

Student Finance for 2019/20

University of Birmingham
Aimhigher

Teachers & Advisers Conference

July 2019

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SESSION CONTENT

- Understanding the Student
- SFE Student Finance AY 19/20 Policy Overview
- Applications & Assessments
- Repayment
- SFE Resources

UNDERSTAND THE STUDENT

Handling around 1.8 million applications each year, from an increasingly diverse student population, it's vital that we understand and appreciate that one size does not fit all in relation to the information they require:

At a base level, some common examples of the audience we reach includes;

- Students applying for core finance products
- EU Students, Migrant Workers, Rest of the World residency status
- Refugees & other categories such as Stateless or Section 67 Leave
- Independent Students, Estranged Students and Care Leavers

Regardless of which category the student may fall into, we want to ensure they all get the messages they need to make informed decisions regarding student finance and submit on time applications

UNDERSTAND THE STUDENT

Aside from the categories of students identified through our applications, we know every HEP has their own recruitment plans and government mandated target groups to consider, such as those identified by the OfS as **underrepresented**:

OfS Access and Participation Plan guidance 2019-20 *‘As a minimum, you should focus on gaps in access, success and progression in relation to’...*

- Students from areas of low HE participation, low household income and/or low socioeconomic status backgrounds
- Students of particular ethnicities
- Students in specific categories (Mature Students, Disabled Students and Care Leavers)

Given the shared end goal, it is important we understand the invaluable work you do and how we can best supplement or support this...

MESSAGE DELIVERY:

Right message, right time, right support

- How can we make messages 'land' for emerging target groups, e.g. BAME, white working class etc?
- Do traditional methods still work & what extent does student finance feature in your activities?
- Should more information/resources be aimed at pre year 12 pupils?
- Who are the influencers? – Friends, parents, family, school/college support staff, the media?
- Terminology and language – Is calling a loan a loan and a debt a debt appropriate?

STUDENT FINANCE UPDATES

AY 2019/20

POLICY OVERVIEW

All information subject to final policy approval

sfe

STUDENT FINANCE 2019/20

SFE POLICY CHANGES AND ENHANCEMENTS

Some of the key SFE policy messages for academic year 2019/20 include;

- Maximum tuition fee caps maintained at AY 2018/19 levels*
- New policy for accelerated degree tuition fee levels**
- Inflation linked increase to Maintenance and Supplementary support
- Enhancements to payments and assessments of Dependents Grants
- ICR Plan 2 loan repayment threshold increase



*Full-time **£9,250**, part-time **£6,935** **Up to **£11,100** at Approved (Fee Cap) Providers with TEF award and OfS Access Plan

STUDENT FINANCE 19/20

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY – RESIDENCY

Students need to meet certain residency criteria in order to be eligible for financial support from SFE:

- Have settled status – Can live in the UK without any Home Office restriction
- Be ordinarily resident in England on the first day of the first academic year of their course
- Been living in the UK for the three years immediately prior to this date
- Support available to you might vary if you are an EU student or hold a status such as refugee or EEA migrant worker
- You can call SFE on **0300 100 0607** if you are unsure

STUDENT FINANCE ELIGIBILITY

EU NATIONALS AND STUDENT FINANCE IN ENGLAND

Chris Skidmore, the Universities Minister announced on 28th May 2019 that EU students starting university in AY 2020/21 **will have guaranteed** home fee status and financial support for the duration of courses in England:

- EU nationals who start a higher education course in England in AY 20/21 will remain eligible for undergraduate and postgraduate financial support and Advanced Learner Loans
- This is the case whether a deal for leaving the EU is in place or not
- www.gov.uk/government/news/eu-student-funding-continued-for-202021
- This announcement follows the existing commitment on student finance for EU nationals starting courses in England in AY 19/20 or earlier



At the time of comment, over 37,000 EU students had applied for full-time undergraduate courses in England for AY 19/20

MAINTENANCE LOANS

KEY MESSAGES

Full Year Student	Non-Income Assessed	Income Assessed	Maximum Loan
	<i>Available to Everyone...</i>	<i>? Based on Parental Income</i>	
Parental Home	3,314	4,215	7,529
Elsewhere	4,168	4,776	8,944
London	5,812	5,860	11,672

HOW ARE MAINTENANCE LOANS PAID?

