

The Student Support Fund - Postgraduate students

Post graduate Students

Postgraduate students are expected to take out the maximum Student Finance England loan or Career Development Loan (CDL) that they are eligible to apply for in circumstances where it is not evident that other realistic provision has been made. If you have been refused a loan you must include evidence to that effect. Please refer to the [Link](#) 'How will my application be assessed?' for further details of how post graduate income is calculated.

How will my application be assessed?

All applications are assessed to determine an entitlement to a **standard** award. These can help to meet general living costs and specific course related costs such as childcare, travel, books etc.

For **full time postgraduate** students a weekly notional postgraduate income figure is used. This is set at **£190**. For those with children or who are unable to work due to disability this amount will be **£152**. This figure is used because it is expected that postgraduate students will have made realistic provision to fund their time on the course.

Part time students are assessed by using a threshold assessment model. This targets support to those who are unable to meet the additional costs that studying involves, such as books, travel and childcare.

There will also be a set expenditure level, known as a **composite living cost**. This is an amount that it is assumed is sufficient to meet general living costs such as food and household expenses, and is set according to your circumstances. (See expenditure section for further information).

In addition to a standard assessment, students who provide evidence of exceptional or unforeseen costs will be considered for an **emergency award**. We will require evidence of such costs and a detailed explanation as to how they are impacting upon your ability to cope financially.

Students are expected to exhaust all methods of funding available to them before applying to this fund. This includes utilising student bank accounts including interest free overdrafts. If you do not have this facility please explain why on your application.