My Student Finance

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Produced by the Schools and Colleges Liaison Service
Whilst there are costs associated with Higher Education, there are also many financial benefits to having a degree. For example, most graduates earn more than non-graduates and are on average also more likely to be in employment.*

*T Graduate Labour Market Statistics 2017, Department for Education, published 24/04/2018

What are the costs of Higher Education?

The two main costs associated with going to university are:

**Tuition fees**
These are the fees that students pay to study in Higher Education. Tuition fees are paid directly to the university you study at.

**Living costs**
These are the costs associated with ‘living’ as a student and would normally include accommodation, food, bills, travel and books and equipment.

What’s the maximum tuition fee that can be charged?

£ ......................................

For more information visit: [gov.uk/student-finance](http://gov.uk/student-finance)
There is a package of financial support available to help pay for the cost of Higher Education. There are two types of student loans available from Student Finance England:

**Tuition Fee Loan**
A repayable sum of money that covers the costs of your tuition fees. This loan is paid directly to your university by Student Finance England.

**Maintenance Loan**
A repayable sum of money to help cover your living costs whilst at university. This loan is paid directly to you in three instalments for each year of your course.

The amount of Maintenance Loan you’re entitled to will depend on your household income and where you live whilst at university. You can find out what you might be entitled to by using the Student Finance Calculator online at [gov.uk/student-finance-calculator](http://gov.uk/student-finance-calculator)

**Other forms of support**
In addition to loans, other forms of support may be available to you.

**Bursary** - A non-repayable sum of money based on financial need.

**Scholarship** - A non-repayable sum of money based on academic merit.

**Disabled Student Allowance** - Extra financial support for students with a disability.

**Part-time job** - Many students get a job for up to 15 hours per week at university to supplement their income.
How do I apply for student finance?

How do I apply for my student loans?
You can apply online through Student Finance England at gov.uk/student-finance-register-login between February and May. You don’t need a confirmed place at university to apply for student finance. Once set up, your Maintenance Loan will be paid directly to your bank account in three instalments during the academic year. Your Tuition Fee Loan will be paid directly to the university you go to.

You’ll need to re-apply for your student finance each year when you are at university, as this does not automatically renew and you’ll need to ensure you are receiving the correct amount.

How much do I need to be earning to pay back my student loans?
Once you have graduated, you’ll only start repaying your student loans when you are earning over a certain amount. Visit gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan to see the most up-to-date figures.

How much will you need to be earning before you start to repay your student loans?

£

How do I repay my student loans?
When you are earning over the repayment threshold, your repayments will be taken out of your salary each month in the same way tax and National Insurance is taken. There is no penalty for paying some or all of your loans off early. After 30 years any outstanding payments will be written off.
Budgeting tips and advice

Although you’ll be able to apply for a Maintenance Loan whilst studying at university, is it important to budget to ensure your money stretches as far as possible and lasts until the next payment. Here are some tried and tested tips to help you budget:

- Plan a budget before going to university – use [gov.uk/student-finance-calculator](http://gov.uk/student-finance-calculator) to estimate how much Maintenance Loan you’re entitled to (your result will be more accurate if you know your annual household income). Calculate how much the costs for accommodation, food, books and equipment will be each year. How much do you have spare?

- Consider having two bank accounts – one for your monthly direct debits and the other for day-to-day spending. This will help ensure you prioritise your bills and you’ll know what you have left over.

- Consider extra sources of income – does your university have a student ambassador scheme you can join? Can you pick up some part-time work to earn some extra cash?

- Make the most of the discounts available for students - for example you can get an NUS Extra Card and apply for a Student Rail Card, both of which give money off goods, services and travel.
Managing your money effectively at university means you need to develop your budgeting skills. To see how good you are at prioritising, rank these costs in order of importance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Priority (1-15) Rank in order</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cinema tickets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course books and equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subscription to Netflix</td>
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<td>Food shopping</td>
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<td>Clothes shopping</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eating out</td>
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<td>Mobile phone contract</td>
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<td>Travel pass</td>
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<td>National Rail Card</td>
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<td>TV licence</td>
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<td>Gym membership</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUS Extra Card</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Car</td>
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Moving away from home for university?
Below are some of the essential items you’ll need to purchase. Fill in the blank boxes with anything you would like to add.

**Stationery**
- Pens and pencils
- Stapler
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Post-it notes
- Highlighters
- Notebook
- Folders
- [Add your own](#) essential items below

**Bathroom**
- Towels
- Bin
- Toiletries
- First aid supplies
- [Add your own](#) essential items below

**Kitchen**
- Bowls and plates
- Mugs and glasses
- Cutlery
- Tin opener
- Saucepan
- Kitchen knives
- Frying pan
- Tea towels
- [Add your own](#) essential items below

**Bedroom**
- Bed sheets
- Duvet and pillows
- Bin
- Doorstop
- Mirror
- [Add your own](#) essential items below

**Electrical**
- Headphones
- Speaker
- Hairdryer and styling tools
- Laptop/computer
- USB sticks
- TV (check with accommodation first if they have one)
- An extension lead
- [Add your own](#) essential items below
Find out more about student finance

Your go-to guide for everything you need to know about student finance:

gov.uk/student-finance

gov.uk/student-finance-calculator

Other useful websites:

thestudentroom.co.uk/student-finance

Fees and Finance at the University of Huddersfield

Everything you need to know about fees, finance and scholarships at the University of Huddersfield:

hud.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees-and-finance