

## **College grants for travel expenses (updated on 29 May 2013)**

*Compiled by Ryoko Ito (graduate student representative) with the help of our faculty PhD students in May 2013. Please send any comments and corrections to Ryoko ([ri239@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ri239@cam.ac.uk)).*

### **Summary of facts and issues:**

Note: the following points should be treated as providing a general guideline. Treatments can vary considerably for some colleges.

- The Economics faculty (hereafter, our faculty) currently offers up to £200 per year per PhD student for research related expenses from the Stevenson Fund.
- Colleges that offer travel grants normally expect students to seek travel grants from other sources (usually the faculty) before applying for college grants.
- Most of the conference related travels normally take place in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of our PhD programme. One of our job market candidates spent nearly £1500 on conference-related travels, of which around £1000 had to be paid out of the student's personal savings. A large portion of the £1500 expenditure was for airfare.
- Whenever college travel grants are available, eligibility is normally limited to students in the first 9 terms of their PhD programme. 4<sup>th</sup>-year PhD students are normally not eligible, possibly because they do not pay college fees.
  - Due to the CPGS year in which students undertake substantial amount of coursework, the 4<sup>th</sup>-year of our faculty's PhD programme should ideally be considered by colleges (only for this purpose) as being equivalent to the 3<sup>rd</sup>-year of other faculties' PhD programmes in which no coursework takes place in the 1<sup>st</sup> year.
  - Alternatively, colleges should ideally take into consideration the total amount of college travel grants a 4<sup>th</sup>-year PhD student of our faculty has been awarded during the course of our PhD programme.

However, the experience of our students suggests that colleges normally do not give such considerations. Thus, our faculty's 4<sup>th</sup>-year students normally do not qualify for college travel grants.

- Applying for college grants generally involve application procedures that are somewhat more complex than our faculty's Stevenson Fund. Applicants are normally required to submit some or all of the following:
  - (relatively lengthy) application form
  - a letter of support from supervisor
  - a letter of support from conference organizers
  - a report/essay summarizing the travel experience and/or learning outcomes,
  - applications to be made in advance of travel.

## List of travel grants offered by all 31 colleges

	College	Travel grants (per student)	Source of information
1	Christ's	Grants exist. Maximum amount is unknown. (Ref: "Travel grant, Christs.pdf")	Faculty PhD student
2	Churchill	Up to £300 per year.	Faculty PhD student
3	Clare	Up to £400 over the first 3 years of a PhD programme. The college expects a student's department to contribute on a similar or greater scale (if not, the supervisor should explain why in his/her letter).	College website: <a href="http://www.clare.cam.ac.uk/Money-2/">http://www.clare.cam.ac.uk/Money-2/</a> under the heading "Research Expenses Fund". (Retrieved by RI on 27/05/2013.)
4	Clare Hall	£250 per year for 1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> year students only	Faculty PhD student
5	Corpus Christi	Grants exist for 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> year PhD students only. Maximum amount is unknown.	Academic staff
6	Darwin	None	Faculty PhD student
7	Downing	Up to around £500 (whether this is per year is unknown).	College website: <a href="http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/index.php/about/forstudents/finance/247-support">http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/index.php/about/forstudents/finance/247-support</a> under the heading "Grants for Books, Materials, Vacation Study and Travel". (Retrieved by RI on 27/05/2013.)
8	Emmanuel	Unknown. Possibly none.	College and MCR pages reviewed on 27/05/2013.  Information may become available by contacting the college directly.
9	Fitzwilliam	Up to £400 per year. No single award normally exceeds £250.	College website: <a href="http://www.fitz.cam.ac.uk/college-life/finance/graduate/funding/travel-and-research-funding">http://www.fitz.cam.ac.uk/college-life/finance/graduate/funding/travel-and-research-funding</a> (Retrieved by RI on 27/05/2013.)
10	Girton	No grants for conferences. Grants exist only for studying abroad (6-12 months).  There may be some unadvertised means of receiving college funding. But it is generally difficult to receive grants from the college.	Faculty PhD student

