

# Tuition Fee Loan application notes



for new part-time students **2025/26**

## About these notes

These notes should be read along with your Tuition Fee Loan application form.

The notes are split into three parts:

- Part 1 - General information
- Part 2 - Notes on how to complete your application form
- Part 3 - Next steps in your student finance journey

## Part 1 - General information

### Completing your form

#### Timescale for returning your form

This form should be returned within 9 months of the start of your academic year, otherwise you may lose your entitlement to student finance.

#### Send your completed form to:

**Student Finance England**

**PO Box 210**

**Darlington**

**DL1 9HJ**

**Make sure you pay the correct postage.**

### Find out more

#### Further questions?

- speak to your university or college
- visit **[www.gov.uk/studentfinance](https://www.gov.uk/studentfinance)**

- call us on **0300 100 0607**

### Other information

#### Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)

If you have a disability, long-term health condition, mental health condition or specific learning difficulty, such as dyslexia or dyspraxia, you may be able to get extra help called Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA). DSA can help with the extra costs you may have in relation to your course. This can include special equipment, a non-medical helper or special travel arrangements.

For more information download the DSA guide and form at **[www.gov.uk/studentfinance](https://www.gov.uk/studentfinance)**

#### Braille/other formats

You can order forms and guides in Braille, large print or audio by emailing your name, address and Customer Reference Number along with what form and format you require to:

**[brailleandlargefonts@slc.co.uk](mailto:brailleandlargefonts@slc.co.uk)** or you can call us on **0141 243 3686**.

Please note, the above email address and telephone number can only deal with requests for alternative formats of forms and guides.

# Part 2 - Notes on how to complete your application form

Complete all information. If any information is missing or unclear we may not be able to process your application and you won't receive any funding.

## 1 Completing your form

### 1.1 Customer Reference Number



Your Customer Reference Number is your personal reference number and is 11 digits long. You'll have one of these if you've previously had a student loan or any other student finance from the Student Loans Company Ltd (SLC). You may also have one if you've given financial information for another student's application. If you don't have one, or don't know what your Customer Reference Number is, leave this blank.

### 1.2 Personal details



Evidence we need you to give:

- Change of name deed, if appropriate.
- Marriage/divorce certificate, if appropriate.
- Civil partnership/dissolution order, if appropriate.
- A final or conditional order, if appropriate.

### 1.3 National Insurance number



If you don't provide your National Insurance number, payment of your loan(s) will be withheld and you'll have to fund your own tuition fees until you have resolved this.

You'll find your National Insurance number on any of the following:

- Your National Insurance number card or letter.
- A payslip.
- An Income Tax document such as a P45 or P60.

If you've never been given a National Insurance number, leave the National Insurance number box blank. We'll contact you if you need to take any action to obtain a National Insurance number.

**1.4 Identity evidence**

If you've given your valid UK passport details you don't have to send any other evidence to confirm your identity.

**e**

If you don't have a valid UK passport you can send us a photocopy of your UK birth or adoption certificate.

If you're a non-UK national, we'll ask you for some identity information at section 3.

## 1.6 & Armed Forces 1.7

**n**

You may be eligible for support to study a distance learning course outside of England if you or your family member (who you live with) is currently serving outside England in one of the following:

- The Naval Service (Royal Navy and Royal Marines)
- The Army
- The Royal Air Force
- The Royal Military Police
- The Gurkhas

The following family members will be eligible students:

- A spouse or civil partner living with a member of the UK Armed Forces serving outside England
- A child, step-child or adoptive child living with a member of the UK Armed Forces serving outside England
- A dependant parent living with either;
  - A child who is a member of the UK Armed Forces serving outside England
  - The child's spouse or civil partner who is a member of the UK Armed Forces serving outside England.

**e**

### **If you are in the Armed Forces**

You need to send a letter confirming your name, your address (or BFPO address) and which country you were ordinarily resident in before you were based at your current location. It must also confirm if you're currently based overseas or in the UK but outside England.