Household Income	Home (£58,215)	Elsewhere (62,212)	London (£69,888)
£25,000 & under	£7,529	£8,944	£11,672
£30,000	£6,895	£8,303	£11,020
£35,000	£6,260	£7,661	£10,367
£40,000	£5,626	£7,019	£9,714
£45,000	£4,991	£6,377	£9,062
£50,000	£4,357	£5,735	£8,409
£55,000	£3,722	£5,093	£7,756
£60,000	£3,314	£4,452	£7,103
£65,000	£3,314	£4,168	£6,451
£70,000	£3,314	£4,168	£5,812

Maximum Support Available – Parents Income below the £25,000 so will get Maximum

Non Means Tested Loan Only – Parents Income too high to get Means Tested Support

EXTRA SUPPORT

SOURCES OF EXTRA HELP FOR STUDENTS

There may also be extra help available for students who;

- Have a disability, long-term health condition, mental-health condition or specific learning difficulty
- Have children or adult dependants
- Study overseas as part of their UK based course
- For details of all these forms of support see: www.gov.uk/studentfinance

Many universities and colleges also offer students bursaries and scholarships:

- These depend on things like your academic results, the course you choose, household income, or even if you are good at sport, art or music etc..

STUDENT FINANCE 2019/20

INDEPENDENT STUDENT STATUS

A student can be assessed as being independent if they:

- Are 25 or over before the start of the academic year
- Are married/in a civil partnership/divorced (even if under 25)
- Have care of a child
- Have no living parents
- Are irreconcilably estranged from their parents
- **Have been the subject of a care order (Care Leavers)**
- Cannot trace their parents or it is not practical or possible to contact them
- Have supported themselves financially for at least three years

CHARITIES & OTHER SUPPORT

- Stand Alone
- PROPEL
- The Become Trust
- Brightside
- NNECL
- The Care Leaver Associations

- Student Finance _All Domiciles

<http://standalone.org.uk/>

<http://propel.org.uk>

<http://www.becomecharity.org.uk>

<http://www.thebrightsidetrust.org>

<http://www.nnecl.org>

<http://www.careleavers.com>

<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk>

**Estrangement - Estrangement assessors -
Darlington Based**

E: Estranged@slc.co.uk

Tel: **0300 100 0034**

**Independent Enquiries Inbox - Darlington
Based**

E: Independent_student_enquiries@slc.co.uk

STUDENT FINANCE 2019/20

SFE DEPENDANTS GRANTS – PAYMENT AND ASSESSEMENT

Both the DfE and SLC have reviewed the current CCG application process and identified that changes must be made to combat fraud and improve the 'customer' journey:

- From AY 19/20, CCG payments will change from being paid directly to students based on estimated costs to being paid to the CCPs via a third party system and based on actual costs incurred
- DfE have confirmed that a separate income assessment for each GFD product will be introduced to replace the existing combined calculation method
- Thereby facilitating the new process and simplifying the policy



CCG – Childcare Grant
CCP – Childcare Provider

STUDENT FINANCE 2019/20

SFE DEPENDANTS GRANTS – PAYMENT AND ASSESSEMENT

GFD Income Assessments AY 19/20	PLA	ADG	CCG	
			1 Child*	2+ Children**
Maximum entitlement	£1,716	£3,007	£8,804.12	£15,094.04
Minimum payable	£50	£0.01	£0.01	£0.01
Lower income threshold for maximum grant	£14,910	£8,746	£9,727	£11,118
Upper income threshold for minimum grant	£18,342	£14,760	£18,531.12	£26,212.04



*Weekly maximum amount for one child is **£169.31**

Weekly maximum amount for two or more children is **£290.27

SECTION 2

HOW DO YOU GET IT?

APPLICATIONS & ASSESSMENT

STUDENT FINANCE APPLICATIONS

KEY MESSAGE – APPLY EARLY!