11	Gonville and Caius	Grants exist. Amount is unknown.	College website: <a href="http://www.cai.cam.ac.uk/fundingandscholarships">http://www.cai.cam.ac.uk/fundingandscholarships</a> (Retrieved by RI on 27/05/2013.)
12	Homerton	Grants exist. Amount is unknown.	College website: <a href="http://www.homerton.cam.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fundingandfinance">http://www.homerton.cam.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fundingandfinance</a> under the heading "Are there any grants I can apply for?" (Retrieved by RI on 27/05/2013.)
13	Hughes Hall	Around £250 per year	Faculty PhD student
14	Jesus	Up to £500 per year.	College website: <a href="http://www.jesus.cam.ac.uk/admissions/graduates/financial-matters/">http://www.jesus.cam.ac.uk/admissions/graduates/financial-matters/</a> under the heading "Graduate Research Funds" (Retrieved by RI on 27/05/2013.)
15	King's	Grants exist. Maximum amount is unknown. (Ref: "Travel grant, Kings.pdf")	Faculty PhD student
16	Lucy Cavendish	Small grants exist. Amount is unknown, but expected to be less than £500 per year.	College website: <a href="http://www.lucy-cav.cam.ac.uk/students/bursaries-and-awards">http://www.lucy-cav.cam.ac.uk/students/bursaries-and-awards</a> under the heading "Travel, research, conferences, medical and veterinary electives" (Retrieved by RI on 27/05/2013.)
17	Magdalene	The college tutor can advise on the availability of modest fund to assist with research costs. (Whether the source of this funding is college is unknown.)	College website: <a href="http://www.magd.cam.ac.uk/funding-graduate-studies/">http://www.magd.cam.ac.uk/funding-graduate-studies/</a> under the heading "Support from Magdalene College". (Retrieved by RI on 28/05/2013.)
18	Murray Edwards	Small grants exist. Maximum amount is unknown.	College website: <a href="http://www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk/students/finance/fin_info/grad_students">http://www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk/students/finance/fin_info/grad_students</a> under the heading "Murray Edwards Grants for Research". (Retrieved by RI on 28/05/2013.)

19	Newnham	Up to £750 per year.	College website: <a href="http://www.newn.cam.ac.uk/joining-newnham/graduate-admissions/financial-support/content/grants">http://www.newn.cam.ac.uk/joining-newnham/graduate-admissions/financial-support/content/grants</a> under the heading "Research and Travel Funds". (Retrieved by RI on 28/05/2013.)
20	Pembroke	Up to £1000 for the duration of a PhD programme	Faculty PhD student
21	Peterhouse	Grants exist. Maximum amount is unknown.	College website: <a href="http://www.pet.cam.ac.uk/current-students/tutorial-office#grants">http://www.pet.cam.ac.uk/current-students/tutorial-office#grants</a> under the heading "Grants to Graduates and Undergraduates". (Retrieved by RI on 28/05/2013.)
22	Queens'	Small grants exist. Maximum amount is unknown. (See supplementary note Item 2.) Students are advised to apply via college tutors. Applications are more likely to be successful if it is also partially funded by the Faculty.	Faculty PhD student
23	Robinson	Grants exist. Maximum amount is unknown. Student Activities Fund of the college usually pays up to 60% of qualifying costs within a maximum grant of £150 (per year?).	College website: <a href="http://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/admissions/graduates.php">http://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/admissions/graduates.php</a> under the heading "Funding and Fellowships" or, <a href="http://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/academic/finance.php">http://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/academic/finance.php</a> under the heading "Student Activities Fund". (Retrieved by RI on 28/05/2013.)
24	St Catherine's	Normally up to around £400 per year. All applications are considered on an ad-hoc basis.	Faculty PhD student
25	St Edmund's	None (although one student somehow received £200 on one occasion)	Faculty PhD student
26	St John's	Up to £500 per year for graduate students from the Learning Research Fund. A caveat applies (see supplementary note Item 1).	Faculty PhD student
27	Selwyn	On average £250 per year. (A student noted that the application process is relatively involved.)	Faculty PhD student

28	Sidney Sussex	Grants exist for 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> year PhD students. Maximum amount is unknown.	College website: <a href="http://www.sid.cam.ac.uk/current/postgrads/finance/">http://www.sid.cam.ac.uk/current/postgrads/finance/</a> under the heading "Graduate Student Funds". (Retrieved by RI on 28/05/2013.)
29	Trinity	Up to £500 per year	Faculty PhD student
30	Trinity Hall	Up to a total of £1000 over the course of the first 3 years of a PhD programme.	Faculty PhD student
31	Wolfson	Up to a total of £900 over the course of a PhD programme.  Eligibility is fee paying students or students within 3 years of matriculation. Under certain circumstances 4 <sup>th</sup> year students may be eligible. (See "Travel grant, Wolfson.pdf".)	Faculty PhD student

### Supplementary notes:

1. The article for the Learning Research Fund states:

*"In the case of graduate students a mortgaging system is allowed, whereby unspent sums from previous years or expected sums from future years may be drawn upon in respect of the total period during which the student expects to be paying fees for the current course."*

This means that, if a student goes on the job market in his/her 3<sup>rd</sup> year, the student may be eligible for up to £1500 if he/she doesn't receive money from this fund in any other year. However, if the student goes on the job market in his/her 4<sup>th</sup> year instead, the student may not be eligible to receive funding at all as he/she would not be paying college fees.

2. See under the "Research grants" heading of the following page by Queens' college:  
<http://www.queens.cam.ac.uk/Queens/Admissions/bursaries.html>