

Welfare Advice Guides

Student funding: becoming eligible during my course

Yes, some students may become eligible for funding during their course. The purpose of this guide is to give a very basic overview of which 'events' may mean that you are now entitled to student funding from Student Finance England. This means that International fee-paying students may qualify for Home fee status. Generally, an event is a change in your immigration status.

What is Student Funding?

Student funding is money in the form of loans and grants from the UK Government. You can apply for a tuition fee loan to pay your fees and a maintenance loan to support your expenses while you study. There are also additional grants that you can apply for:

- Adult Dependants' Grant (ADG)
- Parents' Learning Allowance (PLA)
- Childcare Grant (CCG)
- Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)

For more information see Welfare Advice Guide: New Full-Time Students.

What is an Event?

There are a number of categories, so we have listed them below. The rules are complicated and we cannot cover every scenario here; if you have any doubts about your status, always seek advice. The events are:

- you or your spouse, civil partner or parent is recognised as a refugee, a person granted stateless leave or becomes a person granted humanitarian protection,
- you become a family member of an EU national where both the EU national and the family member have protected rights under the Withdrawal Agreement,
- you become the family member of a person settled in the UK,
- you become a family member of a UK national living in the EEA/Switzerland before the end of the transition period,
- you become a family member of a United Kingdom national where that family member has resident status in Gibraltar granted by the Government of Gibraltar,

- you become a family member of an EU national, where that family member has a right of residence in Gibraltar arising under the EU withdrawal agreement,
- you acquire settled status under the EUSS pursuant to rights under the Withdrawal Agreement
- you become a person with protected rights, or a frontier worker within the meaning of regulation 3 of the Citizens' Rights (Frontier Workers) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020, who is an EEA migrant worker or an EEA self-employed person, a Swiss employed person or a Swiss self-employed person, an EEA frontier worker or an EEA frontier self-employed person, a Swiss frontier employed person or a Swiss frontier selfemployed person, or the family member of any of these,
- you are studying on a designated course beginning before 1 August 2021 and becomes a person who is an EEA migrant worker or an EEA self-employed person, a Swiss employed person or a Swiss self-employed person, an EEA frontier worker or an EEA frontier self-employed person, a Swiss frontier employed person or a Swiss frontier self-employed person, or the family member of any of these,
- you are studying on a designated course beginning before 1 August 2021 and become the child of a Swiss national,
- you become the child of a Swiss national who is covered by the Swiss Agreement,
- you are studying on a designated course beginning before 1 August 2021 and become the child of Turkish worker,
- you become a person granted indefinite leave to remain as a victim of domestic violence or domestic abuse,
- you become a person granted indefinite leave to remain as a bereaved partner
- you become a person granted Calais leave,
- you or your parent is awarded Section 67 leave,
- you or your family member is awarded leave under Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) or the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ARCS), or
- you or your family member is granted leave under one of the Ukraine Schemes.

What does this mean in practice?

Depending on when you receive your new Leave to Remain based on one of the events above will determine when you are eligible for the different elements of funding.

The following will be paid in subsequent years and the following term after the event:

- Maintenance Loan
- Adult Dependants' Grant (ADG)
- Parents' Learning Allowance (PLA)
- Childcare Grant (CCG)

Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) will be paid from the date of the award.

What about the tuition fee loan?

The tuition fee loan will be available in the academic year in which the award of the status occurs (provided that the event occurred within the first three months of the academic year) or if after this date the following academic year.

How do I apply for this funding?

You need to make an application to Student Finance England (SFE). You apply on-line at:

www.gov.uk/student-finance

When you fill out your application you will also have to provide the following documentary evidence:

- National Insurance Number
- Birth Certificate/UK Passport number
- Household income details
- Student Bank Account details

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=/

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Student Funding: Can I become eligible

Produced by the Middlesex University Student Welfare Advice Team