Linda Benfield Scholarships

Guidance Notes 2019/20

Background

Linda Benfield was born in Coventry and spent her whole life living and working there. She had a son Christopher and a granddaughter Elise. During her adult life she worked at HSBC bank, studied for a law degree and was a registrar in the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences (HLS) at Coventry University. She also spent many years as a magistrate in Coventry. Linda died in June 2017 at the age of 71.

In her will Linda left £60,000 to the University for scholarships. The scholarships will be shared equally between engineering and health. Her father was an engineer as is her son, and Linda wanted to support females into engineering as she knew they were under-represented in this area. She firmly believed in equality and also that women, given the chance and encouragement, could also be outstanding engineers. Scholarships will also go to health students (male and female) because of her previous work as a registrar in HLS. The scholarships will run for five years.

Scholarships

- **5 x £1,000 scholarships** are available to *female* engineering undergraduates (years 2, 3 and 4).
- **5 x £1,000 scholarships** are available to all health and life sciences undergraduates.
- All scholarships will be paid in three instalments (£500, £300, £200).

Core eligibility criteria

- UK nationals only
- Students to be between the ages of 18 – 35
- To have enrolled as a student at Coventry University (CU Coventry students are *not* eligible)
- For 2\(^{nd}\), 3\(^{rd}\) and 4\(^{th}\) year students, to have achieved 60% overall in previous year (this will be checked against student records)
- To have a household income of £35,000 or less (proof will be required)
- To be studying an engineering degree or health degree (please see page 2 for list of eligible degrees)
- All students to complete an application form
- Proof of household income to be emailed with application form
• All students to sign a set of terms and conditions
• All successful applicants to write a 500 word report in May 2020 prior to receiving the final instalment.

**Additional eligibility criteria**

In the event that there are more applications than scholarships available, certain groups will take priority i.e.:

• 2nd and final year students
• Students who are first in their family to go to university
• Students from single parent households.
• Students without any other scholarships
• Students with a home address in POLAR groups 1 or 2.

**Eligible Degrees**

**Engineering (females only, years 2, 3 and 4)**

• Mechanical engineering
• Automotive engineering
• Motorsport engineering
• Electrical and electronic engineering
• Engineering
• Aerospace technology
• Electronic engineering
• Aerospace systems engineering
• Manufacturing engineering
• Civil engineering (BEng only)
• Building services engineering.

**Health**

• Any degree within the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences.