

# **UKESF Scholarship Scheme**

Our industry-focused, award-winning UKESF Scholarship Scheme works collaboratively with employers and universities to tackle the skills shortage in Electronics.













Reduce uncertainty in your graduate recruitment by connecting with bright, motivated Electronics undergraduates, and supporting them to develop their skills and gain valuable work experience.



For 15 years, the UKESF Scholarship Scheme has been working with leading Electronics and Technology employers to provide opportunities for undergraduate students to gain relevant experience and develop their 'work-ready' skills.

The UKESF only accepts applications from the most capable undergraduates, studying for accredited degrees at one of our 30 partner universities and on courses with a significant Electronics element.

Successful Scholars are supported by an employer throughout their degree. They will participate in work experience (from 8 weeks to 15 months) at their employer and they will receive an annual bursary, as well as benefit from additional wrap-around support from the UKESF.

In a 2025 survey, 100% of employers responded that they would recommend the UKESF Scholarship Scheme. To date, we have worked with more than 100 employers to support over 900 undergraduates.

The Scheme has received a prestigious Princess Royal Training Award.







"This is the most exciting initiative we've seen to help us nurture the skills that will secure an even brighter future for our business and the UK economy."

Arm

# Why do companies participate in the Scholarship Scheme?

## An effective pipeline for graduate recruitment

By engaging with the most capable undergraduates, employers are able to build early relationships and develop the skills of undergraduates ahead of graduate employment.

52% of Scholars who have finished their studies are working in an organisation that offers UKESF Scholarships.

# The UKESF has an established and refined process, reducing your administrative burden

We manage the application process and screening checks to only send you the most appropriate candidates to review, based on your requirements. We only accept applications that meet our eligibility criteria, which includes ensuring applicants have overall averages of above 60%.

## Additional support to develop skills from the UKESF

In addition to the work experience that you provide a Scholar, the UKESF provides wrap around support. We curate a Scholarship community, helping undergraduates to build their network, as well as provide opportunities for skills development and outreach.

98% of Scholars who attended our Scholar Professional Development Course 2024 rated it 'good' or 'excellent'.

#### Cost effective recruitment

Our fees are benchmarked to ensure they are significantly lower than standard recruitment fees, and our charitable status means that we don't make a profit.

Beyond the costs of running the scheme, any surplus contributes towards our outreach and engagement work to increase the number of young people pursuing Electronics.

# Promoted to high-achieving undergraduates in 30 leading universities nationwide

Through working with academics, the very best students are encouraged to apply. It is an opportunity for both large and small organisations to raise awareness of their opportunities with the most suitable candidates. Students from EEE and related degrees are encouraged to apply.

#### Increased industry retention

Through early engagement and supporting students' development beyond their studies, they are more likely to be retained in the sector and be prepared for the workplace.

91% of our Scholars who have completed their studies go on to work in the Electronics and Technology sector.



## A commitment to improving equality, diversity and inclusion in Electronics

We have carefully considered the support our Scholarship provides to ensure that it helps to address the gender imbalance in Electronics and breaks down barriers for those from diverse backgrounds.

Our work has received a **Special**Commendation for Diversity, Inclusion and Equity from the Princess Royal Training

Award and a Women Leaders in Electronics

Diversity Award.

## How the Scheme works

# Commit to offering one, or more, Scholarships

When you're ready, we will list your company and your opportunities on our website.

Each Scholarship lasts throughout a Scholars' degree, and includes an opportunity to complete between 8 weeks and 15 months of meaningful work experience. This could include multiple placements.

# Review the applications and interview your candidates

We will send you your applications to review, and you will invite your shortlisted candidates to interview.

You will have the flexibility to use an interview process that works for your organisation.

# Welcome your Scholars to the team

Your Scholar will join your team for either summer work experience, a year-long internship or a 6-8 month MEng placement.

Some organisations have an internship role that is taken over by a new UKESF Scholar every year, and others will bring a Scholar in to work on a specific project or to support across several projects, to develop their expertise ahead of potential graduate recruitment.

The Scholar will receive lots of additional support from the UKESF, including a UKESF buddy, and opportunities to participate in networking, developing their non-technical skills and outreach.

July onwards

September and October

November

December

#### Applications open for undergraduates to apply

We work with academics and our existing Scholars to promote the Scholarship and your opportunity in 30 universities nationwide. Each year, we receive hundreds of applications from the most talented and motivated Electronics undergraduates.

