

STUDENT SUPPORT INFORMATION NOTE
STUDENT SUPPORT EU EXIT REGULATIONS FOR
2019/20 ACADEMIC YEAR

TO:

HIGHER EDUCATION PRACTITIONERS
IN ENGLAND

SSIN 04/19
07 February 2019

Dear colleague:

ACCESS TO STUDENT FINANCE SUPPORT IN 2019/20 ACADEMIC YEAR (EU EXIT):

THE EDUCATION (STUDENT FEES, AWARDS AND SUPPORT) (AMENDMENT) (EU EXIT) REGULATIONS 2019 (“the EU Exit Regulations”)

- 1) The Education (Student Fees, Awards and Support) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (Statutory Instrument No.139) were laid before Parliament on **31 January 2019** and will come into force the day after Exit, in the event of a no deal.
- 2) On 2 July 2018, the Government announced that eligibility rules for students from the European Union (EU) and their family members, who commence courses in England in the academic year starting in August 2019 will remain unchanged. EU nationals will remain eligible for home fee status, undergraduate, postgraduate and advanced learner financial support from Student Finance England for the duration of their courses under the current eligibility rules. Similar assurances have been made by government for earlier academic years.
- 3) This instrument gives effect to that announcement so that EU nationals and others who meet the current eligibility requirements continue to be eligible for home fee status and student finance support for courses starting in the 2019/20 academic year and the remainder of the 2018/19 academic year on the same basis as now.

4) The amendments made include:

- i. updating references to the EEA to include the UK and Gibraltar, as appropriate, to reflect the UK's status after EU exit, and so that these references continue to operate as they do now after exit day;
- ii. amending the eligibility category relating to EU nationals and their family members to ensure that students, such as British citizens resident in Gibraltar, who may have relied on this category before EU exit, can continue to access home fee status and student support on the same basis after exit day;
- iii. amending the definition of "Erasmus year" to confirm that this definition will apply in relation to academic years beginning before or after exit day, and that it covers students who are participating in the Erasmus scheme, or were participating in the scheme, immediately before exit day. In practice, this means that students participating in the Erasmus scheme in the current academic year will continue to be treated as being on an Erasmus year for student finance purposes for the remainder of the 2018/19 academic year; and
- iv. updating references to "Member State" and "EEA State" to reflect the status of the UK after exit, so that these references continue to operate appropriately after exit day.

5) An electronic copy of the **EU Exit Regulations** can be accessed on the legislation.gov.uk website at:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2019/139/contents/made>

6) An **Explanatory Memorandum** setting out these amendments in detail can also be accessed on the legislation.gov.uk website at:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2019/139/memorandum/contents>

ORDERING COPIES OF REGULATIONS:

7) If you wish to order copies of Regulations, please access the TSO Shop website and click on the 'contact us' link at the top of the webpage: www.tsoshop.co.uk

ENQUIRIES:

8) If you have any queries about the Regulations, please contact, in the first instance, the Student Finance England Practitioner Support Team: telephone 0300 100 0618; email SSIN_queries@slc.co.uk