### **If your family member is in the Armed Forces, you need to send a letter confirming the following:**

- their name
- their address (or BFPO address)
- your name
- their relationship to you
- if they're currently based overseas or in the UK but outside England
- if you have been ordinarily resident in the UK, which country they were ordinarily resident in before they were based at their current location
- if you've never been ordinarily resident in the UK, which country they signed up for the Armed Forces in

The letter you send must be signed, stamped and dated by the Armed Forces Unit Records Office.

## 2 Previous support and qualification history

### 2.3 Undergraduate or postgraduate courses

**n**

This includes any undergraduate or postgraduate course you've attended whether it was in the UK or overseas. Examples of undergraduate higher education courses you should tell us about include:

- DipHE, Cert HE, HNC, HND and Foundation Degree, and similar courses from outside the UK.
- Integrated Masters Degrees.
- PgDip, MA, MSc, MBA or equivalents.

If you're unsure of the level of your existing qualification, contact the university or college where you completed the course, they may be able to help.

### 2.7 Previous applications for funding

**n**

Mention any course where you were eligible to apply for funding from Student Finance England, Student Finance Wales or Student Finance Northern Ireland even if:

- you didn't receive any funding, or
- you chose not to take the funding available.

## 3 Residence

### 3.1 Where do you normally live when you're not studying?

**n**

If you have a British Forces Post Office address, you should give this. We use this address to make sure you're completing the correct student finance application.

### 3.2 UK national

**n**

#### Armed Forces

If you're not ordinarily resident in England due to you or your parents being armed forces personnel, you can still apply to Student Finance England if enlistment to the armed forces occurred while living in England.

**e**

Evidence we need you to give:

- Photocopy of birth or adoption certificate.

### 3.3 EU national

**e**

You need to give us some details about your identity and residency at question **b1**.

## 3 Residence - continued

### 3.4 Child of a Swiss national

**n**

To get student finance as the child of a Swiss national, your Swiss national parent must be living/have lived in the UK on the first day of the academic year. Go to the residency history section on page 10 for more notes and to find out when your academic year starts.

**e**

To get student finance as the child of a Swiss national, your Swiss national parent must be resident in the UK on the first day of the academic year. We need a signed letter from your Swiss national parent stating their UK address, and that they live there on the first day of the academic year. They must also send one of the following documents:

- Bank statement
- Payslip (showing home address)
- Tenancy Agreement/Mortgage Statement
- Recent utility bill
- Local Authority correspondence
- Government Department correspondence

You need to give us some details about you and your family member's identity and residency at question **b2**.

### 3.5 European Economic Area (EEA) national

**n**

If your child, son or daughter-in-law or child's civil partner is the worker you must be dependent on them. For children of EEA workers the term 'child' means a person 'under the age of 21; or dependants of the person or the person's spouse or civil partner.' This does not apply in cases where the EEA worker parent has died or left the UK and the child is staying on in the UK to finish their education.

#### European Economic Area (EEA) or Swiss national

**Employment of the EEA or Swiss national who is working, has worked or is looking for work in the UK**

**e**

Send one of the following:

- A P60 or a letter from employer if currently working.
- Audited accounts, tax returns or details of income if self-employed.
- A letter from employer confirming the intention to continue working whilst studying.
- P45, P60 or letter from previous employer if currently looking for work or previously worked in the UK.

#### **If you were granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about your identity and residency at question **b1**.

#### **If your family member was granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about you and your family member's identity and residency at question **b2**.

## 3 Residence - continued

### 3.6 Child of a Turkish worker

**n**

To get student finance as the child of a Turkish Worker, your Turkish parent must be working in the UK on the first day of your course.

**e**

You must also send us your birth certificate or equivalent.

As proof of your parent's employment in the UK, you must send their contract of employment.

You must also send the Home Office letter confirming your parent has extended leave to remain in the UK after 31 December 2020.

You need to give us some details about you and your family member's identity and residency at question **b2**.

### 3.7 Settled Status

**n**

'Settled status' means that you can live in the UK permanently without the Home Office placing any restrictions on how long you may remain.

