

Financial support available to Scottish students for the 2016/17 academic year

Audit of higher education in Scottish universities



This supplement accompanies the main report [Audit of higher education in Scottish universities](#). It provides a short guide to the different types of financial support that the Scottish Government makes available to Scottish students, via the Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) and other sources.

Support available per year					
Household income	Eligible to have tuition fees paid by Scottish Government? ¹	Bursaries/grants available on application	Maximum living cost loans available on application	Fee loan available on application	Maximum loan plus bursary
Undergraduate full time²					
Young students (students aged under 25)					
£0 to £18,999	Yes	£1,875	£5,750	Non-means tested fee loan available if studying in the rest of the UK	£7,625
£19,000 to £23,999	Yes	£1,125	£5,750		£6,875
£24,000 to £33,999	Yes	£500	£5,750		£6,250
£34,000 and above	Yes	£0	£4,750		£4,750
Independent students (students aged between 25 and 50, or married or living with a partner, or who have a child who normally lives with them)					
£0 to £18,999	Yes	£875	£6,750	Non-means tested fee loan available if studying in the rest of the UK	£7,625
£19,000 to £23,999	Yes	£0	£6,750		£6,750
£24,000 to £33,999	Yes	£0	£6,250		£6,250
£34,000 and above	Yes	£0	£4,750		£4,750

Cont.

Support available per year					
Household income	Eligible to have tuition fees paid by Scottish Government? ¹	Bursaries/ grants available on application	Maximum living cost loans available on application	Fee loan available on application	Maximum loan plus bursary
Tailored support for:					
Nursing and midwifery students on a four-year honours course (non-income assessed)	Yes	£6,578 in years 1-3, £4,938 in year 4	Not entitled to a living cost loan	No	£6,578
Undergraduate part time					
Less than £25,000	Grant for tuition fees only, paid directly to university. Amount is dependent on the number of course credits.		No	No	£0
More than £25,000	No	No	No	No	£0
Postgraduate full time (Non-income assessed) ³	No	No	£4,500	£3,400 tuition fee loan	£7,900
Postgraduate part time	No	No	No	£1,700 tuition fee loan	£1,700

Additional non-repayable support available from SAAS on application

Dependant's grant (full-time undergraduate students only)	Income-assessed grant to assist with the provision of care for adult dependants only. Up to £2,640 per student.
Lone parent's grant (full-time undergraduate students only)	Income-assessed grant to assist lone parents with the provision of care for their child. Up to £1,305 per student.
	For those studying at least 60 credits in a year.
Disabled student's allowance (non-income assessed, available to all students)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to £20,520 a year for Non-Medical Personal Help (NMPH) • Up to £5,160 for major items of specialist equipment (this is a total amount for the course) • Travel expenses if they have a mobility problem and are not able to use any type of public transport.
Vacation grant for care leavers	If the student was previously in care, a grant of up to £105 per week is available to help with accommodation costs during the summer.

Additional non-repayable support available from universities and education endowments

Discretionary Fund	Full-time students must be taking out the maximum student loan to be eligible. All students may apply for financial help, but payments are made at the discretion of universities and are based on an assessment of need.
Discretionary Childcare Fund	Must be taking out the maximum student loan to be eligible. Payments are made at the discretion of universities and are based on an assessment of need.
University bursaries and scholarships	Eligibility criteria is set by each university.
Education Endowments	There are a number of educational trusts and charities in Scotland that offer bursaries. Eligibility often depends on the student's country of origin and financial circumstances.

Notes: Information is for Scottish students studying in Scotland. EU students are eligible for SAAS to pay their tuition fees if the student is an EU national (or is the family member of an EU national), has been ordinarily resident in a member state of the EU for three years and is taking a full-time course in Scotland.

1. Tuition fees are £1,820 for first degree or PGDE (postgraduate diploma in education) courses. Fees are paid directly to the institution the student attends.

2. 'Undergraduate' eligibility also includes PGDE, HNC, HND, degree and nursing and midwifery diploma and degrees. Students are only entitled to loan support if they are under 50 or aged 50 to 54 and plan to return to employment after completing the course.

3. Postgraduate courses not eligible for funding are as follows: courses below the Scottish Credit Qualification Framework (SCQF) level 11, courses outside the UK, postgraduate masters courses, PhDs, two year full-time diploma courses (except the two year diploma in educational psychology), diploma courses outwith Scotland where a similar course exists in Scotland, and intercalated postgraduate courses taken as part of an undergraduate or graduate entry medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine course.

Source: Audit Scotland using *Funding guide 2016-17*, SAAS, 2016 and the SAAS website



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