

Costs Associated with Studying



Tuition fees



Textbooks



Printing costs



Travel

Living Costs



Travel



Accommodation



Bills



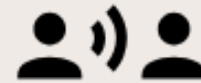
Food



Shopping



Phone



Socialising



Health

Student Finance



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Learning Outcomes

1

Understand the two types of student finance and how they are paid

2

Combine student finance knowledge with budgeting skills to problem solve

3

Begin to think about how you might fund your university journey



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Disclaimer

The information provided in this presentation focuses on the current student finance system that affects students on Plan 5 (ie any student who applies for student finance after 2023). For students applying for 2027 entry to university, a new Lifelong Learning Entitlement is being introduced, and we are awaiting more information on this. Further information on this can be found on the government website.



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Tuition Fee Loan

- Covers **course fees up to £9,535** per year (2025 figure)
- Not based on household income
- Paid directly from the Government to the college/university
- Repayable and nothing paid upfront

Eligibility

- UK citizen
- Lived in the UK for 3 years
- Studying in UK
- First degree



Maintenance Loan

- **For living costs**
- Paid to you in three instalments per year

Amount you received is based on:

- Where you study
- Where you live
- Your personal circumstances



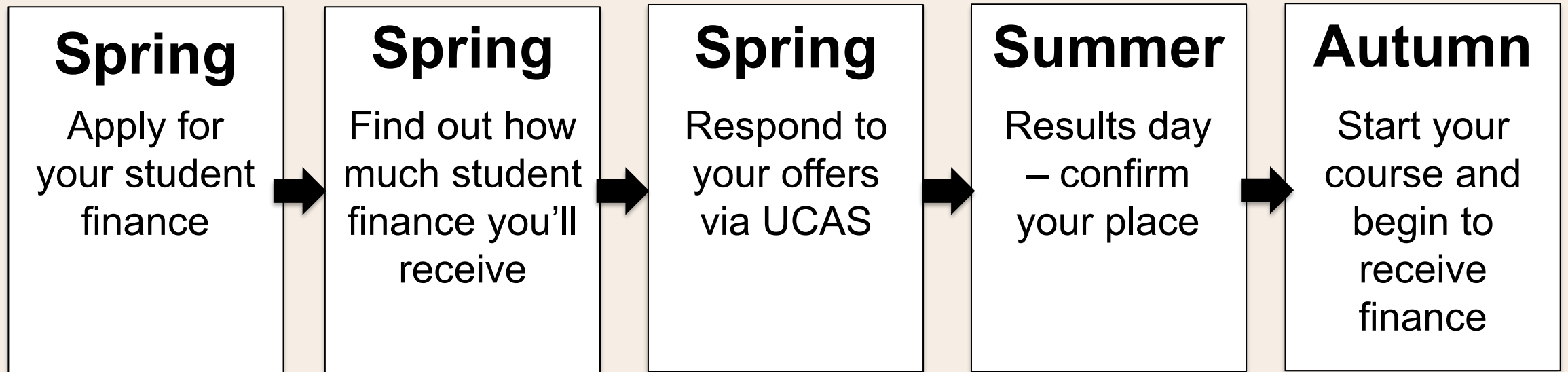
How to Apply for Student Finance

Apply in spring 2026

- You don't need to have made your firm choice to start your application – you can update it later.
- ID is required for the application, usually a passport.
- You can indicate if you want to apply for Disabled Students Allowance.
- Household income assessed from previous tax year, for example for 2026 entry, the 2024–25 tax year will be used.
- Your tuition fees are **paid directly to your university**
- Once you register, your maintenance loan will be paid to you in three instalments – one at the start of each term.



Timeline for Applying



Repaying your Loan

- From the April after you graduate, you start repaying your loan if/when you earn over **£25,000 per year** (before tax/ deductions)
- **9%** is taken over and above this amount
- Repayments are taken directly from your wages and stop if your income falls below £25,000 per year
- Your repayments are based on what you earn, not what you owe
- Interest rates have been reduced – they will only be added at the rate of inflation
- Any remaining loan is written off after **40 years**
- It is a "**graduate tax**"
- **Does not affect your credit score**



Example repayment schedule

Annual salary	Plan 5 monthly repayments (6th April 2026 – 5th April 2027)
£25,000	£0
£30,000	£38
£40,000	£113
£50,000	£188
£60,000	£263
£70,000	£338
£80,000	£413
£90,000	£488

Remember! 9% is taken once you earn more than £25,000

[Student Loan repayment guide 2025 - Save the Student](#)

What other sources of income are available to university students?



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Other Sources of Income

Scholarships

- Personal circumstances
- Academic achievement
- Sport

Part-time work

- 15 hours per week during term time is advised and we support students in finding part-time employment.
- Joblink is a university service based within the LUU that helps students find part-time, term time and zero-hour contract work.

