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Law.Tax

CMS Law Scholarships for Scotland 2020

Everything you need to know



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I have never been so reassured that a career in law was exactly what I wanted to pursue in life until I participated in the CMS Bursary Scheme. After applying through the essay competition, the experience of the interview day gives you an incredible insight into what a global modern law firm is like, and everyone who works with you makes you feel so happy and welcome from start to finish. The interview itself, as nerve-racking as it sounds, was definitely one of my favourite parts, as being able to speak personally to lawyers who have been in your position once before was really motivating.

The Scheme also assigns you to a mentor from the firm who spends the time assisting you in creating your personal statement for university applications, which I believe, as well as the experience itself, helped me get 5 unconditional offers. I was also very lucky in being able to get work experience with CMS during my first semester of university, where I found out what a working day is like at the firm, that I thoroughly enjoyed.

In my own opinion, it is an enriching experience and I am so glad that I spent the time writing the essay in the beginning, as I have been given so much determination and excitement for my future career. I definitely recommend to anyone interested to apply, as it is an offer you will not find anywhere else!

*Ashley, Bursary Scheme 2016 Winner,
now studying at the University of Glasgow*

Welcome to CMS Law Scholarships for Scotland

At Top 10 Global law firm CMS, we believe that a career in law should be open to everyone with the right talents. To realise the full potential of our offering, we are committed to attracting and developing a new generation of the brightest and most creative legal minds. Since 2014, our scheme has been helping S5 and S6 students onto the path to the legal profession by providing financial support, mentoring support and paid work experience to students from across Scotland.

Students from the CMS Law Scholarships scheme have gone on to study at some of the UK's most prestigious universities and to win training contracts to become lawyers at some of the world's largest law firms, including CMS.

This booklet tells you more about what the CMS Law Scholarships could do for you, who is eligible and how to apply. You can find out more at:

<https://cms.law/en/GBR/About-Us/Corporate-Responsibility/CMS-Law-Scholarships> and you can contact us at Law.Scholarship@cms-cmno.com.

If you live in the Rest of the UK, outside Scotland, you should look at CMS Law Scholarships. You can find out more at:

<https://cms.law/en/GBR/About-Us/Corporate-Responsibility/CMS-Law-Scholarships>

We look forward to reading your application and, if yours is one of the best applications, meeting you at our assessment day.



Allan Wernham
Managing Partner,
CMS Scotland



Amy Norton
Partner Champion
for CMS Law
Scholarships
Scotland



Chris Rae
Partner Champion
for CMS Law
Scholarships
Scotland



Emma Boffey
Scheme Leader
for CMS Law
Scholarships
Scotland



CMS is proud to be one of
The Times Top 100 Graduate
Employers for 2019

How CMS Law Scholarships could help you

Financial support



- GBP 2,500 per year for each year of your degree
- Travel and accommodation paid for Assessment Day and work experience

Mentoring



- Support from one of our lawyers with UCAS and LNAT
- Connection with one of our trainee lawyers

Work experience



- 2 days' paid work experience in 1st year at university
- The chance to experience life in an international law firm

If you are invited to our assessment day, you will be offered:



- A chance to meet some of our lawyers and experience the type of assessment process that law firms use for recruiting their trainee solicitors, giving you confidence and a head start when you come to apply for legal jobs;
- Free travel and (if appropriate) hotel accommodation for you and an adult for the assessment day;
- A mentor to support you with your UCAS application and with preparing for the LNAT test;
- A trainee lawyer as a “buddy” to help you with any questions you have about a career in law;
- Two days' paid work experience in December of your first year at university, to give you a taste of life in an international law firm before you start to apply for jobs at law firms;
- Free travel and (if appropriate) accommodation for your work experience.

