

THE UK SCHOLARSHIP FAQs

Last Year's Scholarship Program was Sponsored by:



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How long has the Scholarship Program been running in the UK?

14 years

What does the Scholarship involve?

The Marketing Academy's Scholarship Program is a leadership development program of Mentoring, Coaching and Learning which runs from May 2024 to the end of January 2025. The program is completely free of charge though highly selective, and if you're successful in securing a place you'll receive the following benefits:

- The opportunity to meet with 8 senior industry leaders (Brand and Agency) for face-to-face mentoring sessions
- An Executive Coach to work with throughout the entire program
- 3 x Residential Boot Camps (9 days in total) filled with leadership development, inspirational speakers, CMOs, CEOs and master classes
- Participation in a life changing Leadership Development Program
- Peer to Peer networking
- Exposure to high level marketing expertise across all industries
- Lifetime access to the Academy as Alumni
- Access to TMA Global Virtual Campus: A supplementary online curriculum of workshops, lectures & keynote sessions

You can download and read the entire outline of the Scholarship Program [here](#).

How much does the Scholarship program cost?

The cost to attend the program is completely free. The entire content of the Scholarship Program is delivered by exceptional people who volunteer their time, knowledge, and expertise. However, we don't contribute to any travel or accommodation expenses. The residential Boot Camps require a total of 5 nights' accommodation in or near London which must be paid for by the Scholars or their employers (we promise not to book expensive venues!). Attendance at all Boot Camps and staying on site is mandatory even if you live nearby.

How much time are Scholars expected to invest?

To get the most out of the program Scholars should expect to invest 15 working days of time to attend 3 'Boot Camps', up to 8 mentoring sessions, Virtual Campus events, and regular coaching sessions. There may be time outside of work where you prepare for mentoring or coaching sessions or to share your learning within your teams or externally.

How are the 15 days for the Scholarship program broken down?

9 days of residential Boot Camps:

Boot Camp 1	Monday 20 th May – Friday 24 th May 2024
Boot Camp 2	Thursday 19 th September – Friday 20 th September 2024
Boot Camp 3	Thursday 23 rd January – Friday 24 th January 2025

Up to 12 hours for your mentoring sessions. Scholars will have around 8 x 90-minute sessions, and these are spread throughout the program. These are organised by the Scholars and their mentors.

6-9 hours for your coaching sessions. Scholars will have around 8 x 60-minute sessions, and these are spread throughout the program. These are organised by the Scholars and their coaches.

TMA Virtual Campus events - an online curriculum of workshops, lectures, and keynote sessions. The time for these will vary from Scholar to Scholar depending on how many they attend. Virtual Campus events will also be available on demand.

What are the Boot Camps, and do I have to attend them?

The 3 Boot Camps are intense, immersive, and residential events, attended by the entire cohort of 30 delegates, and are packed with learning, speakers, and workshops.

All 3 Bootcamp events are mandatory. You will need to attend in full and failure to do so may result in termination of your Scholarship place.

Once the Scholars begin the program, who picks up the tab for accommodation and travelling costs?

We are a not-for-profit company and therefore unable to contribute to any expenses incurred by Scholars whilst travelling to mentoring meetings, coaching sessions, or learning events. This cost must be met by the Scholars or their employers. It should be noted that the Boot Camps will require 6 nights' overnight accommodation which must also be paid by the Scholar or their employer. We will always try and keep costs to a minimum.

Are employers expected to give the successful Scholars fully paid leave to take part in the Scholarship Program?

Whilst employers must be in support of the Scholar's application to the program, it is not compulsory for them to give their Scholar fully paid leave. In our experience employers appreciate the level of development the Scholarship provides to their rising stars and the ripple effect it has on their team, so tend to be extremely generous in giving our Scholars time to take part. However, some employers may require Scholars to take some time as holiday or unpaid leave.

Please note that attendance to all the Boot Camps is mandatory to be accepted onto the program.

When does the Scholarship begin?

The Scholarship year begins in May 2024 and is kicked off with a five-day Boot Camp. The Scholarship runs until the end of January 2025.

Can I apply if I'm based outside of the UK?

You can apply if you live a maximum of three hours outside of the UK, however it is essential that you are able to travel for all the Scholarship events to make the most of the Scholarship, and how you plan to do this must be proven within your application.

Where can I find a list of all the people and companies involved in the Academy?

You can find a list of all the mentors, coaches, partners, judges, and companies who are involved in delivering the Scholarship on our website - <https://themarketingacademy.org/uk/> - just click the Who's Involved tab.

Where can I find out what previous Scholars thought about their experience?

You can read more about what our alumni has to say about the program [here](#).

What are the key dates for The Marketing Academy 2024 Scholarship Program?

