

Part-time: Financial Support 2023-24

The purpose of this guide is to give a basic overview of the funding that is available if you are starting a part-time course in the academic year 2023/24.

These changes **do not** apply to continuing students, who started their course before 2018.

Most students who wish to study at University on a part-time basis can now apply for a fee loan. This means that if you were deterred from studying in the past due to up-front fee costs you can apply for a loan to cover the fee costs. The amount you borrow is repayable when you have completed or you leave your course and you are earning over £25,000 per year.

Am I eligible for the Fee Loan?

You should be eligible for a fee loan if you fit all the following criteria:

1. You are a 'home' student, the rules for home status are complicated so for more information contact Welfare Advice Guide
2. You are studying for a degree, HND, HNC or similar
3. You are taking a minimum of 25% of the course per academic year
4. Your course lasts at least one year
5. You do not already hold a degree level qualification

How much fee support will I receive?

The maximum amount payable will be up to 75% of the full-time equivalent.

What is the maximum number of years I can receive the fee loan?

Sixteen years, assuming you are studying only 25% each year. If you study a larger percentage you will require less.

What are the income criteria?

There are no income criteria, the loan is non-means-tested, and therefore your household income is irrelevant.

Will I get a loan for living costs?

Yes. A maintenance loan is available for new Part-Time Undergraduates. The amount of maintenance loan you receive would vary depending on house hold income and the intensity of your part time study.

For the 2023/24 academic year:

The table below shows the **minimum** you may receive based on where you live while studying and the intensity of your course. You may get more depending on household income.

Study intensity	Living at home	Studying in London
75% of Full Time Study	at least £2,773	at least £4,863
50% of Full Time Study	at least £1,849	at least £3,242
25% of Full Time Study	at least £925	at least £1,621

How do I apply?

You apply to Student Finance England
www.gov.uk/student-finance

What about EU students?

If you are an EU student with settled or pre-settled status you may also be eligible to apply for SFE support. See Welfare Advice Guide: 'EU Students and Funding' 'EEA Migrant Workers and Student Funding'.

How do I pay back my Fee Loan?

You'll be due to start repaying your loan in the April, four years after the start of your course or the April after you leave your course - whichever comes first. But you only start to pay when you are earning above the £25,000 per year threshold. At this point you will have deductions made from your salary through the tax system.

For example, if you earn £33,000, your employer will deduct 9% of £8,000 which amounts to £60.00 per month.

Will I be charged interest?

Yes, interest on your loan will be based on inflation (RPI-all items index)

Note: The loan debt will be written off after 40 year.

Is there any help available for disabled students?

Yes. Non means-tested **Disabled Student Allowances** are payable to students who have a mental health condition, a specific learning difficulty or a disability. Students on distance learning courses can also apply. The allowance has three components: a Specialist Equipment Allowance, a Non-Medical Helper Allowance, and a General Allowance. All these allowances are **non-repayable**.

For more information see Welfare Advice Guide: 'Disability Support'.

Is there any further financial help for students with children?

Yes. Students can also apply for the University's Living Cost Fund (LCF). This is a discretionary, fund targeted towards students experiencing hardship. Any award is non-repayable. For other scholarships Middlesex offer see: www.mdx.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/fees/scholarships

What about Welfare Benefits?

Unlike the majority of full-time students, part-time students can claim means-tested benefits while they study such as Universal Credit. Universal Credit have their own rules about entitlement, which have to be satisfied. The fee loan should not be counted for benefit purposes, however maintenance loan may be counted.

Note: for students with dependants please see Welfare Advice guides: '**Childcare Grant and other Money for Student Parents**' and '**Universal Credit**'

Any questions?

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 <https://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/support/unihelp>

(use the subject Student Welfare Advice in the enquiry)

or make an appointment at <https://unihelponline.mdx.ac.uk/#/offlineBookAppointmentService/MzAw//MTY=/>

Middlesex University Student Welfare Advice Team have 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. This publication can only be a guide and is not intended to replace the complex and diverse legislation covered. Statutes and regulations may change during the year without notice. If in doubt seek independent advice.

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