordance with the University's legal obligations, checks will be carried out during the offer stage to verify that your source of funding is compliant with UK and international legislation on sanctions (as detailed at www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-sanctions) and may be carried out to ensure compliance with anti-money laundering legislation.

### Definition of a Politically Exposed Person (PEP)

A Politically Exposed Person (or PEP) is an individual with a high-profile political role such as a Government Minister or Member of Parliament, or someone entrusted with a prominent public function, such as ambassadors, senior judges or high-ranking military personnel. The definition extends to immediate family members and known close associates.

## D. Fees after Year 0 and living costs

You should plan how you will fund your fees for subsequent years of your course, and your living costs, taking into account any government or other expected support. However, you do not need to provide supporting documentation to show how you will meet these costs. More information on annual increases to fees and

charges can be found at www.ox.ac.uk/ffchanges-fees. Visit www.gov.uk/student-finance for more details on all UK government support available and how to apply.

## E. Students who have previously studied at Oxford

You must provide a new Financial Declaration if you are a current Oxford student who has been accepted onto a new programme of study.

## F. Data Privacy

The University will use the information you have provided on your Financial Declaration Form in accordance with the applicant privacy policies available at https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/how-we-are-run/policies-and-statements/policy-hub. Once you enrol and commence your studies the University will use the information in accordance with the Student Privacy Policy at https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/how-we-are-run/policies-and-statements/policy-hub/student-privacy-policy.