

Deborah Rowland Scholarship Opens for 2026 Applications

2 months ago



Applications are now open for the 2026 Deborah Rowland Scholarship, marking the third year of the programme supporting emerging talent into the facilities management profession.

The scholarship provides fully funded [IWFM](#)-regulated qualifications at Levels 2, 3 and 4. For a second year, training provider Xenon Group will provide two fully funded qualification places. Study for an IWFM qualification will require between 18 to 24 months and includes monthly mentoring sessions with experienced professionals.

Founded by Deborah Rowland, Director of Public Affairs at Sodexo UK and former IWFM Facilities Manager of the Year, in collaboration with the IWFM, the scholarship was established to widen access to professional development for those who may not otherwise have the opportunity to pursue or progress a career in facilities management.

The programme has grown steadily since its launch. Two scholars were supported in 2024, followed by four successful recipients last year, reflecting both rising demand and the growing impact of the initiative.

Deborah Rowland said: “Opening applications for the third year of the scholarship is incredibly exciting. The programme is going from strength to strength, and it has been inspiring to see previous recipients grab the opportunity and make such meaningful progress in their careers.

“This scholarship represents an incredible opportunity for people who might not otherwise have access to training or professional support. Facilities management is a brilliant, rich and rewarding career, offering variety and the chance to make a real impact. I’m hugely proud of what the scholarship has achieved so far and can’t wait to see who applies for 2026.”

Linda Hausmanis, CEO of the Institute of Workplace and Facilities Management, said:

“The Deborah Rowland Scholarship demonstrates one of the great strengths of the facilities management profession: its ability to create genuine opportunities for people from a wide range of backgrounds.

“Initiatives like this play a vital role in ensuring the sector continues to attract, develop and retain future talent. We are proud to support a scholarship that is already making a tangible difference to individuals and to the profession as a whole.”

[Full details on eligibility and how to apply can be found here.](#)

If you would like to help fund the Deborah Rowland Scholarship through a donation, please visit the [JustGiving page](#).