**Santander Bursary Applications – “How will your proposed master's study impact your future career?”**

**Please remember that your application should give**

* a compelling case that the Santander Scholarship will make a real difference to your career
* a clear demonstration of very specific knowledge of the career and how the course is an essential component
* an outline of relevant/related experience gained to date.

In order to make a strong application for the Bursary panel, it is important to be able to **describe and evaluate** how you think postgraduate study will support your future plans. It is also essential to reflect on your current university experience and the skills you have been developing through your time at UWE.

When reflecting on your current/recent university experience, think about:

* What has been positive about this experience so far?
* What’s going well? What hasn’t gone so well?
* What are you learning about yourself?
* Have you already achieved something in particular, be specific e.g. winning an award or raising money.
* How might you transfer what you have learnt to Postgraduate study? Has it helped you to better understand what motivates you, and what you value in terms of you do in the future?

When outlining your future plans, consider:

* How and why the Santander Scholarship will be instrumental in launching your career opportunities
* Why postgraduate study is desired or essential for your future role/sector
* Work experience you have already gained and how this is helping your career plans/direction
* Research you have done around the sector/industry

Using the **STAR** framework will help you to assess your current skills and abilities and how you see these developing through postgraduate study. You can then make your case for obtaining the funding to support you with your future plans.

STAR is an acronym for:

* **Situation:** what was the situation you were in at the time e.g. at work, in a university seminar etc?
* **Task:** what was the task that you had to do or what did you set out to achieve?
* **Action:** what action(s) did you take?
* **Result:** what was the outcome e.g. a certificate, commendation, thank you letter or a more personal learning experience etc?

Below is an example of how you can use STAR to reflect on the experience gained through UWE:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Situation** | **Task** | **Action(s)** | **Result** |
| Project work for a module | Group leader for the project which involved bringing together your team, working through some tricky problems and delegating activity to individuals. | Creating a project plan for the team. Keeping the team on task to meet tight deadlines. Supporting individuals to find solutions to some of the issues and barriers they were facing in completing their work. | Project was completed in time for the module assessment  Received an excellent result. |