Student Money and Accommodation Advice

# Part-time Undergraduates 2025-26

Part-time ‘Home’ undergraduates starting courses in September 2024 may be eligible for a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £7,145 and a Maintenance Loan of up to 75% of the maximum full-time Maintenance Loan, dependant on course intensity. Apply online at [Student finance for undergraduates: Part-time students - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/parttime-students)

## Which courses qualify?

Part-time undergraduate degree courses, HND, HNC (including open / distance learning courses, although students will usually need to be living in England and will not be eligible for the Maintenance Loan unless they are studying distance learning as a result of a disability). Students who started a full-time course and are repeating study on a part-time basis should refer to our information sheets ‘Repeat Funding and ‘Changing mode of study’: [www.londonmet.ac.uk/infosheets](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/infosheets) - click on arrow to see list of information sheets

## Basic eligibility

For support as a part-time student you need:

* settled status in the UK\*.
* three years’ ordinary residence in the UK before the start of your course (course start date is 1 September for September starters, 1 January for January starters).
* to be studying at least 25% of the full-time equivalent course\*.
* to satisfy previous study rules. If you have gained an honours degree in the UK or elsewhere, you will probably not be eligible for financial assistance, unless the course you plan on studying is in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM). If you have obtained a qualification for previous higher education level study this may also affect your funding entitlement.

\*EU students with settled status via the EU Settlement Scheme may be eligible for both Tuition Fee and Maintenance Loans. EU students with pre-settled status via the EU Settlement Scheme may be eligible for the Tuition Fee Loan only.

\* Course intensity’ measures how much of your course you complete each year compared to an equivalent full-time course.

You can work this out by comparing your module credits with the number of module credits a full-time student will study. You’ll be asked how many credits you’ll study when you apply for the loan. Student Finance England (SFE) will also ask the university to confirm the number of credits.

You can contact your school office and check [Course Catalogue |London Metropolitan University | intranet.londonmet.ac.uk |London Metropolitan University](https://intranet.londonmet.ac.uk/course-catalogue/) for this information.

## Tuition Fee Loan

You can apply to Student Finance England (SFE) for a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £7,145 (paid directly to the University).

## Maintenance Loan

If you are starting a part-time course in 2025-6 you may be able to receive a Maintenance Loan to help you with your living costs. The amount of loan you can receive will depend on your intensity of study and income assessment. If you study 25% of a full-time course, you will receive at most 25% of the maximum full-time Maintenance Loan rate. If you study 50% of a full-time course, you will receive at most 50% of the maximum full-time Maintenance Loan rate. If you study 75% of a full-time course, you will receive at most 75% of the maximum full-time Maintenance Loan rate.

If you are aged 60 or over on the first day of the first academic year of your course you will not be eligible for the Maintenance Loan.

Your course needs to be at least 25% of a full-time course to qualify for the Tuition Fee Loan and the Maintenance Loan, but bear in mind you need to complete the course within the time set by the University, which is currently eight years.

Repayment begins four years from the April after course commencement and only if you are earning more than £25,000 per year. You repay 9% of your earnings once you start earning £25,000 or more. The interest on the loan is at the rate of inflation.

## Module costs

Fees for students starting courses will be pro rata in relation to the full-time fee. For pricings, use the course finder at [www.londonmet.ac.uk/](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/.%0DFebruary-starters).

## February-starters

First year students who start their course in February 2026have an academic year that starts on 1 January 2026 – 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 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 2026, the regulations state 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 2026– January 2027), 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 2026
* Third payment – September 2026

You will receive no maintenance funding payments from Student Finance England (SFE) for your second year of study until January 2027.

## How do I apply?

You can apply for your funding online at [www.gov.uk/student-finance/](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance/). Forms should be completed at the start of each academic year. Alternatively, you can download and print an application form at [www.gov.uk/student-finance-forms](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance-forms)/.

## Is there a deadline?

SFE’s deadline for applying is no later than nine months from the first day of the academic year, which, for those starting courses in September 2025, is 31 May 6 However, you should complete the application form as soon as it is available, as the University will want to know how you are paying your fees at the time of enrolment.

## Other funding/financial support

If you have a registered disability you can apply to SFE for a Disabled Students’ Allowance: [www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsa/](http://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsa/). Part-time students who are eligible for benefits have part of their Maintenance Loan disregarded by the Department for Work and Pensions as student income when their benefits are calculated. This is the Special Support Element (SSE) of the loan. The SSE at the 100% full-time equivalent rate in 25-26 is £4461. The amount of SSE will depend on your intensity of study.

There is a cap on the total amount that can be received from certain benefits of £486.98/week for people with children and couples, and £326.29

/week for single people. For more information see: [www.gov.uk/benefit-cap](http://www.gov.uk/benefit-cap)

## How to contact us

Visit [www.londonmet.ac.uk/advice](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/advice) for up-to-date appointments and drop-in times.

## Attendance

Class attendance and completion of all assessments is monitored. If students cannot demonstrate this and do not have good reason, they will be unable to continue the course. This is likely to affect future student funding. SFE do ask the university to confirm attendance before they release the tuition fee payments.

## The Social Security Fraud Act 2001

The Student Money and Accommodation Advice team reminds all clients who may be in receipt of benefits from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and/or Local Authority of the need to disclose to the DWP/Local Authority any relevant changes of circumstances and of the need for clients to make full and accurate disclosure of all the relevant facts to the DWP and/or Local Authority.

The regulations referred to throughout this information sheet are the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2011 (2011/1986) as amended by the Education (Student Fees, Awards and Support) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (2012/1653), the Education (Student Support and European University Institute) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 (2013/1728), in particular Regulations 136 to 157, The Income Support (General) Regulations 1987, The Housing Benefits Regulations 2006, the Universal Credit (Consequential, Supplementary, Incidental and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2013 (2013/630).

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. March 2025