



Southampton  
**SOLENT**  
University

# FUNDING FOR CARE LEAVERS, FOYER FEDERATION, AND SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION STUDENTS

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**Student Funding Team**

**Students 1<sup>st</sup> Support** (RM011 - opposite the Student Hub)

Tel: 023 82013427

Email: [student.funding@solent.ac.uk](mailto:student.funding@solent.ac.uk)

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## **2016/17 funding for Care Leavers, Foyer Federation or Supported Accommodation students**

At Southampton Solent University we provide additional support to care leavers or students who have lived in Foyer Federation/supported accommodation. Eligible students must be under 25 on the 1<sup>st</sup> September of the first day of the course and:

- are or have been looked after by any Local Authority for a period of thirteen weeks or more after the age of fourteen and before your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- are currently or have been a Foyer Federation resident
- are currently or have been living in supported accommodation

## **Financial support from the Government**

Full-time home (UK) undergraduate students are entitled to financial support from the UK Government as long as they haven't previously completed a degree course. You can apply for a tuition fee loan to cover your fees, and a maintenance loan to cover living costs.

For 2016/17 the maximum maintenance loan is £8,200. However, if you qualify for benefits whilst being a full time student, the loan would increase to £9,347.

As a care leaver, you should be assessed as an independent student. You will need to state that you are a care leaver on your Student Finance application form and provide the relevant evidence of your care status. By providing this evidence, you will be assessed for the full maintenance Loan. As an independent student, only the income of any partner you live with will be considered when assessing how much extra loan you are entitled to.

If you are estranged from your parents and have been living in Foyer/supported accommodation you will need to provide evidence of the estrangement to Student Finance England (SFE) i.e. a supporting letter from your key worker.

To find out more about student funding and how to apply please refer to the Student Funding web pages:

[www.solent.ac.uk/studying/fees/financial-support/applying-for-student-funding.aspx](http://www.solent.ac.uk/studying/fees/financial-support/applying-for-student-funding.aspx)

## **Financial support from your Local Authority**

All local authorities are expected to provide financial support to care leavers who progress to higher education. Contact your Local Authority to find out what support is available or we can ask on your behalf.

## **Financial Support available from the University**

The University offers the following additional financial support:

### **❖ Care Leavers Bursary**

This is a non-income assessed annual bursary of £1,500 for home (UK) undergraduate students studying full-time who:

- Are under 25 on the first day of the course, **and**
- are looked after or have been looked after by any Local Authority for a period of thirteen weeks or more after the age of fourteen and before your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### **❖ Foyer Federation/Supported Accommodation Bursary**

This is a non-income assessed annual bursary of £1,500 for home (UK) undergraduate students studying full time who:

- Are under 25 on the first day of the course, **and**
- are currently living or have previously lived in supported accommodation or a Foyer Federation.
- In most cases students must have spent a significant period of time living in this type of accommodation for reasons related to their physical or mental wellbeing.

## **How to apply for either of these two bursaries**

Please contact the Student Funding Team (see overleaf). We will provide you with an application form and once completed (and you have provided the necessary evidence), you will be assessed for the bursary. If successful, you will receive a payment each term providing you remain on your course.

## **Additional University support**

In addition to the funding support outlined in this leaflet, the university also offers the following support:

- Priority given to first year care leavers/Foyer Federation/supported accommodation residents when allocating rooms in halls of residence.
- Possible continued residence in halls of residence for subsequent years (by arrangement)
- An extended halls contract to provide accommodation all year round.

For more information, please contact the Accommodation office

Tel: 023 82013461 or visit:

[www.solent.ac.uk/studying/accommodation/accommodation.aspx](http://www.solent.ac.uk/studying/accommodation/accommodation.aspx)

### **The Student Funding Team offers:**

- A financial health check to ensure you are receiving all the funding to which you are entitled
- A check on your eligibility for further financial assistance from the Solent Access to Learning Fund
- Inclusion on the “on-track” scheme and your own dedicated Personal Support Key Adviser (optional)

### **To contact the Student Funding Team:**

- Tel: 023 82013427
- Students 1<sup>st</sup> Support, (RM011 - opposite the Student Hub)
- email: [student.funding@solent.ac.uk](mailto:student.funding@solent.ac.uk) or
- visit: [www.solent.ac.uk/welfare](http://www.solent.ac.uk/welfare)

### **Further information:**

#### **For care leavers;**

More information is available from “The Who Cares Trust” who produce “The H.E. Handbook for Care Leavers” at:

[www.thewhocarestrust.org.uk/pages/our-higher-education-guides-for-care-leavers-.html](http://www.thewhocarestrust.org.uk/pages/our-higher-education-guides-for-care-leavers-.html)

#### **For students who are estranged;**

Further support and information is available from “The Stand Alone Trust”: [www.standalone.org.uk/](http://www.standalone.org.uk/)