

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School Young Artist Bursary Policy

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This policy outlines Bristol Old Vic Theatre Schools assessment criteria and allocation of bursaries for the Young Artists programme. This policy and assessment criteria are reviewed annually and is subject to change based on the Schools' changing priorities and [Access and Participation Plan Targets](#).

Making an application

Please ensure you read this policy in advance of making an application to us. It is recommended that you do not secure your place on the course in advance of an application to ensure smooth administration; however, where you have already secured a place and then applied for a bursary, please email us at youth@oldvic.ac.uk to let us know so we can make the necessary financial arrangements.

Applications will be collected by an online form and the deadline for applications to be submitted will be present on our website and bursary form.

Assessment Criteria

We have varying amounts of bursaries available.

All applications for bursaries will be considered in conjunction with our assessment criteria.

These include but are not limited to:

- Applicants in financial hardship
- Applicants from low areas of progression to higher education (assessed by postcode)
- Applicants from low areas of deprivation (assessed by postcode)
- Applicants in care/care leavers or estranged students
- Disabled applicants
- All other applicants who are 'hard to reach'

Allocation

Communication

Once applications have closed, the committee will meet within the following days to allocate bursaries with communications to successful applicants being sent the following week. Where communications are unable to be sent the following week, the nearest working date will be chosen. Please ensure you have enabled emails from youth@oldvic.ac.uk and check any spam folders to ensure you don't miss out on the opportunity if you are successful.

Process

Each criterion listed above will have different weightings and these are agreed in advance by the bursary committee to ensure parity with the Schools' annual priorities and 5 year [Access and Participation Plan](#). Each criteria weighting is then combined to produce an overall score. This overall score will then be used to assess the level of bursary available for the successful applicant. The bursary amount allocated to each applicant is based upon the total score achieved based on how many criteria (considering different criteria weightings) they meet.

We use this weighted scale to review bursary applications. Based on the number of applications we receive it may be the case that not everyone who hits the criteria listed above will be allocated a bursary.

Where we have too many applicants for our bursary fund, we will use the criteria above in conjunction with the written statement of need to allocate bursaries fairly.

Disclaimer

The bursary committee meets every term to assess and allocate Young Artists bursaries and we reserve the right to amend criteria and individual allocations dependent on the Schools' priorities. This means some applicants who previously received a bursary may not be eligible for it the following term if the Schools' criteria or priorities change; however, any changes will be reflected in our policy document and/or communicated to relevant parties.

Questions?

If you have any queries about the bursary process or would like more information, please do contact us at youth@oldvic.ac.uk