



South Central

Overview of student financial support for 2010/11 within the PSC network

Progress South Central is the Lifelong Learning Network for Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Surrey, a partnership of Buckinghamshire New University, Oxford Brookes University, the University of Reading and the University of Surrey and their partner colleges. It is funded by HEFCE until July 2011.

Changes to application process for 2010/11

Student Finance England will process all new and 2nd year returning students' finance applications online. 3rd and 4th year returning students will still be paid through the local authority and will receive the same financial help as in previous years unless their circumstances have

changed. The on-line system has been integrated with UCAS to share student's personal information and course choices. A paper option is available. A one stop shop offering individualised guidance via the web or telephone is available to students.

Available Financial Support

Tuition fee loan for full-time undergraduates

- £3,290 pa (cost for most courses) paid directly to the institution

Tuition fee loan for part-time students

- Fee grant up to £1,210 pa (means tested) paid directly to the institution

Maintenance Loan – to cover living costs

- Means tested dependent on household income
- Paid in 3 instalments

Maintenance Grant – non-repayable

- Up to £2,906 pa – related to amount of maintenance loan received
- Paid in 3 instalments

Alternative Financial Support

- Special Support Grant
- NHS & Social Care bursaries
- Access to Learning Fund
- Disabled Student Grant
- Childcare Grant
- Parents' Learning Allowance
- Adult Dependants' Grant
- Initial Teacher Training
- Course Grant for part-time students
- Travel Grant

Detailed information on all of the different forms of support and repayment methods is available from Student Finance England:

www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance

For practitioners there is a dedicated practitioners' website:

www.practitioners.studentfinanceengland.co.uk

Email: ssin_queries@slc.co.uk

Tel: 0845 602 0583 (Mon-Fri 10am-4pm)

Studying for a higher education qualification within a further education college

Partner colleges of Buckinghamshire New University

- Colleges responsible for setting the fee (usually less expensive)
- Full-time course students apply via UCAS. Part-time course students apply direct to college

Partner colleges of Oxford Brookes University

- Fees set by university (usually less expensive)
- Full-time course students apply via UCAS. Part-time course students apply direct to the college

Partner colleges of University of Reading

- Fees set by university (usually less expensive)
- Students can apply direct to the college or via UCAS. Part-time course students apply to the college

Partners colleges of Surrey University

- Colleges responsible for setting the fee (usually less expensive)
- All applications are processed through the college

Post Graduate Students

Support varies from institution to institution and there are a variety of scholarships and bursaries available. Funding could be available from Research Councils. For more information contact:

www.rcuk.ac.uk

Overseas Students

Overseas students are not entitled to loans or grants and the fees are set by the individual institution. For more information contact the UK Council for International Students' Affairs:
www.ukcosa.org.uk

EU Students and others

Students from the EU may apply for a tuition fee loan.
www.direct.gov.uk/eu-finance

If living in Wales apply to:
Student Finance Wales
www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

If living in Scotland apply to:
Student Finance Scotland
www.student-support-saas.gov.uk

If living in Northern Ireland apply to:
Student Finance Northern Ireland
www.studentfinancenir.co.uk

Part-time Students

Depending on circumstances, students studying part-time higher education courses can apply for the fee grant and the course grant which are both non-repayable. The maximum fee grant is based on how 'intensive' the course is [how long it takes to complete compared to the equivalent full-time course]. The course grant is available to cover the cost of books, materials, travel etc. More information is available on the Student Finance England website.

Bursaries

Buckinghamshire New University

- Full-time undergraduates paying £3,290 fees receive £500 pa (not means tested). In addition students are entitled to free sports, social functions and entertainment through 'the Big Deal Scheme'

Oxford Brookes University

- Full-time undergraduates paying £3,290 fees or £1,310 for the foundation year and receiving a maintenance grant may also be entitled to a means tested bursary of between £150 and £1,800 pa
- Part-time undergraduates receiving the part-time course grant may be eligible for a bursary of £125 to £250 (depending on household income)
- Transition from Care bursary - students receiving a maintenance grant who have spent time in local authority care from the age of 14 may be eligible for an additional bursary of £2,000 pa

University of Reading

- Maximum of £1,400 pa (means tested) if household income is under £45k
- Alumni and Vice-Chancellor's bursaries – both offer a maximum of £2,000 over 3 years to students from Berkshire and Aimhigher schools (nominated by school or college)

University of Surrey

- Maximum of £2,100 pa (means tested). This could be doubled if a student receives a scholarship
- Extended programme bursaries - £1,645 for additional year of enhanced degrees

Scholarships

Buckinghamshire New University

- Faculty Scholarships - up to £300 dependant on eligibility clauses
- £300 Compact Scholarship for students enrolled from compact schools and colleges
- 7 Sports Scholarships of £1000 (for students playing at county level)

Oxford Brookes University

- Academic Excellence Scholarship – max of £2,000 pa in the first year and £500 in the 2nd and 3rd years (highest entry grades)
- International Exchange Scholarships – up to £1,500 for students receiving the full Brookes bursary and studying for 1 or 2 semesters (amount reduced if only studying abroad for 1 semester)
- Community Scholarship – £1,000 awarded for up to 4 years to one nominated student per year from each state school or college in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Milton Keynes and Oxfordshire. (Brooklands, Solihull, Swindon and New College, Swindon are also eligible)

University of Reading

- Entrance Scholarships of £2,000 pa for students meeting criteria and who hold Reading as 1st choice by August 1st. No need to apply
- Music Scholarships – up to £800 pa
- Sports Scholarships – up to £2,000 pa or reduced rate membership at selected facilities for students playing sport at county level or higher
- International Baccalaureate Scholarship – pay tuition fees and living costs of £5,000 pa for international students (non UK/EU) with excellent IB results

University of Surrey

- Academic Entry Scholarships – up to £1,000 for students achieving grades AAB at A level
- Performance Scholarships - £1,000 for students achieving a first class honours level at the end of their first or second year
- Students eligible for both bursary and scholarship will have their bursary doubled – could receive up to £5,100 pa

For more information relating to the individual universities:

For Buckinghamshire New University

www.bucks.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/fees__bursaries.aspx

For Oxford Brookes University

www.brookes.ac.uk/studying/finance/support/ug_home

For the University of Reading

www.rdg.ac.uk/studentfinance

For the University of Surrey

www.surrey.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees/bursaries