

Funding for NEW Full-Time Undergraduate entrants in 2017-18

What is available?

Student funding is made up of: **Loans, grants*** and **bursaries**:

- Loans are **REPAYABLE** once you leave your course and are earning an annual salary of more than £21,000
- Grants and bursaries are **NON-REPAYABLE**

Tuition Fee Loan -

Paid direct to the University

- **£9,250** for Degree level
- **£7,800** for HND/HNC

Maintenance Loan

The maintenance loan is paid directly to the student in three instalments and is to help with general living costs.

Government Grants* - *only available for students who have an entitlement to benefits*

If a student is a lone parent, has dependents or receives disability benefits there is further funding available - please contact Student Finance England.

Southampton Solent University Bursary

The University is committed to encouraging applications from underrepresented groups by providing means tested financial support. In 2017/18, the type of support has changed and we will be offering the following bursary:

- **Foundation Year entrant:** £3,000 bursary in year 0 (*up to 80 to be awarded to eligible students*).
- **Full-time Degree Year 1 entrants:** £3,000 bursary in year one (*up to 280 to be awarded to eligible students*).
- **Full-time Degree Year 2+:** £500 bursary in each remaining year of study (*for all full-time students who previously received the £3,000 bursary in their foundation or first year*).

You do not need to complete a separate application. All the relevant information is taken from the student finance form you completed and returned to Student Finance England when applying for maintenance and tuition fee loans. For full details on the bursary please go to: www.solent.ac.uk/finance/grants-bursaries-scholarships/bursaries

Grants from the University

Once a student has enrolled onto their course at Southampton Solent University they may be eligible to apply for some extra non-repayable funding. We have a Course Costs grant; Unpaid Work Experience grant, an 'Access Fund' (for general living costs), Carers bursary and Estrangement bursary. Full details and information on eligibility criteria will be available on the university's website or via the student funding team.

The University also offers various scholarships:

www.solent.ac.uk/studying/fees/financial-support/scholarships/scholarships.aspx

All are subject to eligibility criteria.

How you are assessed by Student Finance

The funding students receive can depend on **household income**. This is usually the income of their parent(s) with whom they normally live (or previously lived with if no longer at home) including any partners/step-parents.

- Students **under 25*** are automatically assessed on parental income.
- **Household income** assessment for **2017/18** is based on income for **tax year 2015/16**.

- Students with a higher household income will receive a lower amount of government funding. It is then expected that the shortfall can be met by parental contribution.
- If the household income has dropped by 15% or more, parents can fill in a '*current year income assessment form*' in addition to providing information from 2015/16, and send it to Student Finance.
- Students will **ONLY** be assessed **independently** from their parents if they are **25 or over** or they are under 25* and fulfil other eligibility criteria - speak to a Student Funding Adviser for details.

Funding figures for 2017/18

Household Income	*Maximum Maintenance Loan	**Maximum Maintenance Loan - for students' entitled to Benefits
£25,000 or less	£8,430	£9,609
£30,000	£7,825	£8,674
£35,000	£7,220	£7,739
£40,000	£6,615	£6,804
£42,875	£6,266	£6,266
£55,000	£4,799	£4,799
Over £62,187	£3,928	£3,928

*Based on a student living AWAY from parental home outside London

**Plus any grants: Adult Dependents grant; Parent Learning Allowance; Childcare grant.

Applying for your funding

Apply on-line or complete the PN1 form at: www.gov.uk/student-finance

- The application process usually takes about 8 weeks but can take much longer, so **Do Not Delay**.
- You need to apply by the **end of May 2017** if you want to be sure your application will be processed by the start of term in September (late applications **will** be accepted but payments may take longer). You have until May 2018 to make any changes.
- Students can make changes to their details via their online account: www.gov.uk/apply-for-student-finance/change-an-application if they later change their mind about their course or university.

Receiving your funding

Payment of funding is triggered by the students' **enrolment**, receipt of their **declaration form** and the university **confirming registration** - once this has all been done, payments will take approx. 3-5 working days to reach the students bank account. Please ensure you have some money to tide you over until your funds arrive.

Further information

- Student Finance England (SFE) helpline: **0300 100 0607**; website: www.gov.uk/student-finance
- Student Funding Team; Southampton Solent University, Students 1st Support RM011; available Monday - Friday. Tel: 023 820 13427 or Email: student.funding@solent.ac.uk
Visit our webpages: www.solent.ac.uk/studying-at-solent/student-support/funding-advice-team

Please note: *previous study at higher education level can affect your funding even if you did not obtain a qualification. If you have studied before, please check with Student Finance England or the Student Funding Team **before** you start your course.*