You are free from any restriction if any of the following apply:

- You are a British citizen.
- You have a right of 'permanent residence' in the UK.
- You have been granted 'Indefinite Leave to Enter or Remain'.
- You have a right of abode in the UK.

Further information about the right of permanent residence and other immigration issues can be obtained from the Home Office.

You need to give us some details about your identity and residency at question **b1**.

## 3 Residence - continued

### 3.8 Refugee Status

**e**

You need to send evidence of your relationship to the person who holds the status if it is not you.

If you are claiming student finance as the child or step-child of someone who has been granted this status, you will only be considered a 'child' if you were under the age of 18 at the time of your parent's application to the Home Office.

If you are claiming student finance as the husband, wife or civil partner of someone who has been granted this status, you must have been their husband, wife or civil partner at the time of their application.

#### **Expiry date**

If you or your:

- husband, wife, civil partner; or
- parent(s), step-parent

were granted this status without an expiry date you should mark the expiry date box as N/A (not applicable).

#### **If you were granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about your identity and residency at question **b3**.

#### **If your family member was granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about you and your family member's identity and residency at question **b4**.

### 3.9 Humanitarian Protection

**n**

You need to send evidence of your relationship to the person who holds the status if it is not you.

If you are claiming student finance as the child or step-child of someone who has been granted this status, you will only be considered a 'child' if you were under the age of 18 at the time of your parent's application to the Home Office.

If you are claiming student finance as the husband, wife or civil partner of someone who has been granted this status, you must have been their husband, wife or civil partner at the time of their application.

#### **Expiry date**

If you or your:

- husband, wife, civil partner; or
- parent(s), step-parent

were granted this status without an expiry date you should mark the expiry date box as N/A (not applicable).

#### **If you were granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about your identity and residency at question **b3**.

#### **If your family member was granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about you and your family member's identity and residency at question **b4**.



## 3 Residence - continued

### 3.10 Stateless Person

**e**

You need to send evidence of your relationship to the person who holds the status if it is not you.

If you are claiming student finance as the child or step-child of someone who has been granted this status, you will only be considered a 'child' if you were under the age of 18 at the time of your parent's application to the Home Office.

If you are claiming student finance as the husband, wife or civil partner of someone who has been granted this status, you must have been their husband, wife or civil partner at the time of their application.

#### **Expiry date**

If you or your:

- husband, wife, civil partner; or
- parent(s), step-parent

were granted this status without an expiry date you should mark the expiry date box as N/A (not applicable).

#### **If you were granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about your identity and residency at question **b3**.

#### **If your family member was granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about you and your family member's identity and residency at question **b4**.

**3.11 Indefinite Leave to enter or remain in the UK as the victim of domestic violence or abuse**

**n**

You need to send evidence of your relationship to the person who holds the status if it is not you.

If you are claiming student finance as the child or step-child of someone who has been granted this status, you will only be considered a 'child' if you were under the age of 18 at the time of your parent's application to the Home Office.

If you are claiming student finance as the husband, wife or civil partner of someone who has been granted this status, you must have been their husband, wife or civil partner at the time of their application.

**Expiry date**

If you or your:

- husband, wife, civil partner; or
- parent(s), step-parent
- were granted this status without an expiry date you should mark the expiry date box as N/A (not applicable).

**If you were granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about your identity and residency at question **b3**.

**If your family member was granted this leave**

You need to give us some details about you and your family member's identity and residency at question **b4**.

## 3 Residence - continued

### 3.12, 3.13, & 3.14 Long residency ruling



You must have been living in the UK and Islands legally for the three years prior to the first day of the first academic year of your course.

You must have held a form of leave to remain in the UK issued by the Home Office during that time. This will usually be limited leave to remain or discretionary leave to remain, but other types of leave are also acceptable.

If you had more than one type of leave to remain during the 3 years before the start of the first academic year of your course, you must have applied for the second type of leave before the last one expired.

You must be living in England on the first day of the first academic year of your course.

