

GUIDE FOR NEW AND
CONTINUING FULL-TIME
EU STUDENTS STUDYING
IN ENGLAND
2017/18



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All 2017/18 figures are subject to Parliamentary approval.

WHAT IS STUDENT FINANCE SERVICES?

Student Finance Services is a service provided by the Student Loans Company. We provide financial support on behalf of the UK Government to students from the EU entering higher education in England. We are here to help and can offer you financial support when you need it most – during your studies.

For more information and to download an application form, visit **www.gov.uk/studentfinance**



WHAT TYPE OF SUPPORT CAN I GET?

If you are an EU student studying an undergraduate course in England in 2017/18 you can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan to help you pay for your course.

How much you can get depends on your university or college and when you started your course.

New students in 2017/18

- You can get a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £9,250 if you are studying at a public university or college, or
- up to £6,165 if you are studying at a private university or college.

Privately-funded universities may charge you more than £6,165, it is up to you to pay anything over this amount.

If you are studying a graduate entry medical or dentistry programme you can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £5,785 in your first year. However, you will need to pay the first £3,465 of any tuition fee charged by your university or college. For years two to four of your course, you can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £5,535. The Department of Health will pay up to £3,715 to cover any fees over this amount.

Continuing students in 2017/18

If you started your course on or after 1 September 2012, you can get a Tuition Fee Loan of up to:

- £9,250

If you started your course before 1 September 2012, you can get a Tuition Fee Loan of up to:

- £3,465

Studying in Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland?

If you are studying in another country in the UK the student finance you can apply for may be different.

If you are studying in Wales, visit www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

If you are studying in Northern Ireland, visit www.studentfinancenir.co.uk

If you are studying in Scotland, visit www.saas.gov.uk

DO I QUALIFY?

Where you live

You must have been 'ordinarily resident' in the EEA or Switzerland for the three years before the start of your course.

'Ordinarily resident' means where you usually live, apart from temporary or occasional absences.

If you have been living in the UK and islands for at least five years before the start of your course you may be able to apply for the same loans for tuition fees and living costs as a UK national. For more information, visit SFE's dedicated student finance zone at www.thestudentroom.co.uk/studentfinance

There is more information about the residency requirements on our website www.gov.uk/studentfinance

Your nationality

You must be an EU national, or the family member of an EU national.

Previous study

Usually you can only get student finance for your first higher-education qualification. As a general rule, Tuition Fee Loans are available for the full length of your course, plus one extra year if needed.

If you have already had student finance for part of a course that you did not complete, the number of years for which you can get funding is worked out as:

Length of current course + one additional year - years of previous study

Full financial support is available if you already have a degree but you're starting a Nursing, Midwifery or Allied Health Professional course (excluding dental hygiene and dental therapy) in England on or after 1 August 2017.

Your university or college

The university or college you plan to study at must be in England and can be either publicly or privately funded.

Your course

The course you plan to study must be in England and one of the following:

- a first degree, eg BA, BSc or BEd
- a Foundation Degree
- a Certificate of Higher Education
- a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)
- a Higher National Certificate (HNC)
- a Higher National Diploma (HND)
- a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)
- Initial Teacher Training (ITT)

If you are not sure if your course qualifies for student finance you should check with your university or college.

HOW DO I APPLY?

If you are starting a new course you should apply as soon as the application service opens. You should fill in an EU17N form, which you can download from **www.gov.uk/studentfinance**, and return it to us at the address on page nine.

If you are continuing a course we will contact you by the end of April 2017 if you need to fill in an application form.

What evidence do I need to send?

If you are applying for the first time you will need to send evidence of your identity. You can send your valid passport or national identity card.

When you send evidence it can be certified copies or original documents.

A certified copy is a photocopy of an original document which has been stamped, signed and dated to confirm it is a true copy of the original by a person of good standing in the community such as a minister of religion, doctor, lawyer, civil servant, teacher/lecturer or police officer. The person certifying the copy must not be a relative and must provide their name, job title, address and contact number.

You should download a Certifier Checklist form at **www.gov.uk/studentfinance**, complete and return this checklist with any certified evidence you send us.

Deadline

You can apply for student finance up to nine months after the start of the academic year. For 2017/18 applications this will be 1 September 2017, 1 January 2018, 1 April 2018 or 1 July 2018. Check with your university or college when your academic year starts as it is not necessarily the first day of your course.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I HAVE SENT MY APPLICATION?

We will:

- confirm that your application has been received
- work out how much you can get
- write to you to confirm how much you will get
- pay the Tuition Fee Loan directly to your university or college

WHAT IF MY CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE?

If your circumstances change you must tell your university or college and us as soon as possible.

You can download a 'Notification of Change of Circumstances for EU Students on Full-time Courses' (EUCO1) at www.gov.uk/studentfinance

HOW DO I REPAY MY LOANS?

Once you have finished your course, repaying your Tuition Fee Loan is straightforward. The amount you repay each month is based on your income, not what you borrow.

You are charged interest from the day your first payment is made until your loan is repaid in full or cancelled. The interest rate is based on the UK Retail Price Index* (RPI) and will vary depending on your circumstances.

You will be due to start making repayments the April after you finish or leave your course. You will not have to repay until your income is over the threshold of £404 a week, £1,750 a month or £21,000 a year.

If your income changes, either rising or falling, your repayment amounts will change to reflect this. If you stop working, your repayments will stop until you start working again and your income is over the threshold.

You can make voluntary repayments at any time.

If you leave your course early, you will still have to repay your loan. In this case, the repayment process might be different.

If you are planning to live, work or travel outside the UK for more than three months after you finish or leave your course you must let us know. You will still have to make payments to your loan, but the repayment threshold might be different depending on which country you are in.

Any loan remaining 30 years after you are due to start making repayments will be cancelled.

You can find out more about repaying your loan in the UK and overseas at **www.slc.co.uk/repayment**

*The Retail Price Index is a measure of UK inflation. It measures changes to the cost of living in the UK.

HOW DO I CONTACT YOU?

Student Finance Services
PO Box 89
Darlington
County Durham
DL1 9AZ

Telephone: **0141 243 3570**

From outside the UK: **+44 (0) 141 243 3570**

Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 9am to 5:30pm

