Student Money and Accommodation Advice

NHS Learning Support Fund: Nursing, Midwifery 23-24

NHS Learning Support Fund was introduced in September 2020 and is available for pre-registration undergraduate or postgraduate courses in Nursing and Midwifery. It is a non-taxable, non-means-tested and non-repayable grant package.

**The NHS LSF offers:**

* Training Grant of £5,000 per year
* Parental Support of £2,000 per year for students with a dependent child/children
* Special Subject Payment of £1,000 per year for Mental Health Nursing and Learning Disability Nursing courses (please note Mental Health Nursing and Learning Disability Nursing courses are not currently offered by London Met)
* Travel and Dual Accommodation Expenses – reimbursement of excess costs incurred on practice placement
* Exceptional Support Fund – up to £3,000 per year for students experiencing financial hardship

For further information please see: [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-learning-support-fund-lsf](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-learning-support-fund-lsf)

**NHS LSF Funding Entitlement**

Both undergraduate and postgraduate diploma nursing courses attract statutory undergraduate funding. To receive the NHS LSF Support Package, you need to be eligible for tuition fees and maintenance support from the Student Loans Company, either through Student Finance England (SFE) or the relevant funding bodies for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, by fulfilling the requirements set by the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2011 and its amendments. The qualifying criteria can be found here: [www.gov.uk/student-finance/who-qualifies](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance/who-qualifies).

European tuition fee only students are not eligible for NHS LSF support.

**Student Finance England (SFE) Funding Package**

Statutory undergraduate funding from the government provides money for tuition fees, living costs and supplementary funding for students with children and dependants. Students can access:

* Non-means-tested Tuition Fee Loan of £9,250
* Means-tested Maintenance Loan of up to £13,022\* (2023/24 rate) which attracts the long courses loan as nursing semesters or terms include placements
* Supplementary funding: Childcare Grant, Adult Dependants’ Grant, Parents’ Learning Allowance

\*This figure may be higher for students who retain an underlying entitlement to welfare benefits.

You can find detailed information as follows about government funding: [www.gov.uk/student-finance/new-fulltime-students](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance/new-fulltime-students)

Usually those who already hold an undergraduate degree are not eligible for further undergraduate funding, however, in the case of Nursing and Midwifery the first degree is disregarded and an applicant is eligible for second degree funding.

SFE allows one extra year of tuition fee funding if a student is required to repeat a year due to academic non-progression. NHS LSF will not fund any repeated academic years except when the reason for the repeat is health-related and evidenced by a medical or mental health professional.

**Benefits**

Most full time students are not eligible for Universal Credit except the following who may still continue to receive this benefit:

* Responsible for a child – one or both of couple may be students
* Live with your partner and they’re eligible for Universal Credit
* Reached [qualifying age for Pension Credit](https://www.gov.uk/state-pension-age) and live with a partner who is under that age
* Disabled, assessed as having limited capability for work before starting course and are getting: Personal Independence Payment (PIP), Disability Living Allowance (DLA), Attendance Allowance, Armed Forces Independence Payment

When reassessing Universal Credit as a result of Student Finance England income, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) should disregard: Adult Dependants’ Grant if you’re not in receipt of Universal Credit for the dependant(s), Parents’ Learning Allowance, Childcare Grant and the Special Support Element of Maintenance Loan. The following components of the NHS LSF Funding package should be disregarded in Universal Credit calculations: £5,000 Grant, £2,000 Parental Support.

The Royal College of Nursing Welfare Service can provide further advice on benefits for students: [Students and Benefits | Understanding Benefits | Welfare Service | Member Support Services | Royal College of Nursing (rcn.org.uk)](https://www.rcn.org.uk/Get-Help/Member-support-services/Welfare-Service/Benefits/Students-and-benefits/Universal-Credit)

**Payment Schedules**

**September Starters**

NHS LSF payments of the training grant and parental support are paid directly in three instalments that alternate with the SFE Maintenance Loan. To be paid NHS LSF, students must be in attendance by 1 November.

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| **Term** | **Loan/grant payment times for September starters** |
| 1 | SFE – September  NHS – Late November |
| 2 | SFE – January  NHS – Late March |
| 3 | SFE – April  NHS – Late July |

**How to apply**

SFE – You should apply for SFE funding as a first step and before the end of May to ensure your funding is in place for September. The application process is online: [www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance)

NHS LSF – To apply you will need to register for an NHS LSF account: <https://services.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhslsf/registration/contact>. You will be required to upload evidence of your SFE funding entitlement when you apply.

As a continuing student, you need to reapply for your funding each academic year.

**How to contact the Student Money and Accommodation Advice team**

Tel – 020 7320 2848

Book an appointment: [Student Services Appointment Booking Form 22/23 (office.com)](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=nO4cPfCLdUO1uVwDFdEYfkqmejgbYWBEugEzEie1FjtUNkJCU0kyT09NNVFSTjdEMjI5Q1hHR1VBTSQlQCN0PWcu)

Email: [studentservices@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:studentservices@londonmet.ac.uk)

Website: [www.londonmet.ac.uk/advice](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/advice)

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