



EU Student Funding

This information leaflet is for undergraduate and postgraduate students from the countries within the European Union.

The UK left the EU on the 31st January 2020, a formal transition period remains until 31st December 2020. For up to date information on your rights as an EU student please visit <https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/>

EU, non-EU EEA nationals and Swiss citizens and their eligible family members can still come to the UK until the end of the transitional/ implementation period without a visa. If you wish to remain in the UK after the transition period, you should apply under the EU settlement scheme. If your course starts after August 1st 2021 you will need to have settled or pre-settled status before applying for student finance.

Tuitions Fees – Undergraduates

All students from the EU can apply to Student Finance for a Tuition Fee Loan to cover the cost of course fees. This is up to £9,250 per year.

To be eligible for this loan you need to:

- Have been living in the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland for at least 3 years before the start of your course
- Be an EU National or a family member of an EU National
- Not already hold an equivalent or higher level degree

To apply for the Tuition Fee loan you need to fill in a EU17N form from www.gov.uk/studentfinance. If you are new applicant then you also need to send an identification document, e.g. Passport or ID Card, with your form. Your tuitions fee loan will be paid directly from Student Finance to the University.

Maintenance loan (help with living costs) - Undergraduates

In addition to a tuition fee loan, you may also be eligible to claim a maintenance loan, if one of the following is true:

- You have been living in the UK for the past 5 years (for example, if your course begins on 20th September 2020, you must have lived in the UK since 20th September 2015 AND are ordinarily resident in the UK AND didn't move the UK for the purpose of education;
- You are a migrant worker, or a family member of a migrant worker from an EEA country or Switzerland, have been living in the UK on the first day of your course and been living in the EEA or Switzerland for 3 years before your course starts;
- Are a child of a Swiss national who is living in the UK on the first day of your course;
- Are a child of a Turkish worker who usually lives and works in the UK, been living in the EEA or Switzerland for three years before your course starts and be living in the UK on the first day of your course.

If you're eligible, apply for Student Finance as though you were a UK national. You can apply online, or use the PN1 form for new students and the PR1 form for continuing students. If you're an Undergraduate student from an EU country, and are eligible for a maintenance loan under long-term residency rules or as a migrant worker (see above), you may also be eligible for additional support from Student Finance England, if you have children, childcare costs, an adult dependent or a disability.

Student Finance – Postgraduate

Students from the European Union can apply for the Postgraduate Loan to help cover the costs of a Masters degree. Student Finance offers up to £11,222 for the length of your course. Student Finance will loan you the money directly and you must budget for how you distribute the funds (course fees, accommodation, bills etc.)

To be eligible you need to have been:



- Living in the UK on the first day of the first academic year your course;
- Normally have been living in EEA or Switzerland for 3 years before the start of your course;
- Not already have an Masters degree or equivalent or higher level qualification;
- Be aged under 60.

You might also be able to get the Postgraduate Loan if you are a child of a Swiss national, child or relative of a Turkish Worker, a refugee or relative of one, a migrant worker from the EEA or Switzerland or a relative of one, or be over 18 and spent at least half your life in the UK.

Welfare Benefits

To be eligible for benefits you need to have the right to reside in the UK. You have the right to reside as a national from the EEA or Switzerland and be enrolled at a recognised educational establishment. You must have been present in GB for not less than 104 weeks in the last 156 weeks (2 out of the past 3 years). You will also need to apply for the EU resettlement scheme.

For a means tested benefits, such as, Universal Credit you must not be subject to immigration control. Most students are not eligible for Universal Credit, but if you receive PIP, have a child or are unable to work due to a disability or long-term health condition, you may be eligible.

For more information about benefits and rights to access them please speak to an money advisor.

Other Financial Support

- Reading University Student Support Fund: Available to all students who are struggling with unexpected financial hardship during their course. You would need to prove why you are in hardship and show what steps you have taken to find a solution.
- Henley Business School Hardship Fund: Hardship Fund for students within the Henley Business School.
- RREF Hardship Fund: Hardship Fund for students doing a course at the Real Estates school.
- Reading Bursary: If your household's gross annual income is assessed (by SFE) as being less than the equivalent of £27,000, you may be eligible for the Reading Bursary: a £1100 grant paid in two instalments (October and February). In order to apply you will need to have your household income assessed by Student Finance England

RUSU Advice

If you have further questions or would like specific advice, please get in touch with the RUSU Advice Service. The specialist Advisers offer a confidential service, independent from the University so they can discuss your case with you in private.

Contact us by email at advice@rusu.co.uk or complete an online client form at www.rusu.co.uk/getadvice.