

Postgraduate Loan

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2017/18

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How and when to apply

The quickest way to apply is online at www.gov.uk/postgraduateloan

New students can apply from June 2017.

The student doesn't need to have a confirmed place at university to apply. They should simply apply using their preferred choice of course and can update this later if they need to. Students should apply as early as possible to make sure their Postgraduate Loan is ready for the start of their course.

Before students start their online application, they should have the following to hand:

- valid UK passport (if they have one),
- university and course details,
- bank account details, and
- National Insurance number.

Once they start their online application they can save it at any time and go back to complete it later.



Evidence

We can't process the student's application until we have all the information and evidence we've asked for. In most cases it's easy for the student to provide all the details we need by simply filling in all the details on their application. For example, the student's valid UK passport details give us the information we need to confirm their identity.

In certain circumstances the student may have to send more evidence. If they do, we'll let them know what they need to send. They should send any information or evidence we ask for as soon as possible so their application isn't delayed.



What happens next?

If the student applied online, they should print the declaration form which they must sign and return to us as soon as possible.

Once we've assessed the student's application, we'll send them a Postgraduate Loan entitlement letter confirming how much Postgraduate Loan they'll get. Students should keep this letter as they might have to show it to their university when they register.

How and when to apply

What if a student's circumstances change?

Students must let us know if any of their personal or university and course details change. They can check how to do this by logging in to their account at www.gov.uk/postgraduateloan

Starting their course

Students will have to register at university and start their course before we can make their first payment.

The Postgraduate Loan will be paid directly into the student's bank account. It can take two or three days for the payment to reach the student's account, depending on their bank. We'll make payments to them three times during each academic year.

Students will be liable to pay back any Postgraduate Loan they borrow, including any interest. See the Repaying a Postgraduate Loan factsheet for more information.

Applications for Disabled Students' Allowances

Students who are also applying for Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs) will need to complete a DSA1 application form and provide supporting evidence. We'll send the form to the student if they specify on their main application that they want to apply. The form can also be downloaded from www.gov.uk/postgraduateloan

It can take up to 14 weeks to process an application for DSAs, so students should send these applications as soon as possible.

Need help?

If your students need any help with the application process, send them to SFE's dedicated student finance zone on The Student Room at www.thestudentroom.co.uk/studentfinance where they'll find a range of helpful information, guidance and films about Postgraduate Loans.

All Postgraduate Loan information is subject to Parliamentary approval.

www.practitioners.slc.co.uk

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