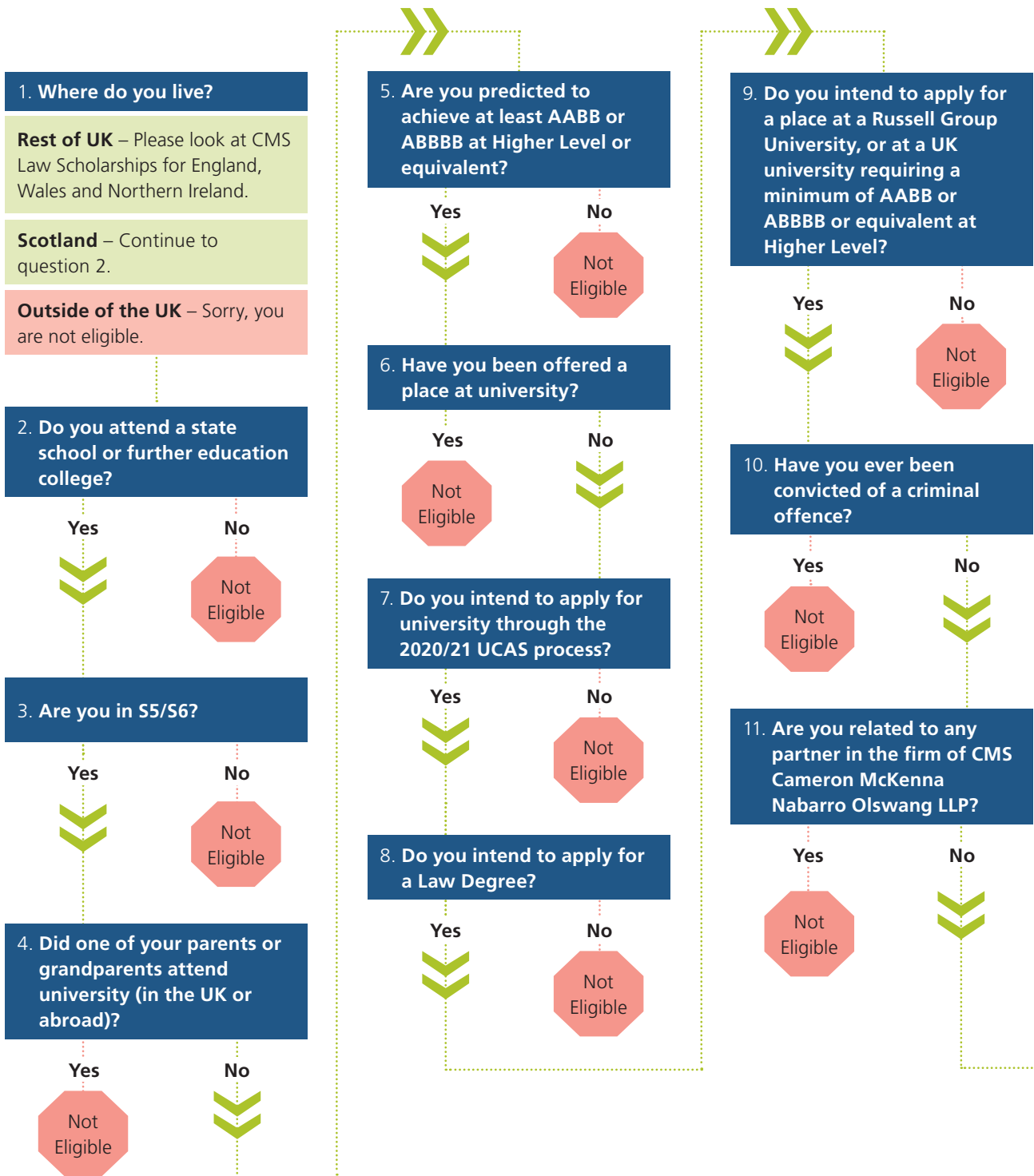
In addition, up to four students will be offered a Scholarship of GBP 2,500 for each year of your undergraduate degree. (If you are offered a Scholarship, it will be subject to certain conditions which will be set out in the offer.)



As you would expect, there are some conditions that apply to the support we offer and we will tell you about these at the assessment day.

