



February Starter Full-time Undergraduates 15/16 Advice, Information & Funding Service (AIFS)

Please note: this information sheet is for students who will start their course in February 2016 and should be read in conjunction with our full-time undergraduate sheet 2015/16.

Important funding information for February starters

1st year students who start their course in February 2016 have an academic year that starts on 1st January 2016 – the academic year as defined in the Education (Student Support Regulations) is the 12 month period beginning 1st January, (1st January to 31st December). During this period students cannot apply for more than the maximum grant and loan amounts for that course in respect of an academic year.

This means that while we expect that you will complete the first set of modules in early August 2016 and then progress to begin the second year of your course at the end of September 2016, the regulations state that you will only receive the second year of your funding 12 months after the original start date. If you apply and are eligible for support this means that you will receive funding for your first calendar year of study (covering the period January 2016 - January 2017), which will be paid in 3 instalments, as follows:

1st payment - January or as soon as possible after this date when you complete enrolment

2nd payment - April 2016

3rd payment - September 2016

You will receive no maintenance funding payments from Student Finance England (SFE) for your 2nd year until January 2017.

Applying for your funding

You can apply for student finance on-line at www.gov.uk/studentfinance or by filling in an application form for student finance (available from the forms and guides section at gov.uk) and submitting it to Student Finance England (SFE). You should then receive a financial notice from SFE, which confirms the following:

Academic year 2015/16 and year 0 or year 1 of your course (there should also be the wording Feb start next to your course). The notification should then have the following amounts (all loans are subject to you requesting them):

- Tuition Fee Loan payable up to £9,000(*)
- Maintenance Loan up to £8,009 if living away from the parental home and £4,565 if living at your parents' home
- Maintenance/Special Support Grant up to £3,387

You may also have some additional grants depending on your circumstances - please refer to our

main funding sheets for information on these.

(* Please note: if you do not take out the fee loan, you can pay in instalments, by two equal instalments: 50% on enrolment and 50% by 31 May (to be confirmed by Finance at enrolment).

Applying for your second year of funding

For 2016/17 when you apply for your second year of funding, we would advise you to make your application in September 2016, and to make sure your course title states February start.

If you are studying on an extended degree programme, you should select “extended degree” as your course when you come to reapply for funding in future years, otherwise Student Finance England will think you have changed course, and this could affect your funding entitlement. For example, if you are studying the BA Social Sciences and Humanities Extended Degree, and, once you have completed the foundation year, you go on to specialise in Criminology, you should nonetheless select BA Social Sciences and Humanities Extended Degree as your course in each future funding application **not** BSc Criminology.

Under the student support regulations you are always considered to be on a February course for the duration of your studies. Failure to identify your course as February start may result in an incorrect funding assessment from Student Finance England (SFE), which could cause financial hardship. The University is not liable for incorrect advice or incorrect assessments given to students by SFE.

Remember your second year of funding will not be paid until mid-January 2017, even though you may have progressed to the next year in September 2016.

How to contact the Advice, Information & Funding Service

Telephone Student Services reception and ask to speak to a student funding and information adviser: Aldgate campus – 020 7320 2370; Holloway campus – 020 7133 2094

Email: advice.studentservices@londonmet.ac.uk

Website: www.londonmet.ac.uk/advice

The content of this information sheet has been compiled using information from external sources, as well as University data. The content has been carefully checked and is given in good faith. However, the University cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of any inaccuracy.

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