

Home Status and Funding

Without home status, students will be charged the higher international rate of tuition fees and are unlikely to qualify for fee and living cost support from Student Finance England (SFE). British/European citizenship or having a close relative with this does **not** automatically confer home status. Additional factors such as the length of residence in the UK/EEA, or reason for the residence may also be relevant (summarised below).

Fee Assessments and the Main Formula

The simplest way to qualify for the lower UK or EU fee is to meet the 'main formula' before the start of your course. To qualify for this you must have:

- **Settled status** – no immigration restriction on your period of stay in the UK. A work permit, for example, has a restriction as it is 'time limited' whereas Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) has not.
- **Residency Rules** - three years 'ordinary residency' in the UK and Islands (inc. British overseas territories), completed before the start of the course (for autumn starters the key date is 1st September, for spring starters 1st January).
- **Purpose Rule** – the three years residency or any part of, must not have been solely or mainly for full-time study. Such a period will not contribute towards the '3 years ordinary residence' requirement.

Are there exceptions to the Main Formula?

Yes. There are a number of exceptions. Only brief details of the qualifying criteria can be given here.

Category 1: EU nationals (inc UK nationals) with:

- 3 years ordinary residence in the EEA, Switzerland (SW) or their overseas territories, leading up to the first day of the first academic year of the course and that residence must not have been for the sole purpose of full time education.

This category can extend to '**relevant family members**' even if they are non-EU nationals. Often a qualifying period of residence must be met by the family member, but not in all cases. For further information, see Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'EU Students and Funding'

Category 2: Non-UK EU nationals living in the UK for over 3 years before the start of the course with:

- Ordinary residence in the UK on the first day of the first academic year and for at least 3 years immediately before

the course starts

- Not for the sole purpose of full time study (but can count residence in the EEA before this)

Category 3: Non UK EEA/Swiss workers, and family:

- Ordinary residence in the UK on the first day of the first academic year of the course, having resided in the EEA/SW for 3 years before this. Category can extend to relevant family members even when they are non EEA nationals. However, they must meet key residence rules. For more information see Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'EEA Migrant Workers'

Category 4: Child of a Swiss National or Child of a Turkish Worker with:

- Ordinary residence in the UK on the first day of the first academic year of the course, and have met residence conditions in the EEA, SW or Turkey

Category 5: Refugees and in some cases, their spouse/civil partner and children with:

- Ordinary residence on the first day of the first academic year of the course

Category 6: Those granted Humanitarian Protection and in some cases their spouse/civil partner and children with:

- Ordinary Residence on the first day of the first academic year of the course, and for at least 3 years before the start of the course

Note: Those given Discretionary Leave may be considered if they meet the following criteria:

- those under 18 years of age who have lived in the UK for at least 7 years preceding the first day of the first academic year of the course
- those 18 or above who have spent half their life or a period of 20 years in the UK
- is ordinarily resident in England and
- has been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the three year period preceding the first day of the first academic year of the course

Important: Asylum Seekers still waiting on a decision by the Home Office please seek advice urgently. Although you can benefit from a Middlesex Concession allowing 'home fees' there is no SFE funding allowed. Please see Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'Asylum Seekers and

Refugees.'

I think I've been wrongly assessed what should I do?

You can request a reassessment if you think the University has wrongly categorised you.

Can I receive help towards my 'home' fees and living costs?

To qualify for SFE funding, i.e. Fee Loans, Maintenance Loans and Grants, you usually have to meet the 'main formula', as outlined above. Some of the other Home Fee categories described above **may** also qualify for this financial support.

Category 1: EU Nationals inc. UK and their relevant family members:

- May be eligible for Fee Loans only from the EU Team at SFE. For further information see Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'EU Students and Student Funding'

Category 2: Non UK EU Nationals living in UK for over 3 years:

- May be eligible for the full Student Support package from SFE that UK students can apply for. For further information see Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'Full Time Students and Funding'

Category 3: EEA Migrant Workers and their relevant family members:

- May be eligible for the full Student Support package available from SFE. For further information see Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'EEA Migrant Workers and Student Funding'. **Note:** There may be times when entitlement continues where work has ceased, so seek advice.

Category 4: Child of a Swiss National and Child of a Turkish Worker:

May be eligible for the full Student Support package available from SFE. Three years ordinary residence is not required. See Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'Full Time Students and Funding'.

Note: For courses starting on or after 1st September 2014 your Swiss parent(s) must be living in the UK as a worker, student or self-sufficient person on the first day of the academic year of your course.

Category 5: Refugees and family members:

- May be eligible for the full Student Support package available from SFE. See Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'Full Time Students and Funding'

Category 6: Those granted Humanitarian Protection, and family members:

- May be eligible for the full Student Support Package from SFE. See Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'Full Time Students and Funding'

Important: If you are still waiting on an Asylum application with the Home Office or have Discretionary Leave, you **cannot** receive Financial Support from SFE. Seek advice urgently and see Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'Asylum Seekers and Refugees'

If my status changes during my course will I qualify for 'home fees' or increased funding?

You or a relevant family member may qualify for funding or a change in fee status if you become one of the following after starting your course:

- Refugee under the UN Convention
- An EU national or relevant family member. This might happen if your country joins the EU or through marriage or partnership, you become the spouse/civil partner or child of an EU national.
- EEA Migrant Worker or relevant family member (instead of an EU Student only). Funding entitlements might increase if you become a Migrant Worker after the start of a course. See Welfare Advice Guide: 2018/19 'EEA Migrant Workers and Student Funding'. **Be aware:** the opposite can also happen, where Migrant Workers lose their work status and eligibility changes to fee loans only. This typically happens if someone leaves their job voluntarily.

NOTE: Not all changes of circumstances will affect fee charges or entitlement to SFE funding. Please seek advice from Student Welfare Advice Team or contact UKCISA at www.ukcisa.org.uk

Where should I apply for my funding?

For details about where and how to apply for funding see: www.gov.uk/student-finance

Middlesex University Student Welfare Advice Team has made every effort to ensure that the information contained in this leaflet is accurate. Middlesex University however, cannot be held responsible for any omissions or errors.

June 2018