

The Sir Tom Cowie Sunderland Award 2026-2027

The University is the recipient of a generous donation to support 2 local students via a prestigious award of £12,500 each. Set up by the Sir Tom Cowie Charitable Trust in 2013, the award is aimed at honouring the memory and motivations of Sir Tom, who was a long-term Benefactor of the University. As part of his legacy, the trustees of the charity have decided to support two outstanding final year students studying a subject discipline in the following areas*:

- Education
- Business
- Music
- Arts
- Engineering

*(*selected subjects are eligible to apply, please see listing below)*

The awards will be made to two students who, at the end of their penultimate year of study, can demonstrate an excellent academic record and would appear to be on track to secure a First-Class Honours Degree or upper Second-Class Honours Degree.

Candidates should be able to demonstrate how this award would make a material difference and why their academic performance may be hampered by the need to work additional long hours to support themselves in their final year of study.

Trustees will also be looking for additional evidence that the student has the potential for success in their chosen field following graduation, particularly around professional development, career development and longer-term ambition.

In addition:

- Students should be at the end of their penultimate year (second year for standard programmes or third year for four-year programmes) and on track for a first or upper 2:1 classification.
- Students will be studying full time.
- Students will have engaged fully with university life and demonstrate an appetite for extra-curricular activity complimentary to their academic programme.
- They must hail from the **immediate Sunderland area** and demonstrate financial need. Please contact the Development Office for clarification of geographical area.

Shortlisted applicants will be notified week commencing **1st June 2026** and will be invited for interview with the Chair of Trustees to discuss their application further on **TBC**

Deadline for applications: Friday 22nd May 2026

Recipients must be a full-time undergraduate at the University – studying a subject discipline as listed below.

School of Education:

BA (Hons) Primary Education with QTS
BA (Hons) Primary Education with SEND
BA (Hons) Physical Education with QTS
BSc (Hons) Mathematics Education (11-16 years) with QTS
BA (Hons) Education Studies
BA (Hons) Education Studies (IFY)

School of Business and Management:

BA (Hons) Business and Management*
BA (Hons) Business and Financial Management*
BA (Hons) Business and Marketing Management*
BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance

**includes integrated foundation years.*

BA (Hons) Modern Music Industries
(delivered by Northern Academy of Music Education)

Faculty of Arts and Creative Industries:

BA (Hons) Performing Arts*
BA (Hons) Fine Art*
BA (Hons) Photography, Video & Digital Imaging*
BA (Hons) Animations and Games Art*
BA (Hons) Fashion Design and Promotion*
BA (Hons) Graphic Design*
BA (Hons) Illustration and Design*

**includes integrated foundation years.*

School of Engineering:

BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering*
BEng (Hons) Electronic & Electrical Engineering*
BEng (Hons) Manufacturing Engineering*
BEng (Hons) Engineering Technologies*

**includes integrated foundation years.*

For further information or enquiries please contact the University's Development Office Team
development.office@sunderland.ac.uk