Pre-Mock Interview Questionnaire

Scholarship or Tuition Fee Discount

Type in the shaded boxes. Save your completed PDF before returning it to your WSA counsellor.

Full name	
University	
Full course title	
Course start date	
Interview date, if known	
Interview time and time zone, if known	
Interview purpose	

Purpose of the interview

Confirm from the invitation whether this is scholarship selection, a credibility interview linked to a possible award, or both. This form prepares you to explain how you meet the award criteria, using genuine evidence. For a university credibility assessment, use PMIQ 08 as the main preparation and this form for the scholarship elements. Passing an interview does not by itself confirm an award; check the written conditions.

How to prepare

Before your mock, use the podcasts below. Review your invitation, published award criteria, application, official course information and offer. Record sources and check the award's value, duration and conditions. Prepare short notes in your own words. Practise unexpected follow up questions without reading. Listen, answer directly and ask for clarification if needed. Use a clear point and genuine example, then stop. Look towards the camera naturally and communicate respectfully. Actual questions depend on the assessment.

Interview questions

01. Tell us about your education, relevant experience and reasons for applying for this award. Explain your own responsibilities and what makes you ready for this course.

02. Why did you choose this university and course? Give one specific strength of the department and one feature of the course, such as a module or practical learning opportunity. Explain how these support your goals and name the university sources you used.

03. What is the exact award name? Explain its value, duration, eligibility, selection criteria and written conditions. Is the interview for award selection, credibility or both? What remains to be confirmed?

04. How do you meet each relevant selection criterion? Give specific examples, explain your own contribution and identify evidence that supports your claims. Acknowledge any gap honestly.

05. Which academic achievement best demonstrates your ability and commitment? Explain the task, your methods, your own contribution and the result. What did you learn that prepares you for this course?

06. Describe a time you showed initiative, leadership or helped others. What did you personally do, what changed and how do you know? Distinguish your contribution from the team's.

07. Describe a challenge or critical feedback you received. How did you respond, what happened and what would you do differently? Explain how you would apply the lesson during your studies.

08. What would the award enable you to achieve? Explain its practical effect on your study plans and future work. Relate your answer to the award's purpose without overstating your circumstances.

09. How would you contribute to the university and student community? Give realistic examples based on your interests or experience and explain how you would balance these with academic commitments.

10. What responsibilities, if any, apply to award holders? Explain how you could fulfil them, represent the university or share your experience. Distinguish published requirements from activities you would volunteer to do.

11. What role do you intend to pursue after the course? Explain its responsibilities, likely employers or sector and realistic next steps. Link two course skills to a benefit for your community or profession. If planning an organisation, explain how you would begin.

12. What are your tuition fees, confirmed discounts and payments made? Calculate the remaining tuition balance if this award is granted. Check whether awards can be combined and explain any conditions or payment deadlines.

13. Who will fund the remaining fees and living costs? Explain the source and availability of funds, any sponsor's relationship to you, supporting evidence, accommodation and your budget. Distinguish confirmed arrangements from estimates.

14. What would you do if the award were smaller than expected, delayed or unsuccessful? Explain any funding gap and a realistic plan. Do not describe an unconfirmed award or unavailable funds as secured.

15. What two questions would you like to ask about the award's conditions, decision date, payment arrangements or requirements for keeping it?

16. Where is your university ranked, if listed? Give the source and year. You may also mention a relevant subject or course ranking. Explain one limitation and how the ranking informed your choice alongside course fit.

17. Which universities in your home country did you genuinely consider for comparable study? Name the institutions and programmes, explain the similarities and differences, and why your chosen university better meets your academic or career objectives.

18. How would you manage your physical health, mental wellbeing and study workload while studying? Describe practical habits, sources of support and what you would do if you needed help. You do not need to disclose private medical information.

19. Will international study and travel increase or decrease in future? Explain two factors and how the trend might affect your intended profession.

20. If the scholarship is not awarded, how would you respond to the decision and what realistic next steps would you take?

Ranking references (check the latest edition and whether your institution is listed):
QS World University Rankings: https://www.topuniversities.com/world-university-rankings
Times Higher Education World University Rankings:
https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings

Use genuine examples and distinguish your contribution from the team's. Expect follow up questions such as "Why?", "Give an example" and "Explain that more simply". Tell your counsellor about document discrepancies. Do not invent achievements or funding. Treat the award as unconfirmed until written confirmation is received.

Podcasts to use before your mock interview

Open each link in the WSA Student Support Library. Listen to the podcast and read or download its summary before completing this questionnaire. Make a note of anything you would like to discuss with your counsellor.

WSA 026 UK University Credibility Interview

https://www.worldstudentadvisors.com/student-support-library/uk-university-credibility-interview

Use the general advice on clear answers. If the invitation includes credibility assessment, prepare with PMIQ 08 as well as the actual award criteria. Scholarship questions alone do not cover credibility preparation.

WSA 010 Personal Statement Guide

https://www.worldstudentadvisors.com/student-support-library/personal-statement-guide

Review the motivation, achievements and career plans in your submitted application. Prepare to explain each example and your own contribution.

WSA 002 Cost of Studying Abroad

https://www.worldstudentadvisors.com/student-support-library/cost-of-studying-abroad

Calculate the remaining tuition and living costs with and without the proposed award. Explain confirmed funding, any shortfall and a realistic alternative plan.

WSA 025 UK Student Visa Essentials

https://www.worldstudentadvisors.com/student-support-library/uk-student-visa-essentials

For UK study, use this alongside your funding preparation to understand the visa stage. A scholarship decision is separate from the visa process.

Before your mock, check that you can explain the award criteria, your strongest evidence, future contribution and how you will fund any remaining costs.