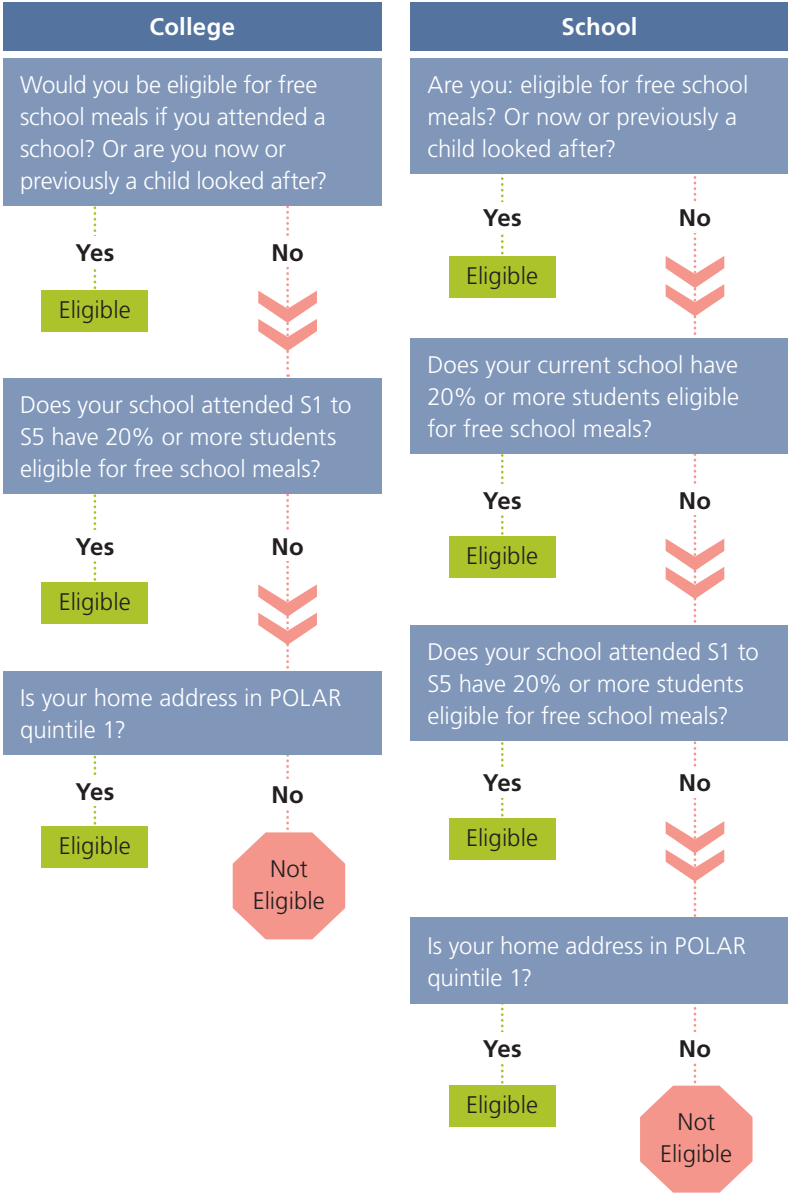
Who can apply?

Use this flowchart to check your eligibility:





12. Do you attend a college or school?



More about who can apply

We will check your eligibility using the information that you provide to us, so it is important that it is accurate. If you have any questions about your eligibility before you apply, please email us at:

Law.Scholarship@cms-cmno.com.

Academic and family background

You can apply for CMS Law Scholarships if you fulfil *all* of the following:



- You attend a state school or further education college in Scotland;
- You are in S5 or S6 when you apply;
- You will be in the first generation of your family to go to university;
- You are expected to achieve AABB or ABBBB or least 320 UCAS points at Higher Level;
- You are going to apply through the 2020/21 UCAS process for a place on an undergraduate law degree in the UK;
- You are planning to apply for a place at a UK university requiring a minimum of ABB or equivalent at Higher Level;
- You have never been convicted of a criminal offence; and
- You are not related to any partner in the firm of CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP

To help you understand whether you are eligible, please note that:

1. If your parents or grandparents attended university in the UK or abroad, you will not be eligible. You can be eligible if your brothers, sisters or cousins went to university, as they are in the same generation as you.
2. We will ask your teacher to confirm your expected Higher grades.
3. Your undergraduate course must be an LL.B accredited by the Law Society of Scotland. You can find the full list of accredited law degrees at:
<https://www.lawscot.org.uk/qualifying-and-education/qualifying-as-a-scottish-solicitor/llb-degree-in-law/where-can-i-study-the-llb/>

Financial background



If you meet all of the academic and family background requirements, we will then look at your financial background. You need to be able to answer “yes” to *at least one* of the following questions to meet our financial criteria:

- If you attend a school, are you eligible for free school meals?
- If you attend a college, would you be eligible for free school meals if you attended a school?
- Are you, or have you previously been, a child looked after by a local authority?
- Does your current school or the school that you attended from S1-S6 have 20% of pupils eligible for free school meals?
- Is your postcode in the POLAR4 1st quintile for Young Participation?