Undergraduates can be in any year of their degree, except the first or final year, and must be on track to achieve a 2·1

Students can apply to up to three companies, and we will seek to match the students skills with your company's requirements to ensure you receive applications from the most suitable candidates.

# UKESF will inform successful Scholars

Once you have selected your successful candidate(s), the UKESF will inform all Scholars in mid-December.

Missed the deadline? We run a smaller, second round in January/February.

Summer

September onwards

#### **Evaluation**

Once the placement has been completed, both the Employer and the Scholar have the opportunity to review. Both parties will then confirm if they would like to continue the relationship for the forthcoming year.

## **Professional Development**

The UKESF Professional Development Course is a vital part of the programme to help develop scholars' work-ready skills.

The four-day residential course is held annually in late-August/September, with professional and personal development activities and extensive opportunities to network with peers and speakers from the Electronics sector. Sessions explore ethics, communication skills, negotiation, sustainability, entrepreneurship, leadership, professional registration, and much more.

Each scholar attends once, immediately before the beginning of their final year.



"Fantastic week! Surpassed all expectations and it has changed the way I think about my career and the way I interact with the people around me."

**UKESF Scholar** 

"I thought it was an invaluable experience"

**UKESF Scholar** 





"Being awarded the 'Scholar of the Year' feels like my hard work at university has been recognised. It has acted as a confidence booster for me that I am on the right track and am doing the right things. I will continue to work and do my part in making space for women in the Electronics industry, the work we do solely relies on our passion and skills, not our gender."

Nikisha Chettry, Scholar of the Year 2022

## Scholar of the Year

Each year, a Scholar is awarded 'Scholar of the Year' at the annual TechWorks Awards and Gala Dinner.

The award recognises those who have:

- made a significant contribution to their sponsoring employer through their work placement;
- achieved excellent results, so far, on their degree course at university;
- actively promoted Electronics to young people by participating in STEM outreach activities

## **Our University Partners**































































"The UKESF raises the profile of Electronic engineering and provides the best students from the best universities to companies looking for interns. We have had some excellent students from the UKESF scheme."

#### **Renesas Electronics**

# No increase in UKESF fees for 2025/26!

## Investment

Your fee is an investment in the long-term health and success of the UK Electronics systems community.

For each scholarship awarded in the academic year 2025/26, the sponsoring company pays:

#### To the candidates

Interview expenses to their selected scholarship candidates.

#### To the Scholar(s)

- A bursary of £1,000 for each year of the scholarship. The UKESF manages the scholars' bursaries on behalf of the sponsoring companies.
- At least one paid work placement of between 8 weeks and 15 months duration per year until graduation; the agreed minimum remuneration for work placements is £430 per week.

#### To the UKESF

- Management fees of £995 in the first year of the scholarship and £295 p.a. for subsequent years. Discounts are available for sponsoring companies who offer more than five Scholarships.
- A course fee to the UKESF of £850 for the student to attend a Scholar Professional Development Course. They will attend once, before they begin their final year of study
- If you hire a scholar at the end of their scholarship, a recruitment fee of £1,000 is payable to UKESF.

## Meet Henry Wall, UKESF Scholar of the Year 2024



Henry is studying MEng Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering at the University of Cambridge. As part of his scholarship, he completed a summer placement with Multiple Access Communications Limited (MAC Ltd).

Henry was recognised as UKESF Scholar of the Year 2024, an award he received for his academic achievements, his performance whilst undertaking his industry placement, and his commitment to outreach and promoting Electronics to young people.

#### How has your Scholarship supported you?

The scholarship has enabled me to complete a very rewarding summer internship at MAC Ltd, working across disciplines and learning a plethora of knowledge I will use in my career going forwards. Furthermore, I think the summer workshop provided was excellent, and certainly taught me about aspects of a career in engineering I hadn't considered before. Adding to this, I made long lasting friends at the workshop and cultured my network within this exciting industry.

## What did your placement at MAC Ltd involve?

My internship involved the hardware acceleration of a standard encryption library written in C. I worked both on the software and hardware sides, utilising an FPGA. I enjoyed working with the FPGA the most, learning about RTL design and the whole design flow, from design to verification to testing.

