

# Graduate Funding Marking Scheme - template

Guidance	Academic Record - component a	Strength of References - component mark b	Research Potential - component mark- c [PhD only]	Overall score --d	Scoring Rationale - e
Marking Scale	Academic Record - Descriptor	References - descriptor/centile	Research Potential - consider the following (no descriptor)	Scoring Rationale Suggested word limit: 250 words	
(max) 10	Extremely high 1st class degree (or equivalent) from a world leading university	Recognised as the best student in the field of pg applicants in general/ top 1%	Evidence here may include: -references -research proposal - research experience - interview or other departmental engagement - other evidence relevant to the department's consideration of research potential	sum of components[ PhD - a+b+c = overall score/30; MPhil - a+b = overall score/20 ]	For overall scores of <b>PhD = 27</b> or above; <b>Masters = 17</b> or above comments are required, to include: basic evidence for each of the components a-c (see below for example) and <i>comments that add 'extra value' [to the component scores]</i> . ----- For overall scores of less than the scores above, comments are not compulsory but should be provided where they add extra value [to the component scores].
9	Extremely high 1st class degree (or equivalent) from high-quality University together with an additional sign of particular strength above that of others with a high 1st class degree from a high-quality University	Signs of higher ability but lower than top 1%			
8	High 1st class degree (or equivalent) from a high quality university	Recognised as the best student in a class in a smaller year group/ top 5%			
7	1st class degree (or equivalent)	Signs of high ability but lower than top 5%			
6	High 2:1 with 1st class degree elements (or equivalent)	Very strong/top 10%			
5	High 2:1 class degree (or equivalent)				
4	Mid 2:1 class degree with high 2:1 elements (or equivalent)				
3	Mid 2:1 class degree (or equivalent)				
2	2:1 class degree (or equivalent)				
1	below min entry requirement but with compensating factors				

Examples	Academic Record (mark on scale 1-10) component a	Strength of References (mark on scale 1-10) component b	Research Potential (mark on scale 1-10) component c	Overall assessment score (add scores a-c)	Scoring Rationale (suggested max - 250 words)	"Bonus point" to adjust overall score
Student name						
Bloggs (PhD)	8	8	8	24	(a) has a 3.95 GPA from Harvard (b)two very strong references from senior academics one of whom has also supervised some research (c) has generated 2 first author publications in good journals from summer internships.	
Simms (PhD)	6	8	10	25	(a) moderate 2:1 degree from mid-ranking UK University (b) a good reference from his undergrad university and an extremely strong reference from a senior academic at the Courtauld Institute where he has been working for 4 years (c) has submitted an excellent research proposal. This student performed extremely well in interview and has already produced research of doctoral standard.	Yes
Parva (Ph.D Social Sciences)	9	9	10	28	a) First class degree from highly reputable European University, b) strong references from Master's course supervisors - including comments on dissertation and research potential, c) excellent research proposal (innovative), experience of the candidate as a visitor to the department for a short internship, and has had an article based on the Master's dissertation accepted for publication	

Twigg (MPhil  
Arts)

6

9

n/a

15

a) 2.1 at undergraduate level at a mid-ranking university in the UK but a mark of 83 for her ug dissertation - which involved some original library research,b) one of the referees was so impressed with the dissertation that publication is now being prepared for an established (History) journal; excellent references - overall ug performance let down by one paper it seems - other marks at first class level.

Yes. We suggest 1 bonus point for the high mark in the dissertation & proposed publication - TOTAL = 16