



## February Starter Full-time Undergraduates 16/17 Advice, Information and Funding Service (AIFS)

**Please note:** This information sheet is for students who will start their course in February 2017 and should be read in conjunction with our full-time undergraduate sheet 2016/17.

### Important funding information for February starters

First year students who start their course in February 2017 have an academic year that starts on 1 January 2017 – the academic year as defined in the Education (Student Support Regulations) is the twelve-month period beginning 1 January (1 January to 31 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 2017 and then progress to begin the second year of your course at the end of September 2017, 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 2017 - January 2018), which will be paid in three instalments, as follows:

- First payment - January or as soon as possible after this date when you complete enrolment
- Second payment - April 2017
- Third payment - September 2017

You will receive no maintenance funding payments from Student Finance England (SFE) for your second year until January 2018.

### Applying for your funding

You can apply for student finance on-line at [www.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.gov.uk/studentfinance) or by filling in an application form for student finance (available from the forms and guides section at [gov.uk](http://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 2016/17 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 £10,702 if living away from the parental home, and up to £6,904 if living at your parents’ home.
- If you are eligible for benefits while studying then the Maintenance Loan will be up to £11,671 if living away from the parental home, and up to £8,144 if living at your parents’ home.

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 2017 (to be confirmed by Finance at enrolment).

### **Applying for your second year of funding**

For 2017/18 when you apply for your second year of funding, we would advise you to make your application in September 2017, 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 (Feb start), 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 (Feb start) 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 2018, even though you may have progressed to the next year in September 2017.

### **How to contact the Advice, Information and Funding Service**

Telephone your Student Hub and ask to book a phone or face-to-face appointment with a student adviser:

Aldgate – 020 7133 7002; Holloway – 020 7133 7001; Moorgate – 020 7133 7003

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

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

October 2016