Here are the key dates for the 2024 Scholarship Program:

- **Application: Submission deadline is 5pm on Friday 23rd February 2024**
This 3-part application must include submission of a full CV, Employer's Endorsement and a 2-minute Showcase Me. **Nominees will be informed of their progress no later than Friday 22nd March 2024.**
- **The Pitch: Monday 25th March – Tuesday 9th April 2024**
Successful applicants will be invited to make a 10 minute 'pitch' followed by a 15-minute Q&A. The Pitch will be via virtual meeting. **Nominees will be informed of their progress no later than Friday 19th April 2024.**
- **Panel Interviews: Monday 22nd April – Friday 26th April 2024**
Successful applicants will be invited to a virtual interview with a selection panel of Marketing and HR Professionals. **Successful applicants will be notified if they have a Marketing Academy Scholarship place by end of w/c 29th April 2024.**
- **Boot Camp 1** Monday 20th May – Friday 24th May 2024
- **Boot Camp 2** Thursday 19th September – Friday 20th September 2024
- **Boot Camp 3** Thursday 23rd January – Friday 24th January 2025

NOMINATIONS

What's the selection criteria?

Whether your experience is in a consumer or B2B brand, public or charity sector, media or creative agency, media owner or platform, entrepreneur or working for companies large or small, all applicants will be assessed equally against our criteria.

What we are looking for*:

- Ideally between 8 and 18 years in a marketing or agency role
- Currently in a leadership role
- Highly ambitious to further career in marketing leadership, aspiring to C-Suite or board roles
- Demonstrates commitment to career with evidence of results and achievements
- Evidence of commitment to broadening horizons, such as an interest in charitable, social, cultural, creative, travel or sporting endeavours.
- High emotional intelligence & natural drive to succeed
- Employed on a permanent (not freelance) basis in the UK at a company for a minimum of 6 months
- No known risk of termination or resignation for the duration of the program

*Please note: We have Scholarships available for individuals who do not have a 'classic' marketing background. Those who have demonstrated exceptional potential as natural marketers or who have shown outstanding entrepreneurial ability or exceptional achievement in the face of adversity will be considered.

We support diversity, inclusion and equality in every context and firmly believe that everyone, irrespective of race, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, or religion, should have the same opportunity to fast track their careers and learning via our programs.

Once I've nominated someone, will I be informed of their progress?

We will inform successful Scholar's nominators if they are accepted onto the Scholarship Program. You can also join The Marketing Academy Community groups on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) - we regularly update with what's going on via these channels.

Will the person I've nominated be informed of my identity?

Occasionally people ask us who nominated them and by submitting your nomination you agree to us telling the nominee who made their nomination. If you prefer your nomination to be anonymous then you can request this by emailing info.uk@themarketingacademy.org

We do recommend you give you 'nominee' some warning before you nominate them – you might consider sending them a copy of the Guide to the Scholarship Program which can be found [here](#)

I've got someone in mind who I think will be an outstanding future leader, but they don't fit the published criteria. Is it worth nominating them?

Yes. We have Scholarships available for individuals who do not have a 'classic' marketing background. Those who have demonstrated exceptional potential as natural marketers or who have shown outstanding entrepreneurial ability or exceptional achievement in the face of adversity will be considered.

We support diversity, inclusion and equality in every context and firmly believe that everyone, irrespective of race, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, or religion, should have the same opportunity to fast track their careers and learning via our programs.

We rely on you, as a nominator, to help us identify a breadth of talent across the entire industry.

Do I have to be the nominee's boss to nominate someone?

No. You can nominate whoever you choose, be it a member of staff, colleague, boss, peer, supplier, client, friend, or family. You can nominate someone at an agency or business that you've worked with and have been very impressed by, or any great marketer who you feel is a rising star. But the bottom line is your nominee should fit the selection criteria which can be found [here](#).

What if the nominee is in between roles, freelancing or on a short-term contract?

The Scholarship criteria requires the nominees to be fully employed or own their business.

The learning provided throughout the Scholarship centers around leadership development. We have discovered that the Scholars with a wide and consistent span of direct leadership & influence within one company, are able to implement the learning immediately and can practice the tools and techniques in real time. This also enables the Scholars to get the most out of the Mentor sessions, allowing them to discuss & debate real situations which mirror the practical experience of the Mentors. Depending on the span of the freelance role this consistency can be significantly reduced, along with the ability to make wide reaching impact across a business where the Scholar is directly accountable for the long-term results.

We can only take 30 Scholars on any program. With over 250 people involved in their development and learning its essential that we ensure the widest possible 'ripple effect' of the learning so that the benefit of the Scholarship can be felt more widely within the industry. Past experience has taught us that Scholars in significant leadership roles, directly employed by one company for the duration of the program, can have a greater lasting impact on their business than those in temporary, interim or short-term roles.

The learning curve of the Scholarship does not mix well with the learning curve of a new role. In fact, we have found that it can be so detrimental to the Scholar (and their new employer) that we withhold the right to remove Scholars from the program if they change roles during it (much as we hate to do so). We minimise this risk by ensuring that Scholars are employed, supported by their current employer and are crystal clear on their career goals – and timings – before embarking on the program.

