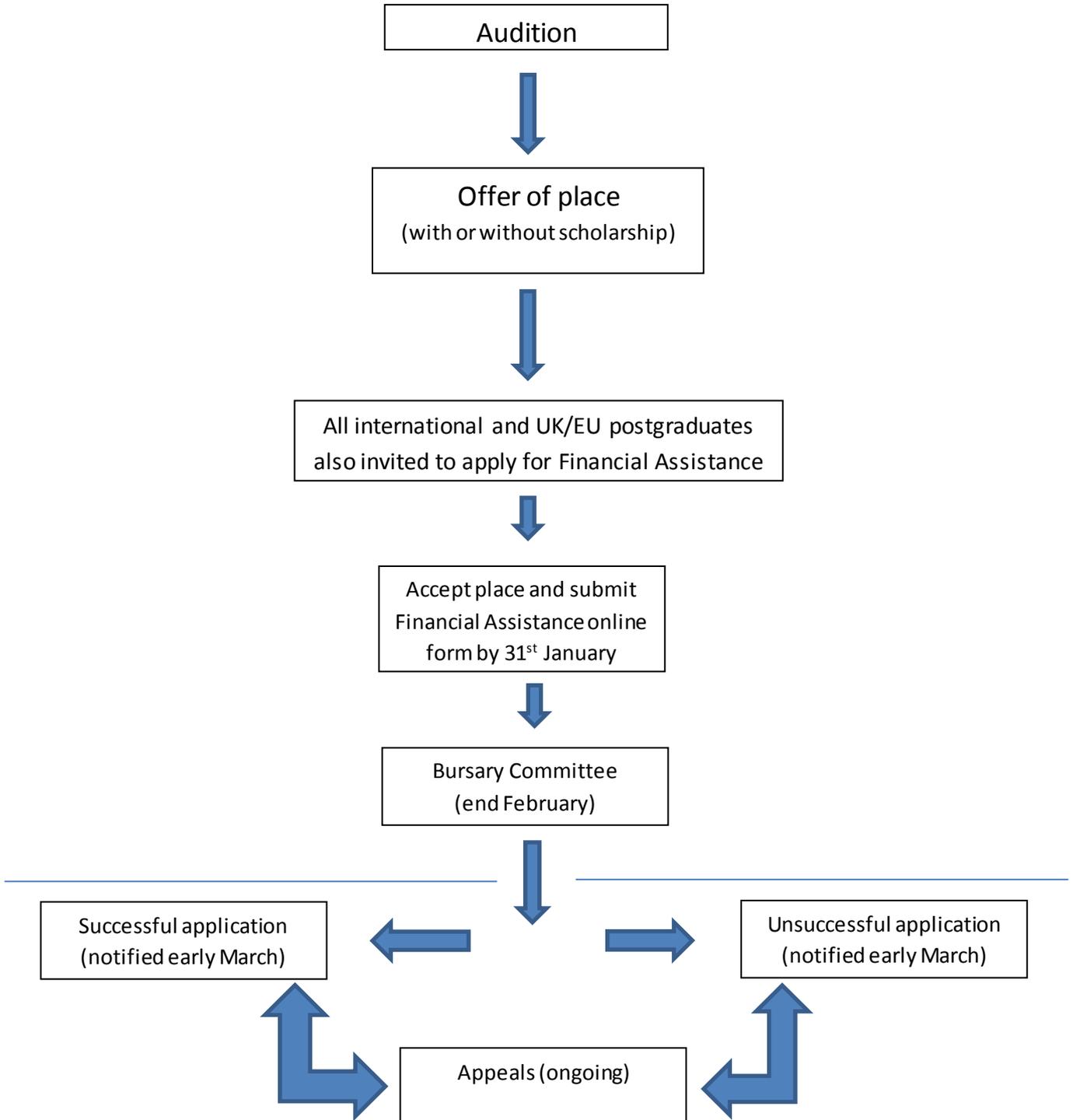


## Academy Funding for Students – a brief guide to how it works and what you can do.

### Outline

This is a brief outline on how Royal Academy of Music funding is allocated and what students can do to research funding possibilities for themselves. Please refer to the [funding pages](#) on the Academy website's to explore numerous funding schemes.



***If financial assistance is not awarded through the 'bursary' process, you can apply for hardship funds through the Deputy Principal and Dean's office after enrolment is completed.***

## Academy Awards

**Scholarships** are awarded on the basis of performance at audition. These range from small awards to full fees. Most awards offset fees although undergraduate scholarships for UK and EU students are administered as maintenance awards (unless the scholar wishes the award to go towards fees to prevent taking out a loan).

**Bursaries** are awards given to students based on financial need. Everyone is eligible to apply for a bursary, except for UK and EU undergraduates who can take out government loans. Financial assistance information is automatically sent from the Registry to all eligible students (via an online link) in January.

**Hardship funds** may be available to enrolled students who find themselves in particular difficulty due to unforeseen circumstances. They are only available to meet everyday costs. These means-tested funds provide a maximum of £1,000, depending on the severity of need. Hardship funds are administered through the office of the Deputy Principal and Dean. For enquiries, email: [g.waring@ram.ac.uk](mailto:g.waring@ram.ac.uk).

## Other Funding sources

We disburse nearly 3 million pounds annually towards scholarship and bursaries, but inevitably demand outstrips supply. Therefore it is **crucial** that students seek funding, for both fees and living costs, through their own efforts without relying on Academy help. There are many trusts and charities that can be approached, a number of which appear both on the RAM website. You can start your search [here](#). In particular the [funding wizard](#) available on the HMUK website is a very good tool.

Funds which are used to cover the costs of Academy scholarships and bursaries are derived from various sources. Some of these are 'named' awards e.g. 'The Principal's Award'. Named awards are not allocated until bursary awards have been decided and RAM funding has been distributed in full. Students are notified of named awards during the first term of the academic year, usually in early October.

Conditions for many external awards (although not all) tend to favour UK/EU students, particularly at postgraduate level. The Academy website does update information as often as possible, and for international students we provide information for schemes that are available to students who come from countries outside the UK (see Country-specific information [on this page](#)).

When seeking help it is important that you do not approach donors who already have special arrangements with the Academy. These donors are listed [here](#). In these cases, the Academy will determine who receives these awards as part of its internal processes, so students do not need to request nomination.

Students may also be able to obtain work (both inside and outside the Academy) during their time in London. Students on a [Tier 4 visa](#) may only work up to 20 hours per week within the restrictions of the visa regulations; opportunities to earn money as a musician might be possible if the work is organised through the Academy's 'External Bookings' department. Work opportunities are widely advertised in local magazines and newspapers as well as on London-based websites. Work within the Academy is advertised by various departments from time to time. Please note that students who receive bursaries may be asked to work unpaid hours for the Academy as part of their award. These are called 'Bursary Hours'. Bursary hours should always be completed before seeking further payment through other work at the Academy.

## Searching for Funding

The Academy's website has many tips on how to approach donors. See 'Personal Research and Other Useful Contacts and Links' [here](#).

## Points of note

All awards are ongoing for the duration of programme, unless otherwise stated.

Postgraduates on one-year programmes who have been offered an award will **not** automatically receive the award for a second year if the programme is extended.

Students should **not** take up a place unless they know funding can be secured with RAM assistance or not.