



The Ruth Deech Award for Further Legal Study

The Ruth Deech Award for Further Legal Study seeks to provide some financial assistance to promising students who wish to undertake further academic or vocational legal study. Students must intend to commence these studies in the year 2026. This award is available for students who will be completing their legal studies (FHS/BCL/MJur/MLF/MSc/DPhil/MPhil) at St Anne's College in 2026, or who have graduated in the past 3 years. Awards will make a contribution towards the costs of further study or experience.

The types of study that are likely to be supported are:

- study for the BTC or LPC;
- other professional legal qualifications;
- graduate studies in law; and
- other training or experience undertaken in pursuit of a career in law (at the committee's discretion)

Costs that may be contributed to include:

- course fees for the studies listed above

Costs that will generally not be covered:

- living expenses
- accommodation costs

However, in exceptional cases (such as unpaid internships), such costs may be covered if requested.

Applications can be made up to 3 years after the final year of study.

Selection Criteria and Expectations

The fundamental criteria for selection, and for the amount of the award, is *financial need*.

Eligible students must:

- have completed studying the FHS/BCL/MJur/MLF/MSc/DPhil/MPhil at St Anne's college in 2026 or
- have graduated in the past 3 years; AND
- will commence their further legal studies in 2026.

'Further legal study' includes academic study (e.g., masters, integrated masters and doctoral studies related to law) and vocational training (e.g., BTC). Additional legal experiences, such as internships or work experience in another country may count as further legal study where the experience will

contribute significantly towards the student's legal development or future career, although this is at the discretion of the awarding committee.

Students who are uncertain if their study is related to Law or will be counted as further legal study are welcome to apply, although it is at the discretion of the committee to determine which endeavours will satisfy the further legal study requirements.

If awarded the scholarship, students will be expected to provide evidence of their further legal study. This may be an offer letter from a vocational programme, academic institution, or in certain circumstances from a firm or charity.

Please note:

The committee has discretion to decide to whom an award will be made and how the available funds will be split between successful applicants.

Applicants who intend to commence their studies later than 2026 are encouraged to discuss their situation with the committee, who reserve the right to make a discretionary decision on eligibility.

How to apply

A short application letter should be sent to Christine Robertson (internships@st-annes.ox.ac.uk), by 5pm on Wednesday 22nd April 2026 (week 0 Trinity term), at the latest. Applications will then be distributed to the Panel for decisions to be made. Applicants will be made aware of the outcome of their application by the fourth week of Trinity term.

Application letter:

A short application letter should:

- describe which further legal study you intend to undertake,
- explain how this will improve your understanding of the law and benefit your future legal career, and
- outline why you need financial assistance to undertake this further study (including details of other sources of funding to which you may have access).

Applications should clearly state the cost of study (fees and necessary textbooks for the BTC/other vocational course) towards which you seek a contribution.

If you have any questions about the award, please email Antonia Layard:
antonia.layard@st-annes.ox.ac.uk