

Extended Degree in Architecture and Interior Design and Professional Diploma in Architecture Student Money and Accommodation Advice

Extended degree in Architecture and Interior Design

The extended degree route provides an intensive preparatory or 'foundation' year prior to progression onto the BA Architecture (RIBA Part 1) or BA Interior Architecture and Design at The Cass. This initial year introduces a broad range of design skills and techniques and outlines ways of thinking about design and the ideas that inform Architecture and Interior Design.

More course details can be found at

www.londonmet.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/architecture-and-interior-design-extended-degree-with-foundation-year---ba-hons/

Financial help with fees and living costs

The foundation year attracts the same student support* package as an undergraduate course provided you are taking it as part of the extended degree programme. Your University offer letter needs to make it clear that the foundation year is an integral part of the course that will be followed at degree level. You must also make this clear on your application for full-time student support and provide the correct UCAS code number for the four-year extended degree course, which is KW12. Please note that when you progress to the degree you must continue to use this same UCAS code each time you apply for your funding.

Further information on full-time undergraduate funding can be found at

www.londonmet.ac.uk/advice

Note that the money for course costs such as specialist equipment, material and field trips will have to be found out of your student support funding as there are no specific allowances for these expenses.

*If you already hold an undergraduate degree, you will not be entitled to the Tuition Fee Loan, but you may still be able to receive the Maintenance Loan.

Professional Diploma in Architecture (RIBA part 2)

The Professional Diploma is for those who wish to continue their professional training in Architecture. They will need to have a good degree in Architecture and RIBA part 1. Completion of the diploma leads to exemption of RIBA part 2. It is a very popular course and students should apply as early as possible. More course details can be found at

www.londonmet.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/professional-diploma-in-architecture---riba2/

The full-time course runs for two years. Student support regulations allow the two parts of the architecture course (degree or part 1, and Professional Diploma or part 2) to be treated as one single course for student support purposes provided both parts are undertaken on a full-time basis.

Therefore a full-time student who received student support for their architecture degree remains eligible for statutory support for the Professional Diploma. It helps if the student declared their intention to attend part 2 before they completed part 1.

Students who completed their degree at another university before coming to London Metropolitan University are usually seen as continuing students for fees and funding purposes. If they started their degree after September 2006, but before September 2012, they should check with the University's Academic Registry as to whether their fees status continues to be at the 'old system' funding rate of £3,465 (degree started 09/2006 or after) by emailing the Student Fees Office - feequery@londonmet.ac.uk

Note: a student who completed their part 1 part-time will be charged fees at the higher rate of £9,250 in 2018/19 if they decide to study the part 2 full-time, and will only receive partial student support which will not include tuition fee support.

Conversely, if a student studied part 1 on a full-time basis and then takes part 2 on a part-time basis, *they will not be eligible for any student support for part 2*. They will also be charged the higher rate of part-time fees.

Further complications may arise if the student:

- has taken three or more years out between parts 1 and 2. It would now be up to Student Finance England to determine their continued eligibility and whether or not they had withdrawn from the course at the end of part 1, which could result in the loss of tuition fee support. Students should check their fees position as they are likely to be charged the new fee rate of £9,250.
- is applying for support for part 2 only. If this is not being undertaken in conjunction with a part 1 course, and thus cannot be treated as part of a single course, the student is unlikely to be eligible for further fee support (but may be eligible for a Maintenance Loan and other allowances depending upon UK residency and personal circumstances). The rules on previous study are complicated and applicants are advised to speak to a Student Money and Accommodation Adviser.
- has undertaken a specialist Masters programme after completing part 1, and before starting part 2.

Further information on full-time and part-time student funding and contact details can be found at www.londonmet.ac.uk/advice

Additional financial support for Architecture students

RIBA funds

Information on additional financial support can be found on the RIBA website under 'How to Fund Your Studies', in particular RIBA's hardship funds available from the RIBA Education Fund or the RIBA Walter Parker Fund:

www.architecture.com/RIBA/Becomeanarchitect/Fundingyoureducation/Studentfunding/Howtofundyourstudies.aspx

The RIBA Student Hardship Funds are open to students studying a RIBA-validated part 1 or part 2 architecture course, or with RIBA candidate status. All applicants should have successfully completed the first year of a RIBA-validated part 1 course in the UK.

Postgraduate Loan

Master's courses that are currently funded by the undergraduate support system will not be eligible for the Postgraduate Loan. Neither will other postgraduate qualifications that do not result in a Master's qualification, such as a Postgraduate Diploma. However, students may be eligible for a Postgraduate Loan for a Master of Architecture course where they are ineligible for undergraduate support for this course, for example because the gap between RIBA parts 1 and 2 is deemed to be too long, or where the Master of Architecture course is studied on a part-time basis.

State benefits

If you are in receipt of state benefits you need to make sure that the Department for Work and Pensions is aware that you are studying as this may affect your entitlement to benefits.

This is a brief guide and as such cannot cover all eventualities. For this reason we recommend that you contact a Student Money and Accommodation Adviser if you have any specific queries.

How to contact us

Telephone your Student Hub and ask to book an appointment with a Student Money and Accommodation Adviser:

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

Email: SMAA@londonmet.ac.uk

Website: www.londonmet.ac.uk/advice

Note: Attendance at classes and completion of all assessments is a vital part of being a student. The University does monitor student attendance and, where there are no good reasons for a student not being in classes or submitting work, then students will not be able to continue on their course. This is likely to have an effect on current and future course funding.

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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