

Placement and Study Abroad - Student Funding

This guide focuses on the Government funding available for students on work placements and for those that wish to study abroad and also the 'Turing Scheme'. Note: this guide does not apply to Nursing/Midwifery/social work/veterinary courses.

What is the eligibility criteria of doing a placement year?

To be eligible to take this route, you must be studying on a full-time degree programme which includes an option to take a placement and you must have successfully completed your programme of study up to the placement date.

How will my fees be affected on a placement?

This will depend on the amount of time your work placement lasts. If you spend less than 10 weeks on aggregate, in attendance at the University, the fee for 23/24 will be £0 for all students.

If you study/attend at the University for more than 10 weeks in aggregate during the placement year, then the full year's fee will be charged, i.e. your usual fee liability. The charges are set to reflect the resources made available to you during the year.

What happens to my loans and grants?

If you are eligible for the full Student Support package it is significantly affected by a placement year. For the majority of students

The only government support available for living costs is a non-means tested reduced student loan. This is the case whether your placement is paid or unpaid and whether or not you are a single person or someone with dependants.,

How much is this reduced student loan?

The amount paid will depend on where you live and where you work whether in the UK or overseas.

For 2023/24 the figures are:

Living at parental home	£2,267
Living away and working in London	£4,244
Living away and working outside of London	£3,022

Note: lower amounts are paid to final year students.

How can I receive my full funding during the placement year?

There are only a few exceptions (as listed below).

Students in attendance at the University for 10 weeks or more, or students on certain unpaid placements in the public or voluntary sector can apply for their normal Student funding.

The type of unpaid work is listed below:

- Service with a UK Local Authority which is related to the health, welfare or care of children/young persons, or similar activities in UK voluntary organisations.
- Service in a UK hospital/public health laboratory.
- Service in a UK prison, probation or after-care service.
- Research in a UK/overseas institution.
- Service with a UK Health Authority or equivalent.

Note: EEA Migrant Worker Students would not be entitled for funding under a work placement whether paid or unpaid as SFE see your work as part of your course. Also a longer absence overseas Placement/Exchange 'may' affect EU students future 'settled status' application. Best to seek advice first.

MDXworks for placements

<https://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/employment>

call 020 8411 6161

I want to study abroad as part of my degree?

You can choose from over 100 'Exchange' partner universities from around the world and the credits obtained count towards your degree. To be eligible, you must have successfully completed your programme of study up to the exchange date. Eligible SFE funded students have the overseas rate of Loan up to £11,427. To find out more visit: www.mdx.ac.uk/study-with-us/study-abroad-and-exchanges or contact the Student Exchange Office: www.mdx.ac.uk/get-in-touch/ask-a-question

How do I apply for Turing scheme which has replaced the Erasmus scheme?

Students have to apply through their 'Education Provider' before the middle of April to qualify for the following academic year.

It is best to apply for 2024/25 now at student Exchange office.
The Turing scheme is open to all Nationalities.

<https://www.turing-scheme.org.uk/>

See also: www.turing-scheme.org.uk/frequently-asked-questions/

How much funding will I receive from the Turing scheme?

This depends on where you're going and how long you're going for; there are 3 categories based on the destination and cost of living.

Higher Education student placements with a total duration of four to eight weeks will

- £545 per month (equal to £136.25 per week for Group 1 destinations);
- £480 per month (equal to £120 per week for Group 2 and 3 destinations)

HE student placements with a total duration of nine weeks to twelve months will receive:

- £380 per month (for Group 1 destinations)
- £335 per month (for Group 2 and 3 destinations)

The total cost of living grant funding provided to students from 'disadvantaged' backgrounds will be as follows:

- £654 per month (equal to £163.50 per week to Group 1 countries or territories)
- £590 per month (equal to £147.50 per week to Group 2 and 3 countries or territories)

For placements with a total duration of nine weeks to twelve months:

- £490 per month (equal to £122.50 per week to Group 1 countries or territories)
- £445 per month (equal to £111.25 per week to Group 2 and 3 countries or territories)

There is also additional support for those with 'special educational needs and disabilities' (SEND)- contact the University if you meet the criteria.

Will my tuition fees be paid by the Turing scheme?

Under the Turing Scheme funding is not available for tuition fees. There is an expectation that HE providers will agree tuition fee waivers with their partner HE providers, in order to facilitate student study placements. Cost of living funding, and travel funding where applicable, will be available..

What happens to my fees if I'm on exchange?

Students on a year-long exchange, whether in the Turing Scheme or not, are charged the lower fee of £1,385. Make sure you tick the correct boxes on your SFE application, to ensure your funding is adjusted accordingly.

What loans and grants can I expect?

Again, this will depend on eligibility to SFE funding, how long you spend abroad and whether or not you are under The Turing Scheme. Typically, students qualify for the 'study abroad' maintenance loan and many of the usual living cost grants should be available. However, if you plan to take children away with you, be prepared, as the childcare grant may not be paid. Seek advice if you are thinking of this option.

What expenses and travel costs can I claim?

Firstly, Students must attend more than 50% of the quarter to receive travel expenses e.g. if 1st Sept – Dec 31st term is about 17 weeks so the student has to study abroad at least 9 weeks

Travel grants, medical insurance, costs towards a mandatory visa, or vaccinations can also be claimed and paid in advance if necessary (after the first £303 of expenditure has been disregarded, subject to income assessment).

Any questions?

The Student Exchange Office for Study abroad - **020 8411 5962**
exchanges@mdx.ac.uk

MDXworks for placements call: **020 8411 6161**

unihub.mdx.ac.uk/employment/placements-and-internships

Contact the Middlesex University Student Welfare Advice Team on 020 8411 3008 between 11am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm Mon to Fri, or submit an enquiry at **unihub.mdx.ac.uk/support/unihelp**
You can access all of our other Welfare Advice Guides at:

unihub.mdx.ac.uk/welfare-guides

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.

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Produced by the Middlesex University Student Welfare Advice Team