

University Tuition Fees, Bursaries and Scholarships 2016/17

By
Dr Catherine Dawson



**UNIVERSITY TUITION FEES,
BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS 2016/17**

By

Dr Catherine Dawson

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Introduction

This book provides a summary of tuition fee, bursary and scholarship information for publicly-funded higher education institutions in the United Kingdom for the academic year 2016/17. It has been published annually since 2005. Each entry in the book is produced as a table in the same format for ease of comparison. The tables consist of the following categories (discussed below): contact details, tuition fee, tuition fee grant/waiver, university bursaries, university scholarships, application procedure and additional information.

Contact Details

Postal addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses and websites for all universities are included so that students can contact the university direct if they wish to obtain further information about funding.

Tuition Fees

For the academic year 2016/17 universities in England can charge up to £9,000 in tuition fees. Universities in Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland can also charge these higher fees for rest of UK (RUK) students. Students from Northern Ireland or non-UK EU students who wish to study in Northern Ireland will pay course fees of £3,925 maximum. Students from Scotland or non-UK EU students who wish to study in Scotland will be charged tuition fees of £1,820, although eligible students will have their fees paid for them (see below). Welsh students will receive a Fee Grant to help with tuition fees (see below).

Most universities have chosen to set all their course fees at £9,000. A small number have chosen to set all course fees at a lower figure and some have chosen, instead, to vary their fees, depending on the type of course. All relevant tuition fees for publicly-funded UK universities are listed in this section of the table.

Tuition Fee Grant/Waiver

This section of the table was introduced in 2012 because some universities chose to offer additional funding in the form of fee waivers rather than cash bursaries for students from low income families. Also, some universities provide scholarships in the form of fee waivers. This type of fee waiver is included in this section of the table, where relevant.

Eligible Scottish-domiciled, full-time, first degree students and eligible students from non-UK EU countries will qualify for their tuition fees to be covered by the Scottish Government when studying at a Scottish university. This information is included in this section of the table, where relevant.

Eligible Welsh and non-UK EU domiciled students are entitled to receive a Welsh Government Tuition Fee Grant of up to £5,100 to cover fees when studying at a Welsh university (or elsewhere in the UK, for Welsh students). The grant will cover any difference between the maximum tuition fee loan of £3,900 and the actual fee charged. This information is included in this section of the table, where relevant.

University Bursaries

The requirement for a minimum bursary for new entrants was abolished in 2012. Universities can now choose how they wish to provide bursary support for their students and there are various schemes available. This includes schemes that offer bursaries as fee waivers, cash awards or accommodation discounts. Bursary amounts vary enormously, ranging from £100 - £4,000. Some payments are annual, whereas others are paid in the first year only.

Most bursaries are awarded based on household income, with the largest bursaries for students from households with a residual income under £25,000. Other bursaries are awarded to priority groups, such as care leavers and students from areas of low participation in higher education. Some universities have chosen not to offer bursaries, instead concentrating on schemes such as outreach work and merit-based scholarships.

University Scholarships

Universities provide a wide variety of scholarships for their students. These can be subject-specific or departmental scholarships awarded for academic merit and excellence, or can be scholarships aimed at specific groups, such as students from priority groups or low income households. Some scholarships are awarded automatically, whereas others are obtained through examination or other competitive processes.

Scholarships tend to be paid as cash awards or fee waivers and amounts vary considerably, with some scholarships covering tuition fees for the whole course and others providing small cash awards for course-related expenses. Scholarships can be awarded on an annual basis, in the first year only or at specified progression points.

Application Procedure

In most cases, students will need to apply for government financial support and agree to share their information so that universities can assess their eligibility for income-related bursaries and scholarships. Some universities award funding automatically, whereas others require students to complete an additional application form (sent in the welcome pack and/or available for download from university websites).

Students must apply for all types of funding as soon as possible. This is of particular importance in cases where funds are allocated on a 'first-come, first-served' basis. This is specified in the tables, where relevant.

Additional Information

The final section of the table provides further information for students. This includes information about additional sources of funding, such as hardship funds, emergency loans and placement grants. It also includes contact details of university financial advisers for students who have specific queries about funding at a particular university.

Changes since the previous edition

There are several changes that have been announced since the previous edition of this book (published in 2015/16):

- From 2016/17 all means-tested student maintenance grants in England will be replaced with loans. Students who started their course in 2015/16 or before will not be affected by this change. The maintenance loan will increase to £8,200 for those studying away from home outside London and to £10,702 for those in London.
- From 2016/17 the special support grants in England for students who qualify for certain benefits will be replaced by maintenance loans. Students who started their course in 2015/16 or before will not be affected by this change. The maintenance loan for students who qualify for certain benefits will be £9,347 for those studying away from home outside London and £11,671 for those in London.
- From 2016/17 the special support grants in England for students who are aged 60 or over will be replaced by maintenance loans. Students who started their course in 2015/16 or before will not be affected by this change. The maximum maintenance loan for students over the age of 60 will be £3,469.
- The repayment threshold for all post-2012 English borrowers will be frozen at £21,000 until at least April 2021. The 'upper' interest threshold of £41,000 will be frozen at the same time.
- From 2018/19 part-time students will be eligible to apply for maintenance loans in a similar way to full-time students.
- From 2017/18 institutions offering high quality teaching will be allowed to increase tuition fees in line with inflation. The Government is consulting on how this will be done.
- From 2017/18 new students on nursing (adult and mental health), midwifery and AHP pre-registration courses (which lead on to qualification with one of the health professional regulators) in England will not get NHS grants but will, instead, be able to take out student loans. This affects courses that lead to professional registration in nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, podiatry, radiography, dietetics, orthoptics, operating department practice and prosthetics/orthotics. Paramedic courses currently funded through NHS grants may also be affected, although this is unclear at the moment. Existing students and those from Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland will not be affected by this change.
- The Welsh Government will no longer provide public funding to students who are studying at private institutions (those without charitable status).
- Heythrop College will cease to offer full-time and part-time undergraduate courses from 2016/17 and has, therefore, been deleted from this book.

The following tables are presented in alphabetical order and give details about tuition fees, bursaries and scholarships for publicly-funded higher education institutions in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.