



Student finance for new NHS students starting a course on or after 1 August 2017

Eligibility 

What funding is available? 

More information 



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Students will have two main costs while studying: tuition fees and living costs. Students starting an NHS course on or after 1 August 2017 will no longer be eligible to apply for the NHS Bursary. Most new students can now apply to Student Finance England for funding instead.

Eligibility



Whether a student can get funding depends on their personal circumstances and their course.

Nationality and residency

To apply for funding, students must:

- be a UK national or have settled status (this means they have no restrictions on how long they can stay in the UK),
- be ordinarily resident in England, and
- have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands for three years before the first day of the first academic year of their course.

There are some circumstances where they may still be eligible if they don't meet these residency requirements. To find out more download the 'Student Finance Eligibility' factsheet.

Previous study

Full financial support is available if the student already has a degree but they're starting a pre-registration nursing, midwifery or Allied Health Professional course (excluding dental hygiene and dental therapy, postgraduate courses and designated part-time courses) in England on or after 1 August 2017. EU students will be able to get a Tuition Fee Loan only from us.

To get funding, students must not be professionally registered within the healthcare profession they are training for. For example, a student who is professionally registered as a nurse and holds a nursing degree would not be able to get funding for a second pre-registration nursing degree.

These students should visit www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/student-services for NHS Bursary funding information.

Course

The course must be in England and one of the following:

- nursing (adult, child, mental health, learning and disability)
- midwifery
- dietetics/nutrition
- occupational therapy
- orthoptics
- orthotics prosthetics
- physiotherapy
- podiatry/chiropractic
- radiography (diagnostic and therapeutic)
- speech and language therapy
- operating department practitioner

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Medicine and dentistry courses

Eligible students starting an undergraduate medicine or dentistry course will get full funding from us in their first four years. From their fifth year, they'll be able to get an NHS Bursary and a reduced-rate Maintenance Loan from us.

If they're studying a graduate entry medical or dentistry programme they can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £5,785 in their first year. However, they will need to pay the first £3,465 of any tuition fee charged by their university or college.

Graduate entry medicine and dentistry students will be able to get an NHS Bursary from the second year of their course. Students studying medicine and dentistry as a second degree will not be able to get a Tuition Fee Loan from us, and should apply for funding through the NHS.

For more information visit www.gov.uk/nhs-bursaries

What funding is available?



Tuition Fee Loan

Most universities and colleges can charge up to £9,250 a year for full-time courses. Most students won't have to pay for tuition fees up front. Eligible new students studying at a publicly-funded university or college can get a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £9,250 to cover their fees.

Students who are studying at a privately-funded university or college should check if their course is 'designated' – this means the course is approved for government funding and is eligible for student finance. If the course is eligible for student finance, the student can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £6,165 a year. Some courses at privately-funded universities and colleges may cost more than this. It's up to the student to pay the difference between the course tuition fees and the amount of Tuition Fee Loan they get.

The Tuition Fee Loan doesn't have to be paid back until their income is over the UK repayment threshold, which is currently £21,000 a year, £1,750 a month or £404 a week.

Maintenance Loan

New students can also apply for a Maintenance Loan to help with living costs. How much they can get depends on where they live and where they study. The basic rate of Maintenance Loan doesn't depend on the student's household income but they can apply for more that does.

The Maintenance Loan has to be paid back, but not until the student has finished or left their course and their income is over the repayment threshold.

For more information download the 'Student finance available for new full-time students' factsheet.

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Extra help

Some students may be able to get extra help. For example, if their course is longer than 30 weeks and three days; they have a disability, including a long-term health condition, mental-health condition or specific learning difficulty; or they have children or an adult who depends on them financially.

Students studying in England might also be able to get an extra £1,000 from the NHS through the Learning Support Fund to help with childcare – this won't affect their ability to get a Childcare Grant from us.

There's also help available from the Learning Support Fund for students in financial hardship, as well as funding to help with travel costs.

More information



For more information on NHS courses, visit www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/student-services

There's also information for students on our student finance zone at www.thestudentroom.co.uk/studentfinance

www.practitioners.slc.co.uk

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