

What is the Oxford Laidlaw Scholars Programme?

The Oxford Laidlaw Scholars Programme enables undergraduate students at the University of Oxford to develop research and leadership skills and work together on local and global projects as part of the SDG Impact Lab.

Who can apply?

The programme lasts 18-months and is open to all first-year undergraduate students.

Why join?

- Acquire research impact skills as a student Fellow of the SDG Impact Lab
- Develop your understanding and practice of good leadership through workshops delivered by the Oxford Character Project
- Work together on local and global impact projects
- Establish global connections as part of the Laidlaw network of Scholars from 17 leading universities

What does the programme entail?

Year 1:

- Oxford group retreat in May
- Leadership training sessions on Tuesday evenings during Trinity Term
- A local research impact project in August/September

Year 2:

- Laidlaw International Scholars Conference in October
- Leadership training sessions on Tuesday evenings during Michaelmas Term
- A global impact project to take place abroad during the Summer

For both your projects, you will receive a stipend of £3,000 (that is, a stipend worth £6,000 for the entire programme).

**Exact dates will be confirmed closer to the programme start.*

Application Process

In your application you will have to answer three questions. To answer these questions, you will submit:

- a written application up to a maximum of 600 words in length (no more than 200 words for each question)

Answer three questions:

Question 1: What does leadership mean to you?

Question 2: Please see the Laidlaw Scholar Attributes Framework in the bottom of these notes. Please pick one or two of the competencies and explain:

- Why did you pick this competency?
- How will developing this competency aid your own personal development?

Question 3: Your contribution

- How will you contribute to the cohort? e.g, what research skills will you bring?
- How will you apply the leadership and research skills you develop beyond the programme?

Evaluation Criteria

Your application will be evaluated using the following three criteria:

- *Engagement*: The three questions centre around the topics of leadership, motivation and contribution. We value reflective answers that show your own unique understanding of leadership.
- *Purpose*: We value answers that show your commitment and motivation to make a meaningful contribution in the world.
- *Competence*: We value answers that show what skills and competencies you can personally bring to the cohort and explain how you will

contribute to the cohort and the collaborative Summer projects. We value answers that connect and build on each other to convey your thoughts about leadership and how to develop, and apply your competency and skills.

What happens next?

Successful applicants will be contacted for a short online interview (20-30 minutes). The interview questions will ask you to expand on your written application. You will not have to prepare a presentation or any further documents.

Interviews will take place in mid-late April 2024 **and will be conducted online.**

Important Dates

- Laidlaw Oxford Scholars Q&A (online) -**w/c** *date and time tbc. Please sign up on the programme homepage [here](#), and we will email you a link to join the online Q&A.
- Application deadline- **Monday 25th March 2024 (midday)**

Further questions?

If you have any questions at all, do not hesitate to contact us at info@sdglab.co.uk. We are located in central Oxford, adjacent to Pembroke College, and we would be happy to organise a drop-in should you prefer to come and talk to one of the team about the programme. Please just email at the above address.

Oxford SDG Impact Lab Oxford University Albion House, Littlegate St,
Oxford OX1 1QT