

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

2015/16

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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're 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're a new EU student studying in England in 2015/16 you can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan to help you pay for your course.

How much is available depends on when you started your course and whether you study at a publicly (paid for by the government) or privately funded university or college.

New students in 2015/16

- Up to £9,000 Tuition Fee Loan at a public university or college.
- Up to £6,000 Tuition Fee Loan at a private university or college.

Privately funded universities may charge you more than £6,000, it's up to you to pay anything over this amount.

If you're studying a graduate entry medical or dentistry programme you can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £5,535 (if the fee charged is £9,000). However, you'll need to pay the first £3,465 of the tuition fee being charged by your university or college.

Continuing students in 2014/15

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

- £3,465

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

- £9,000

Studying in Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland?

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

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

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

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

DO I QUALIFY?

Personal eligibility

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.

There's 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

You won't normally be able to get a Tuition Fee Loan if you already hold a qualification equal to or higher than the one you're studying for.

If you've already had student finance for part of a course that you didn't complete you may only be able to get finance for the number of years of your course, plus one additional year, less the number of years you've already had funding for.

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 of Education (PGCE)
- Initial Teacher Training (ITT)

If you're studying at a private university or college you should check with them that your course qualifies for student finance.

HOW DO I APPLY?

If you're starting a new course you can apply now. You should fill in an EU15N form.

If you're continuing a course we'll contact you by the end of April 2015 if you need to fill in an application form.

For more information and to download an EU15N form, visit **www.gov.uk/studentfinance**

What evidence do I need to send?

If you're applying for the first time you'll 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's 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. Check with your university or college when your academic year starts as it's not necessarily the first day of your course. For 2015/16 applications this will be 1 September 2015, 1 January 2016, 1 April 2016 or 1 July 2016.



WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I'VE SENT MY APPLICATION?

Student Finance Services will:

- confirm that your application has been received
- work out how much you can get
- write to you to confirm how much you'll 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've finished your course, repaying your Tuition Fee Loan is straightforward. The amount you repay each month is linked to your income, not what you borrow.

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

If you live outside the UK after you finish your course you must let us know. The threshold for repayment might be different depending on which country you choose to live in.

You can find out more about repaying your loan in the UK and overseas at www.studentloanrepayment.co.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