Parental contribution

- Martin Lewis discussed extensively in the media about the, sometimes hidden, parental contribution to university living costs and has created a dedicated web page to this.

Additional Support Available

Student Loans Company

- Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)
- Dependants Grants

Scholarships and bursaries

- Academic scholarships
- Sports scholarships
- The Scholarship Hub

NHS Learning Support Fund

- Funding to support eligible healthcare students





Bursaries and Scholarships: Further Information

Means-Tested Scholarships

For those with a household income of below £42,875 a year (2025).

Receive £3,000/year for 3 years

There are financial and non-financial criteria.

Deadline June 2026

School-Specific Scholarships

Outstanding academic and personal achievements.

The amount you receive will depend on the subject you are studying.

Leeds Bursary

Non-repayable money to support your studies.

Worth up to £2,000





Where to go for financial support at University

'Whatever it is, we're here to support you'

- When things don't go to plan- the **Leeds University Union (LUU)** is there to support you.
- Whether you've got an issue with your house deposit, conflict with your housemates or financial worries, the union can offer help, guidance and practical solutions.
- The service is completely free, confidential and they work independent from the University so you are able to talk freely about the issues you may be having.

luu.org.uk/help-support/about-luu-advice/

leedsuniversityunion.knowledgeowl.com/help/money





Six key points

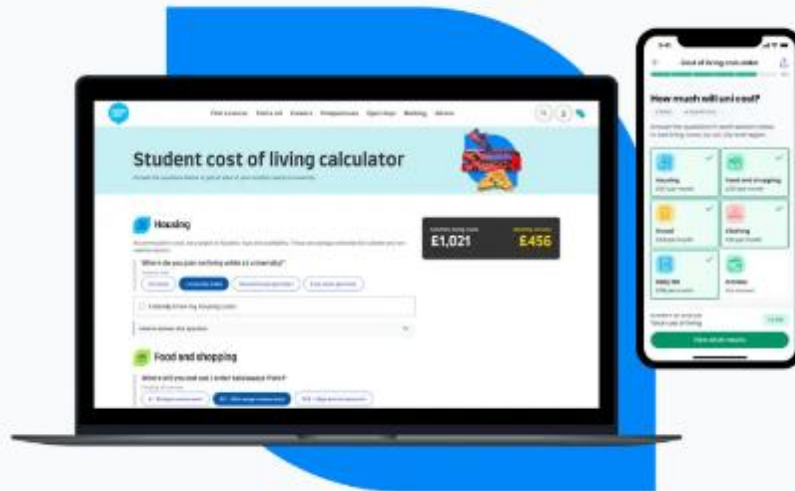
- 1) View Student Finance as a tax rather than a loan
- 2) It is better to apply early
- 3) You can apply for the loan before you have accepted your place at a university
- 4) You only pay back what you can afford
- 5) The money owed is wiped clean after 40 years
- 6) It does not affect your credit score



Further resources: What Uni student cost of living calculator

Student cost of living calculator

Powered by Whatuni



Get real about your uni living costs

Avoid the guesswork of university living costs with our new calculator. From accommodation to bills, it breaks down all the costs to help you plan your budget with confidence.

[Calculate my budget now →](#)

[Student Budget Calculator | Whatuni UK](#)


Further resources: Save the Student

The screenshot shows the Save the Student website homepage. The navigation bar includes links for FINANCE, BANKING, MAKE MONEY, SAVE MONEY, JOBS, and ACCOMMODATION. A search icon is in the top right corner. The main content area features three promotional tiles:

- Left Tile:** A purple background with a smartphone and a card that says "student banking 2025". Text reads: "Save the Student Student Banking Survey 2025 – Results".
- Middle Tile:** A photo of five people in purple "SAVE THE STUDENT!" t-shirts. Text reads: "Apply now! 6 x £750 STS Bursary 2025".
- Bottom Right Tile:** An orange background with a green piggy bank. Text reads: "Free money cheat sheet!". Below is an email input field with a "Go" button and the text "Weekly deals, guides + free cheat sheet." Below the input field is a "View Deal →" button.

savesthestudent.org

Further resources: Save the Student – Student Budget Sheet



Student Budget Sheet

	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
SUMMARY										
Income minus expenses	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Starting balance for the month	£1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Predicted ending balance	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Actual ending balance										
MONEY IN										
Student Loan										
Grant/bursary/scholarship										
Job										
Family/gifts										
Other income										
Other income										
Other income										

Evaluation – Participant Feedback Form

- Please scan the QR code to provide your feedback on this session.
- Speak to a member of staff if you have any questions about completing the evaluation form.



Questions?



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