If you're under 18 on the first day of their course, you must have lived in the UK for at least 7 years.

If you're 18 or above on the first day of your course, you must have been living in the UK for at least half of your life, or 20 years, whichever is less.

If your leave to remain in the UK expires while you're studying, we'll ask you to send us documents to show that you have a new form of leave.

If you've had more than one type of leave to remain in the 3 years before the first day of the first academic year of your course, you need to send a Home Office letter and an immigration status document for both types of leave.

### 3.14 Residence history



Academic years begin in the autumn, winter, spring and summer, and last for 12 months. Use this table to work out when your academic year begins.

Date study begins between	Date academic year begins
1 August - 31 December inclusive	1 September
1 January - 31 March inclusive	1 January
1 April - 30 June inclusive	1 April
1 July - 31 July inclusive	1 July

## 3 Residence - continued

### c3 Residency status

#### n

We require this information because your family member's residence history may affect your eligibility for student finance. Make sure this person knows you are giving us their details.

If you were under 18 years old in the three years before the first day of the first academic year of your course, we need this information as we assume that you were resident in the same place as your parents. If they lived or worked outside of:

- the UK and Islands, or
- in the case of an EEA or Swiss national, outside of the UK, Gibraltar, EEA or Switzerland

in the three years before the first day of the first academic year of your course, we'll ask for evidence to show that this was a temporary break in residence.

If you have a spouse or partner, we assume that you have been resident in the same place as them. If they lived or worked outside of:

- the UK and Islands, or
- in the case of an EEA or Swiss national, outside of the UK, Gibraltar, EEA or Switzerland

in the three years before the first day of the first academic year of your course, we'll ask for evidence to show that this was a temporary break in residence.

## 4

## About your university or college and course

### 4.1.1 Course name

**n**

If you started (i) a pre-registration course in nursing, midwifery or an allied health profession (excluding a pre-registration course in dental hygiene, dental therapy or dental hygiene and dental therapy) before 1 August 2017 or (ii) a pre-registration course in dental hygiene, dental therapy or dental hygiene and dental therapy before 1 August 2018, you will not qualify for a tuition fee loan.

You should instead apply to the NHS for support

### 4.8 Tuition Fee amount charged

**n**

If you're not sure how much you're being charged for tuition fees, speak to your university or college to find out.

## 5

## Your loan request

### 5.1 Loan payments

**n**

We'll pay your Tuition Fee Loan directly to your university or college in three instalments within the academic year. The first payment of the Tuition Fee Loan is made after we receive confirmation from your university or college that you are undertaking your course

### Loan liability

**n**

You'll be liable for your Tuition Fee Loan 2 weeks after the first day of term 1, and at the start of terms 2 and 3, not the dates the instalments are paid to your university or college.

Liability point	% of total Tuition Fee Loan that you'll be liable for
Term 1	25%
Term 2	50%
Term 3	100%

### Interest

**n**

Interest is added to your loan balance from the day the first loan payment is made to your university or college. You can find out more about this and the current interest rate at [www.gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan](http://www.gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan)

### Changing your loan amount

**n**

You can change the amount you originally requested at [www.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.gov.uk/studentfinance)

## 6 Terms and Conditions

### Power of Attorney

**n**

If you cannot sign the form it must be signed on your behalf by your attorney. The Power of Attorney letter must be sent with the application before a signature from that attorney will be accepted.

### Privacy Notice

**n**

SLC and the Department for Education are joint Data Controllers under the Data Protection Legislation. We hold information for the purposes specified in our notification to the Information Commissioner including determining eligibility for student finance, assessing the maximum amount of financial support available, payment of student finance and the detection and prevention of fraud, and may use this information for any of these.

For further details about the way your information is used, who is responsible for it and the rights you have in connection with it, please refer to our full Privacy Notice available online at **[www.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.gov.uk/studentfinance)**

If you don't have internet access, please call us on **0300 100 0607** and we can send a copy to you.

## Part 3 - Next steps in your student finance journey