We have received 817,601 full time applications for 2019/20 so far – don't leave it too late

- **Students** don't need a confirmed place at university or college to apply. Online at www.gov.uk
- Get an application in – you can change any details later if needed
- Do not include your income – we don't include your part time work in our assessments
- **Your Parents**, we will use income for Tax Year ending April 2018. We will go directly to HMRC to confirm this income, so you don't need to send anything through the post
- Read, **understand and agree** to the loan **Terms and Conditions**

STUDENT FINANCE APPLICATIONS

WHOSE INCOME DO WE USE?

PARENTS

- Income of the parent(s) you live with – including any new partner that lives with parents (e.g. step-parents)

PARTNER / SPOUSE

- If you are married / or have been married
- Aged +25 and living with partner

INDEPENDENT

- Aged +25
- Have a child
- Self Supported yourself for 3 years
- Care Leaver
- Estranged from Parents estranged@slc.co.uk /
- Some less common other reasons

STUDENT FINANCE APPLICATIONS

FOR MORE INFORMATION & RESOURCES



The Student Room
www.thestudentroom.co.uk/studentfinance

Facebook
www.facebook.com/SFEngland

Twitter
www.twitter.com/SF_England

UCAS
www.ucas.com/sfe

YouTube
www.youtube.com/SFEFILM

SECTION 3

STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENTS

STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENTS

AN OVERVIEW

You won't make repayments until your future income is over **£25,725** a year (gross) or the weekly (£494) or monthly (£2,143) equivalent:

- If you study full-time, you will be due to start repaying in the April after completing or leaving/withdrawing from your course*
- You'll repay 9% of any income earned over £25,725 and if employed, deductions will be made from your pay through the HMRC tax system
- If your income falls to £25,725 or below your repayments will stop
- You must tell the Student Loans Company if your circumstances change, e.g. if you are travelling or moving overseas you need to complete their Overseas Income Assessment Form, as this may affect your repayments.



*Any outstanding loan balance will be written off 30 years after entering repayment

STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENTS

THE FIGURES (BASED ON THRESHOLD OF £25,725 A YEAR)

Income each year before tax	9% will be deducted from	Monthly repayment (Approx)
£25,725	£0	£0
£30,000	£4,275	£32
£40,000	£14,275	£107
£50,000	£24,275	£182
£60,000	£34,275	£257



Income
£28,000

9% Deducted
from?



Monthly
repayment?



Interest is applied to your loan at a maximum rate of RPI +3%
More info can be found on www.slc.co.uk/repayment

STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENTS

THE INTEREST – FULL TIME

Interest levels will depend on a students income and circumstances:

£ During study until entering repayment

% Interest Rate:
Retail Price Index +3%

£ Income:
Under **£25,725**

% Interest Rate:
RPI Only

£ Income:
£25,725 to £46,305

% Interest Rate:
RPI + up to 3%

£ Income:
Over **£46,305**

% Interest Rate:
RPI +3%



The interest rate is updated once a year using the RPI figure from March (currently 3.3%) which is carried forward and applied in September

SFE RESOURCES

AY 2019/20

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STUDENT FINANCE RESOURCES

WWW.PRACTITIONERS.SLC.CO.UK

Selecting 'SUPPORTING MATERIALS' from the home page directs you to the resource finder, allowing access to individual items or bundles – a range of resources covering a particular topic (incl. ALL & UG / PG student finance):

Search resources by;

- Academic year
- Intended audience
- Subject
- Resource type

Supporting materials

We've created a range of supporting materials to help you explain and promote our products and services to students, parents and partners at all stages of their student finance journey.

- Factsheets**
Our factsheets are written for you, to help you deliver accurate and up-to-date information to your students.
- Quick Guides**
Our quick guides highlight essential information for students and their family members. Our quick guides are often available earlier than the main guides, delivering key facts as soon as we're able.
- Main Guides**
Our main guides are written for students and their family members. Main guides often contain more detailed and specific information than our quick guides.
- Films**
Our series of Student Finance Explained films will help you advise students on the financial help available while at university or college. Students can get finance to pay for tuition fees and living costs.
- Bundles**
Our bundles gather together supporting materials on a similar subject or theme. Available as a single download, bundles will save you the time and effort of searching for individual supporting materials.
- Presentations**
Some of our presentations have been created to be used by you as a reference and educational tool; others for you to share with your students.