To help you understand whether you are eligible, please note that:

1. You do not need to be claiming free school meals, just to meet the eligibility criteria. You can find information about eligibility criteria here: <https://www.mygov.scot/school-meals/>
2. You can check the percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals at your school at: <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/SchoolMealsDatasets>
3. POLAR4 Young Participation scores are a way of identifying how many students go on to university from a particular postcode. You can check the POLAR4 score for your home address at: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/postcode-search/>

How to apply

We invite students to apply for a Scholarship by entering an essay competition and writing a short piece about what winning a Scholarship would mean to them. We look at your essay, your academic achievements and what you have told us about yourself to decide which 12 students to invite to an assessment day which will likely be held on a virtual basis this year. After the assessment day, we offer up to two Scholarships to the students who have impressed us most.



Essay Competition

- Submit an essay of 750 to 1000 words on a choice of 2 topics
- Tell us what a Scholarship would mean to you



About You

- We read your essay and application
- We ask your teacher for an academic reference



Assessment Day

- Finalists invited to Assessment Day
- Up to 2 students offered Scholarships

Essay competition

15 June to 22 July 2020

The essay competition in Scotland opens on Monday 15 June 2020 and the essay questions will be published on that day.

The closing date for submitting your essay is Wednesday 22 July 2020, at 23:59. You must complete our application form and submit your essay through our website, at:

<https://cms.law/en/GBR/About-Us/Corporate-Responsibility/CMS-Law-Scholarships>

We are unable to return any essays, or to provide any comments on them.

You will have two essay questions to choose from. You should write the essay subject at the top of the first page of your essay. Your essay must:



- Be no shorter than 750 words and no longer than 1,000 words.
- Be typed / word-processed (not handwritten) and double line-spaced.
- Be in English.
- Be all your own work and not copied or based upon any other person's work.
(We have the absolute discretion to decide whether this is the case and we may make such further enquiries to check this as we consider necessary).
- Refer to any sources used, and include any extracts from them in quotation marks.
You may also use footnotes. Please note that extracts will be included in the word count; footnotes will not be included in the word count.
- Be marked clearly, at the top-left hand corner of the first page, with your full name.

Tell us your Higher results **by Friday 7 August 2020**

This year, all pupils in Scotland will receive their Higher results on Tuesday 4 August 2020. We ask that you let us have a note of your Higher results by the following Friday, 7 August 2019.

On your application form, we will also ask you to provide the name and contact details of a teacher that we can ask about you in order to obtain academic references or other information, relevant to consideration of your application, which we consider appropriate. This should be a teacher at your current school. Please let your teacher know that you have given us their name to act as your academic referee.

Assessment Day

Thursday 10 September 2020

Our assessment day will take place on Thursday 10 September 2020 likely to be held on a virtual basis this year. (No alternative date can be offered.)

On the assessment day, you will meet some of our lawyers, including a trainee who will be your “buddy” and your mentor. You will get a feel for what goes on in an international law firm. You will have a 30 minute interview with one of our partners and someone from our Early Talent team.





