Student Money and Accommodation Advice

NHS Learning Support Fund: BSc Hons Adult Nursing

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. It provides supplementary financial support to the student loan.

**The NHS LSF offers:**

* Training Grant of £5,000 per academic year to help with living and study costs
* Parental Support of £2,000 per academic year for students with parental responsibility for at least one child who is under 15 years of age at the start of the academic year, or under 17 years of age if the child is registered with special educational needs. The payment is per student, no for each child. It does not affect your access to childcare support via SFE.
* 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 **(is means tested)–** up to £3,000 per year for students experiencing **unforeseen** 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.

If you choose not to apply for the Student Loan you would be asked to show you would meet the eligibility criteria and eligibility would be assessed on a case by case basis.

**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 £13,348\* if living away from home in London (2024/25 rate) which attracts the long courses loan as nursing semesters or terms include placements. The long course loan is assessed by SFE on application, defined as a course that lasts longer than 30 weeks and three days
* 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

Exemption from Previous Study Rules

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

Repeat Study

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 in cases where the reason for the repeat is for exceptional or mitigating circumstances apply and the student requires additional financial support from the NHS LSF due to matters beyond their control, such as ill health, disability, or bereavement and this is evidenced by a medical or mental health professional. If you return to your course, it is important that the university informs NHSBSA.

It is important to meet with your course leader if you need to repeat the year. The university will need to submit a request for additional NHS LSF payments as a course change request, if they are satisfied exceptional circumstances apply. However the final discretionary decision is made by NHSBSA.

**Taking a break or withdrawing from course**

As well as going through the formal process at the university to withdraw or take a break from your course, you must also inform NHSBSA straight away, as there could be an overpayment due, but this is less likely if you contact straight away.

You should seek advice from SMAA and book an appointment.

**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 Training 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)

[Full time students and benefits - Full time students and other benefits | Turn2us](https://www.turn2us.org.uk/get-support/information-for-your-situation/full-time-students-and-benefits/full-time-students-and-other-benefits)

**Travel and Accommodation Expenses**

There is separate guidance on the NHSBSA website to help you complete the TDAE. ‘Completing your TDAE claim – a guide for students and universities’.

It is important to collect receipts. The money reimbursed is for excess travel costs, so if you usual daily travel cost to the university was £5.75 and the travel to you practice placement was £9, you could claim £3.25 per day for the duration of your placement. You can access the claim form through your online account. You need to submit your claim to be authorised by the university. A claim must be made within six months of the cost being incurred. It is not possible to only apply for travel costs and not register for the NHS learning support fund to be able to make a claim.

**Exceptional Support Fund**

Up to a maximum of £3,000 per academic year for students experiencing unexpected financial hardship. It is means tested, unlike other parts of the NHS LSF. You must show you have applied to the university hardship support fund, so they can see you have exhausted other forms of support, and that you have taken up the student loan. You will be asked about your income and expenditure, to demonstrate there is a shortfall. You can access the claim form via your online account. The university must authorise your form to confirm you have applied for hardship support first.

**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. If you are eligible for training grant and parent support it is paid together. To be paid NHS LSF, students must be in attendance by 1 November. Before paying each payment NHSBSA will check with the university that you are attending.

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| **Term** | **Loan/grant payment times for September starters** |
| 1 | SFE – SeptemberNHS – November 19th 2024 |
| 2 | SFE – JanuaryNHS – 18th March 2025 |
| 3 | SFE – AprilNHS – 22nd July 2025  |

Payment dates are different if you are a January starter. You must be in active study on the 1 March 2025 to receive the training grant.  **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>. Applications for new students usually open around March for training grant and parent support. You will be required to upload evidence of your SFE funding entitlement when you apply (this is your student loan award notification letter) and to make an application within six months of the start of the academic year.

NHSBSA will only be able to let you know you are eligible once they have received your application and supporting evidence. Being able to register for an account does not automatically mean you will get the fund.

As a continuing student, you need to reapply for your funding each academic year. You should be invited to apply again, you can apply again using the same account. It is important to check your bank account details are still correct.

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

Tel – 020 7320 2848

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

Email: studentservices@londonmet.ac.uk

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

Contacts NHSBSA

[www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/learning-support-fund/contact-us](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/learning-support-fund/contact-us)

If you have any questions about NHS Learning Support Fund (LSF), you can contact us. We're open Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm, or Saturday from 9am to 3pm.

**Online:**use our [online form](https://faq.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/contact-us/)

**Telephone:** 0300 330 0521

**Text relay phone service:** 18001 0300 330 0521

**X (formerly known as Twitter):** [@NHSBSA\_LSF](https://twitter.com/NHSBSA_LSF)

**Facebook:** [LearningSupportFund](https://www.facebook.com/LearningSupportFund/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

The guide – Financial support for health care students 2024/25 can be downloaded from their website

Students should not rely on the information when planning for 25/26 as they rules may be changed. To keep up-to-date, please check NHSBSA website 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. January 2025.