Academic year

- ☐ 2019/20
- ☐ 2018/19
- ☐ 2017/18

Level of study

- ☐ Further Education
- ☐ Undergraduate full-time
- ☐ Undergraduate part-time
- ☐ Postgraduate

Intended audience

- ☐ Practitioner
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Parent or partner

Subject

- ☐ Core student finance
- ☐ Childcare and Dependents'

Grants

- ☐ Disabled Students' Allowances
- ☐ EU students
- ☐ Loan repayment
- ☐ Other

Resource type

- ☐ Factsheet
- ☐ Quick guide
- ☐ Main guide
- ☐ Film
- ☐ Bundle

SFE STUDENT RESOURCES

INTERACTIVE QUICK START FINANCE GUIDE

The SFE [Interactive Quick Start Finance Guide](http://media.slc.co.uk/sfe/quickstartfinanceguide/index.html) allows students and parents to access essential student finance and repayment information in one place:



The banner features the SFE logo (student finance england) on the left. To its right, a blue box contains the text 'QUICK START FINANCE GUIDE' in white, and below it, another blue box contains 'TAKING YOU STEP BY STEP THROUGH YOUR STUDENT FINANCE JOURNEY' in white. Below these boxes is a row of six images: a person wearing headphones, a man with sunglasses, a woman in a graduation cap, a woman holding a camera, a man looking to the side, and a woman wearing a face mask. Under each image is a text label: 'KEY FACTS AND FIGURES', 'HOW TO APPLY', 'DEPENDANTS' GRANTS', 'DISABLED STUDENTS' ALLOWANCES', 'STUDENT FINANCE EXPLAINED FOR PARENTS', and 'WHAT, WHEN AND HOW TO REPAY'.

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student finance england

QUICK START FINANCE GUIDE

TAKING YOU STEP BY STEP THROUGH YOUR STUDENT FINANCE JOURNEY

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES HOW TO APPLY DEPENDANTS' GRANTS DISABLED STUDENTS' ALLOWANCES STUDENT FINANCE EXPLAINED FOR PARENTS WHAT, WHEN AND HOW TO REPAY



<http://media.slc.co.uk/sfe/quickstartfinanceguide/index.html>

SFE RESOURCES

GOV.UK - SFE CAMPAIGN PAGE

The SFE campaign page on GOV.UK is regularly updated with timely detail on essential aspects of student finance:

Campaign examples include;

