

# The Barton Willmore Scholarship Fund 2024-25

## Information and Guidance Notes

### About

From its beginning in 1936, Barton Willmore built a reputation as a leading planning, regeneration and design consultancy, working throughout the UK. The company celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2016, having worked on a diverse range of projects from the implications of transit-oriented development in Paris and resort master-planning in Egypt, to the University of Reading's own Thames Valley Science Park development.

In April 2022, the company was purchased by Stantec, and though the Barton Willmore name will be retired, its lasting contribution to planning and development in the UK will be secured through the establishment of the Barton Willmore Scholarship Fund.

The company's retiring partners had a tradition of making a contribution to support the continued learning and development of Barton Willmore staff, through the Barton Willmore foundation. The partners wish for the remaining money to be used to support new entrants to the planning profession in the UK, in light of a continued shortage of planners and structural issues around the profession's lack of diversity.

The generosity of the partners will support the annual Barton Willmore Scholarship, awarding **£5,000 (five thousand pounds)** to students studying on a Royal Town Planning Institute-accredited Masters programme in Real Estate & Planning at Henley Business School.

### Who Can Apply

To qualify for this bursary, you must:

- Be a third-year student currently studying the [BSc Real Estate with MSc/Dip Urban Planning & Development](#) course at Henley Business School, University of Reading.
- Or hold an offer to study the [Masters in Spatial Planning and Development](#) course (Full-Time) at Henley Business School, University of Reading.

### Criteria

The aim of the Barton Willmore Scholarship Fund is to help students from diverse backgrounds access the UK planning profession. The scholarship will therefore take into account the following criteria:

- Applicants should be able to demonstrate how they will contribute to increasing the diversity of the UK planning profession.
- You should be able to demonstrate one or more of the following circumstances:
  - A low-income household
  - Limited support from family

- First in the family to attend University
  - Looked after by the local authority (been in care)
  - Attended a non-fee paying school during secondary education
  - A recipient of free school meals
  - Any other hardship that has led to financial difficulty
  - Taken part in the 'Pathways to Property' foundation Summer School, Insight Days or Spring into Property Programme, regardless of whether they studied their undergraduate degree at the University of Reading/Henley Business School.
- Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to working in the UK and pursuing chartered membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute.
  - Priority will be given to be applicants eligible for home fee status studying Full-Time.

## How to Apply

To apply, you will need complete an online application form.

Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered. If any sections do not apply to you, kindly indicate this with 'n/a'.

**Link to application form:** Applications will open in January 2024.

**Application deadlines for 2024/25 :** TBC

## Timeline of Application Process

All applications are reviewed individually by the RREF Disbursements Committee, who oversee the disbursement of RREF funds to support students within the Real Estate & Planning Department at Henley Business School, University of Reading. The committee consists of representatives from RREF and members of REP academic staff. Please note that all applications submitted remain strictly confidential and are only shared with the RREF Disbursements Committee.

On receipt of your application, you will be contacted via the email address provided to confirm that your application has been received. You will be informed of the RREF Disbursements Committee decision within 4 weeks of the deadline.

## Expectations If You Are Successful

Funds will only be awarded to Real Estate & Planning students once they have officially enrolled at Henley Business School, University of Reading. Therefore, all students must meet admission criteria to receive funds.

If you are awarded The Barton Willmore Scholarship Fund, we ask that you fulfil certain expectations aligned with the charity's objectives. These include:

- Producing a thank you letter to Barton Willmore outlining how the funding will impact you (your anonymity will be provided if requested)
- Providing regular updates to RREF on the progress of your studies when requested
- Attendance at our annual RREF Recognition Event in Spring

## What To Do If You Are Unsuccessful

You may also like to consider applying for general University of Reading funding. Please go to the [University website](#) to see what funding is on offer.

Please note that the RREF Disbursements Committee will be unable to provide any individual feedback regarding why your application was unsuccessful.

## Speaking To Someone About Your Application

If you have any questions about the form, your eligibility or your submitted application, please email [RREF-info@henley.ac.uk](mailto:RREF-info@henley.ac.uk).