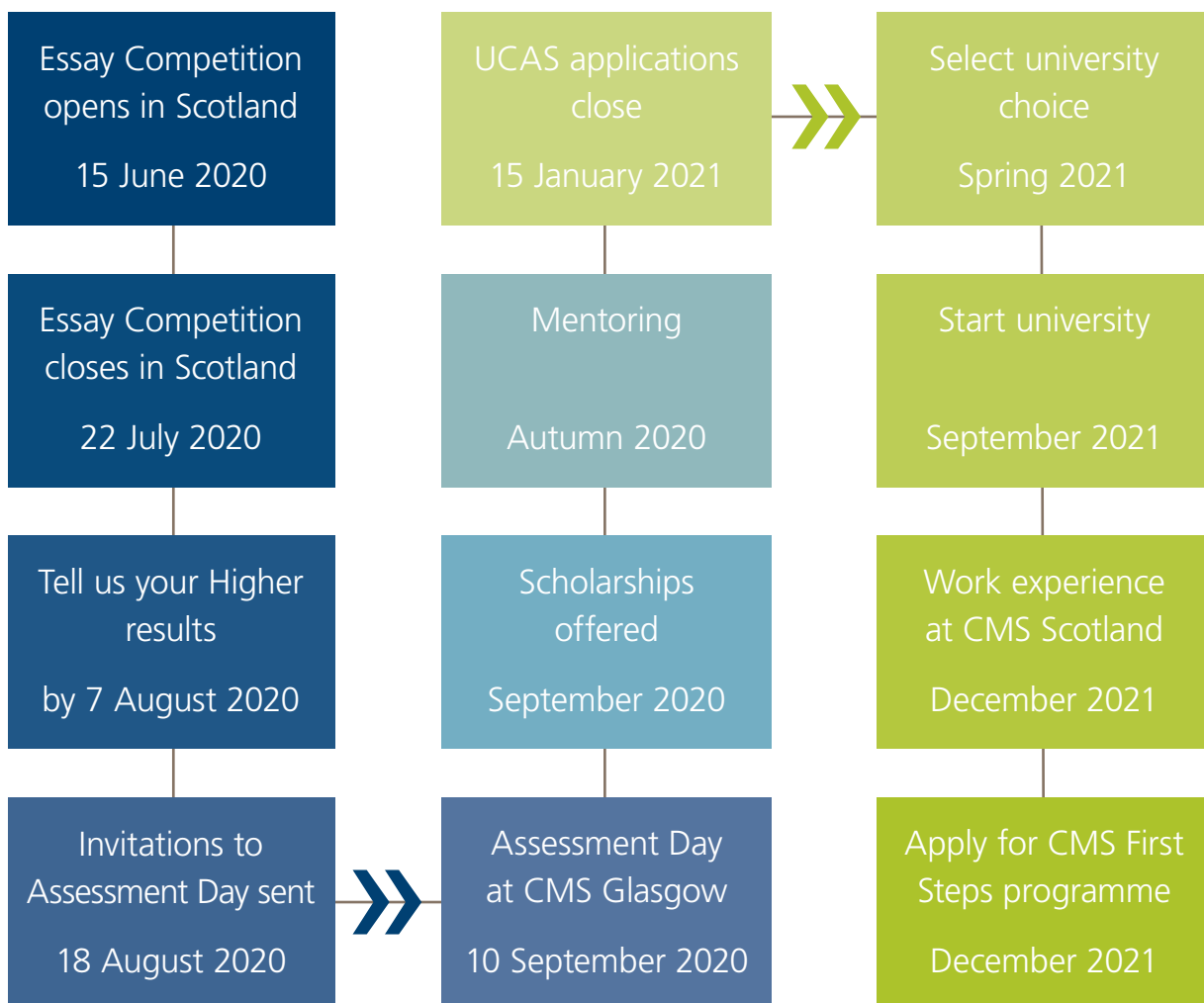
It is very likely that, due to social distancing as a result of the outbreak of Covid-19, our assessment day will take place on a virtual basis this year. If the assessment day is able to take place in person this year, it will be held in either our Glasgow or Edinburgh offices. We believe that no student should miss out because they cannot afford to come to our assessment day. That is why we will arrange and pay for you and one accompanying adult to travel to our office. We may also arrange and pay for overnight hotel accommodation for you and any accompanying adult on the night before the assessment day, where appropriate. Any decision to provide accommodation and as to where you will stay is at our complete discretion, but will take into account factors such as the distance to be travelled and available transport links.



We will be taking photographs at the assessment day. By attending the assessment day, you agree to be photographed and for your name and image to be used in materials promoting CMS Law Scholarships.

Timeline

If you have what we are looking for, applying for a CMS Law Scholarship in Scotland can be the beginning of your relationship with CMS. This is what your journey to the start of CMS' Early Talent programme could look like:





Your free online legal information service.

A subscription service for legal articles
on a variety of topics delivered by email.

cms-lawnow.com

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CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP
Cannon Place
78 Cannon Street
London EC4N 6AF

T +44 (0)20 7367 3000

F +44 (0)20 7367 2000

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