# What do you love about Electronics Engineering?

I think Electronics Engineering is such an exciting discipline to be a part of, since it is at the cutting edge of everything we do day to day. To hold a phone or use a laptop and start to understand the intricacies of how it works is fascinating, coupled with hearing the latest advancements in the applications of these technology in AI and innovation every day, it makes me proud to say I am an Electronic Engineer.



"Henry Wall was an intern with MAC Ltd this summer as part of the UK Electronics Skills Foundation sponsorship scheme.

We like to integrate our summer interns into our existing project teams and give them challenging engineering problems to solve so that they get real experience of what it is like to work in a company like MAC Ltd.

Henry worked on a field programmable gate array (FPGA) deployment of a standard encryption library and gained valuable experience in networking protocols, C coding, Unix command line tools, Matlab modelling and the Very High Speed Integrated Circuit Hardware Description Language (VHDL).

We were very impressed with the way Henry tackled the engineering challenges that we threw at him and what he achieved during his time with us!"

Peter Gould, Managing Director, Multiple Access Communications Limited

## **Employer Testimonials**

### **Our 2025 Employers Survey found:**

- 100% of employers think that the quality of UKESF scholarship applicants compared to other internship applicants is good or excellent.
- 75% agree that when compared with other methods of recruiting graduates, the UKESF Scholarship Scheme represents value for money.
- 100% of employers would recommend the UKESF Scholarship Scheme to another company.



"We have seen many excellent students through the UKESF Scholarship Scheme, which is why we continue to support the UKESF programme and we look forward to our next cohort of scholars."



"The UKESF teams are very responsive and helpful, making the recruiting process easy. We are also guaranteed good quality candidates that are engaged and eager to contribute. We have recruited many graduates through this scheme."



"We are really pleased to be a part of the UKESF and it is a great service. If you haven't got a lot of experience in attracting graduates, UKESF should be the first place you go."



"The UKESF reaches out to everyone on our behalf and broadens access to universities. It attracts the best students, which is what we need, and past scholars are great to attract new students."



UKESF is a valued partner and we look forward to continuing our relationship. Quality of applications is always high and gives us the opportunity to effectively promote our internship program to a more diverse audience across the UK.









































## About the UKESF

We are the voice for skills in the Electronics Industry. Through engagement with Schools, Universities and Industry, it is our mission to encourage more young people to study Electronics and to pursue careers in the sector.

The UK has a long heritage of technological innovation and has a world-class Electronics sector. It has the potential to grow and innovate to provide solutions to some of the biggest challenges facing society today. However, the demand for capable, employable Electronics Engineers and designers is currently outstripping supply.

The UKESF works tirelessly to ensure that more schoolchildren can learn about Electronics, in an engaging way, and be aware of the opportunities available. We have a number of programmes and initiatives that help aspiring engineers to develop their interest through to university study, and support that prepares undergraduates for the workplace.

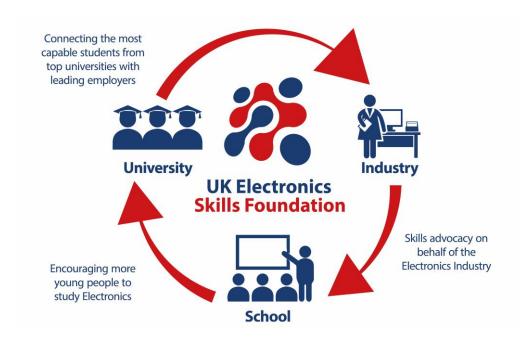
We are an independent, UK based charity working to address the skills gap in Electronics through raising awareness, promoting interest in young people, supporting the development of those who choose electronics, and building relationships to ensure a thriving sector.

This can only be achieved by working collaboratively, and to date, we have worked with more than 100 employers from across the industry, 30 of the UK's leading universities, and over 850 schools.



For 15 years, we have delivered projects that have proven to spark young peoples imagination, improve their experiences of Electronics, and tackle the skills shortage. Now it's time to scale up our impact."

Stewart Edmondson, CEO, UK Electronics Skills Foundation





# Find out more, and get involved:

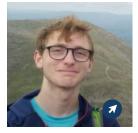
- ukesf.org/scholarship-scheme-employers
- info@ukesf.org
- 01285 862381

## Meet our Scholars:

















## Diversity, Equality and Inclusion

In 2024/25, our Scholars are:

- 21% Female
- 33% Ethnic minorities
- 80% State educated
- 21% First in family to go to university