- Applications
- Payments
- Withdrawals
- Parents – Supporting an Application

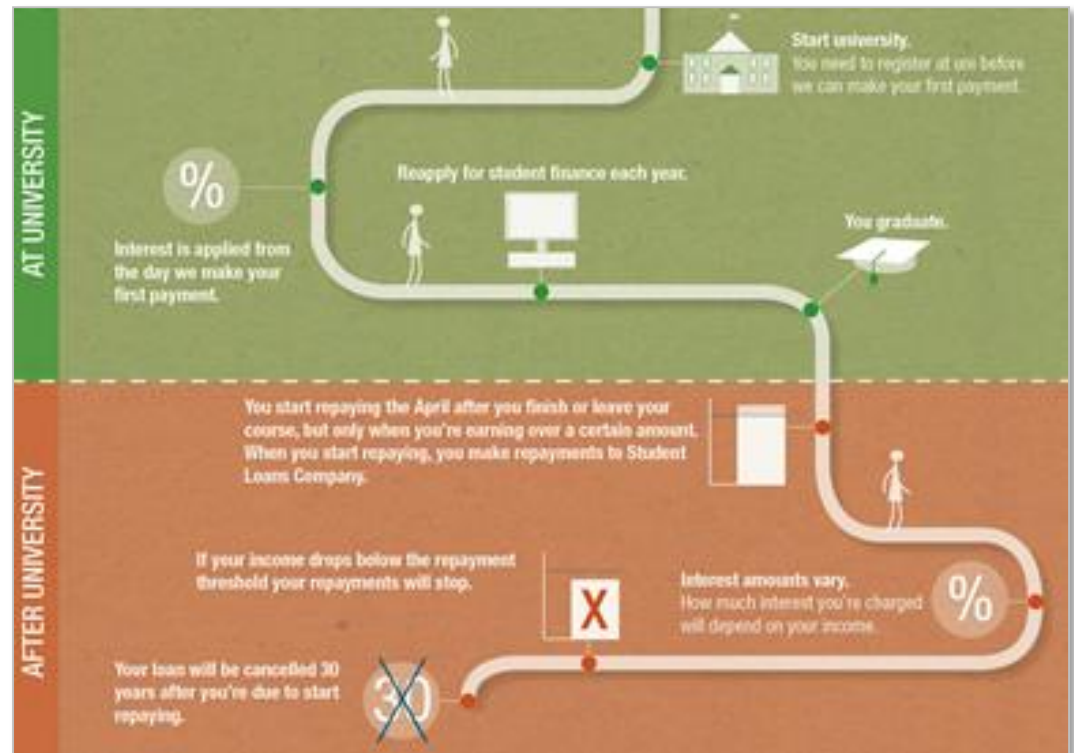
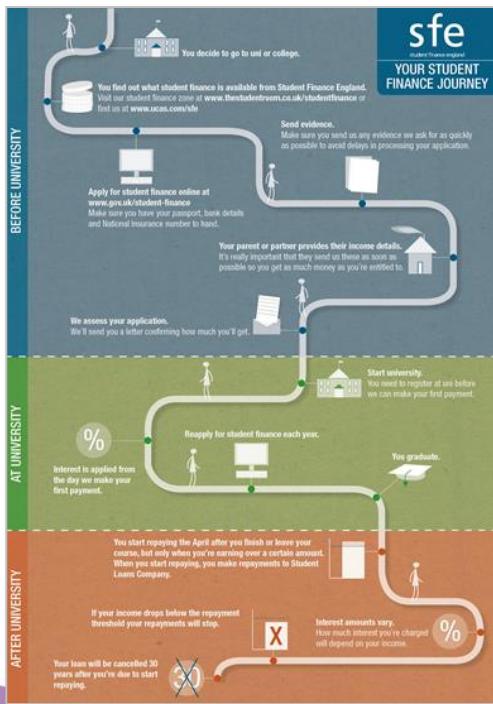


<https://studentfinance.campaign.gov.uk>.

STUDENT FINANCE RESOURCES

SFE AY 2019/20 STUDENT RESOURCES

Applying to uni can seem complex, so we've created **an infographic** for you to share with your students to break down the entire student finance journey from finding out what's available to loan repayment



YOUR VIEWS MATTER!

ONLINE PRACTITIONER FEEDBACK SURVEY

As a valued partner, your opinions on the effectiveness of the engagements and service we deliver are always welcomed and appreciated:

Please take a few minutes and complete our online survey to...

- Review events attended

And give your suggestions for...

- Content for future events
- New/enhanced resources

The screenshot shows the top part of the SLC online survey. It features the SLC logo (a tree icon and the letters 'SLC' in a green box) and the text 'Student Loans Company'. Below this is a progress bar labeled 'YOUR PROGRESS' which is partially filled. The main question is 'Which Funding Information Partners Account Manager facilitated your event?' followed by the instruction 'Please select one response only:'. Below the instruction is a list of names with radio button options: Ahmar Ehsan, Ben Rutter, Charmaine Valente, Jon Legg, Kevin McMullan, Phil Lynes, and 'Other, please specify' with a text input field.

The screenshot shows the assessment part of the SLC online survey. It features the SLC logo and the text 'Student Loans Company'. Below this is a progress bar labeled 'YOUR PROGRESS' which is partially filled. The main heading is 'Your assessment of the event'. Below this is the question 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the statements below?' followed by the instruction 'On a scale of 1 (Strongly agree) to 5 (Strongly disagree)'. Below the instruction is a table with 6 rows of statements and 7 columns of response options (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, N/A). The table is partially filled with radio buttons. At the bottom right of the table are 'Previous' and 'Next' buttons.

	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The training met all of the learning outcomes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I now feel more informed about the subject area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The delivery method was effective	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I regularly use and refer to the resources on the Practitioner Website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I regularly use and refer to the resources on the Repayment Website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



A link to the survey can be found on the FI Account Managers page of our Practitioners website: www.practitioners.slc.co.uk

To discuss potential staff update sessions, event support, student finance policy matters or just to register for our updates, please get in touch:

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