If the Scholar is in 'transition' or seeking the next role while on the program then we find that most of the learning and interactions with Mentors, Coaches and the other Scholars are experienced through that lens, which ultimately results in a reductive experience. The nature of freelance work means that the likelihood of embarking on and / or seeking new roles is higher. If you know someone in transition, freelancing or contracting, they may be eligible to enroll on our Virtual Campus program - please send them this link <https://themarketingacademy.org/uk/the-marketing-academy-virtual-campus/>

Can I wait until just before the nomination portal closes before I nominate?

Yes, but you may disadvantage your nominee. The nomination portal closes on 16th February 2024 and the closing date for applications is 23rd February 2024 and nominees don't receive the details on how to apply until they've been nominated. It can then take a lot of thought, time, and resource for a nominee to put together the 3-part application. So, the earlier you nominate the more time your nominee will have to design and submit their application.

Can I nominate myself?

No. To be eligible for an 'Invitation to Apply' you will need to be nominated by someone who considers you worthy of a place. We will not accept self-nominations and the nomination portal is regularly cross checked and verified.

Can I nominate more than one person?

You can nominate as many people as you like.

What happens after I enter my nominee's details on the website?

After you've been nominated, you will receive an email confirming receipt of your nomination. Your nominee will be sent all the details they need to apply for a place.

SELECTION PROCESS

How do I apply and what's the selection process like?

The Scholarship Program is free but highly selective, and to apply you must first be nominated by someone through the Nomination portal on our website.

All nominees then receive an 'Invitation to Apply' which includes essential information about the 3-stage selection process:

- 1. Application: Submission deadline is 5pm on Friday 23rd February 2024**

This 3-part application must include submission of a full CV, Employer's Endorsement and a 2-minute Showcase Me. **Nominees will be informed of their progress no later than Friday 22nd March 2024.**

2. **The Pitch:** Monday 25th March – Tuesday 9th April 2024

Successful applicants will be invited to make a 10 minute 'pitch' followed by a 15-minute Q&A. The Pitch will be via virtual meeting. **Nominees will be informed of their progress no later than Friday 19th April 2024.**

3. **Panel Interviews:** Monday 22nd April – Friday 26th April 2024

Successful applicants will be invited to a virtual interview with a selection panel of Marketing and HR Professionals.

Successful applicants will be notified if they have a Marketing Academy Scholarship place by Friday 3rd May 2024.

- **Boot Camp 1** Monday 20th May – Friday 24th May 2024
- **Boot Camp 2** Thursday 19th September – Friday 20th September 2024
- **Boot Camp 3** Thursday 23rd January – Friday 24th January 2025

What's an Employers Endorsement?

To continue through the selection process, it's essential we receive evidence of employer's support of the nominees' application in written form. An 'Employers Endorsement' form is supplied with the 'Invitation to Apply'. Employers are asked to outline why they feel their employees should receive a place on the program and to confirm that they will enable their employee to invest a minimum of 15 days to the program if awarded.

If you have only been at your company for six months, in addition to an endorsement from your current employer, you are allowed to submit an endorsement from a previous employer too.

What is 'Showcase Me' and how do I submit it?

Submission of a two minute Showcase Me in addition to your CV gives you the opportunity to showcase your skills, express your creative talent and fully demonstrate why you should be selected for a place on the program. You can use any medium of your choosing as long as it's digital, so the shape your Showcase Me takes is entirely up to you. The only criteria is that your Showcase Me takes no more than two minutes to read, watch, look at, listen to, or experience. Your Showcase Me must be in a digital format.

*When submitting your digital Showcase Me, please attach as an mp4 (if audio) or if video then please upload this to YouTube and select 'Unlisted', this link will then only be viewable by us and the judges (please do not select 'private' as we won't be able to view it).

Please do not send your application via Dropbox / Google Drive / Wetransfer.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

What happens if I'm looking for a new job?

The learning curve of the Scholarship does not mix well with the learning curve of a new role. In fact, we have found that it can be so detrimental to the Scholar (and their new employer) that we reserve the right to terminate the Scholarship place if they change roles during it.

We minimise this risk by ensuring that Scholars are employed, supported by their current employer, are under no known risk of resignation, are crystal clear on their career goals – and timings – before embarking on the program. If the Scholar is in 'transition' or seeking the next role while on the program then we find that most of the learning and interactions with Mentors, Coaches and the other Scholars are experienced through that lens, which ultimately results in a reductive experience.

What happens if I move roles whilst on the Scholarship program?

We believe that the learning curve of a new company wouldn't mix well with the intense experience of attending the program, therefore we reserve the right to terminate the place on the program if delegates move company during the program.

What happens to the nominees who are not selected for a Marketing Academy Scholarship?

Nominees who apply for the Scholarship and don't make it on the program are given access to our Virtual Campus. We also share free or discounted learning opportunities with the nominees who aren't selected for a Scholarship. We also advise nominees to re-apply in later years, as we have had many Scholars who were successful on their second, third or even fourth try.

I am interested in getting involved in another way, who can I speak to?

Please email Michaela Wells, Global Program Administrator on michaela@themarketingacademy.org