

TO:

HIGHER EDUCATION PRACTITIONERS
IN ENGLAND

SSIN 01/24
30 January 2024

Dear colleague:

HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT SUPPORT IN 2024/25:

**THE EDUCATION (STUDENT FEES, AWARDS AND SUPPORT)
(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2024**

1. Changes to student support for 2024/25 are set out in the Education (Student Fees, Awards and Support) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (S.I. 2024 No. 85) which were laid before Parliament on **25 January 2024** and will come into force on **15 February 2024**. These Regulations are subject to Parliamentary scrutiny.

The Education (Student Fees, Awards and Support) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (“the 2024/25 Student Finance Regulations”)

2. The 2024/25 Student Finance Regulations:
 - a. introduce a revised living costs support package for new and continuing full-time students attending undergraduate courses in respect of an academic year beginning on or after 1 August 2024 (the 2024/25 academic year).
 - b. increase maximum loans for living costs and long courses loans for new and continuing full-time students attending their undergraduate courses in 2024/25 by 2.5%.
 - c. increase maximum maintenance grants and special support grants in 2024/25 for full-time students who started attending their undergraduate courses before 1 August 2016 by 2.5%.
 - d. increase maximum grants in 2024/25 for new and continuing full-time undergraduate students with adult or child dependants by 2.5% (adult dependants’ grant, childcare grant, parents’ learning allowance).

- e. increase maximum loans for living costs in 2024/25 for part-time students attending degree level and equivalent courses who started their courses on or after 1 August 2018 by 2.5%.
 - f. increase maximum loans in 2024/25 for students starting postgraduate master's degree courses from 1 August 2024 by 2.5%.
 - g. increase maximum loans in 2024/25 for students starting postgraduate doctoral degree courses from 1 August 2024 by 2.5%.
3. The 2024/25 Student Finance Regulations also make the following changes for the 2024/25 academic year:
- a. children granted Indefinite Leave to Enter or Remain (ILE/R) by the Home Office where their parent has been granted ILE/R as a victim of domestic abuse, or children granted Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) by the Home Office where their parent has been granted ILR as a bereaved partner will be treated for student support and home fee status purposes in the same way as their parent. This means that they will not be subject to the 3-year ordinary residence requirement but will instead need only to be ordinarily resident in England on the course start date.
 - b. In addition, the 'in year qualifying event' provisions for these categories have been extended to include children granted ILE/R by the Home Office where their parent has been granted ILE/R as a victim of domestic abuse, and children granted ILR by the Home Office where their parent has been granted ILR as a bereaved partner. This means that students whose parents were not granted ILE/R as a victim of domestic abuse, or ILR as a bereaved partner by the Home Office on the course start date, but later acquire this status, will become eligible for student support for the rest of their course and will qualify for home fee status.
 - c. British citizens born in the Chagos Islands and their direct descendants who are British citizens will qualify for fee loan support and home fee status in line with existing policy for persons resident in the British Overseas Territories. This means that they will not be subject to the 3-year ordinary residence requirement which currently excludes most of this group of

students from support, as they typically reside or have recently resided outside the UK. They will instead be treated as if they have been ordinarily resident in the British Overseas Territories during any of the 3-year period where they have not been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands.

- d. students who have been granted indefinite leave to enter (ILE) as a victim of transnational marriage abandonment (TMA) and their children who are granted ILE will qualify for student support and home fee status if they are ordinarily resident in England on the course start date. They will not be subject to the 3-year ordinary residence requirement. In addition, ILE as a victim of TMA is included as an 'in year qualifying event'. This means that students who were not granted ILE as a victim of TMA on the course start date, but later acquire this status, will become eligible for student support for the rest of their course and will qualify for home fee status.
 - e. Students gaining settled status part-way through their course will become eligible for student support for the rest of their course and will qualify for home fee status.
4. A number of other policy and technical changes are set out in the Explanatory Memorandum to the Regulations. An electronic copy of the **2024/25 Student Finance Regulations and Explanatory Memorandum** can be accessed on the [legislation.gov.uk](https://www.legislation.gov.uk) website at:

[The Education \(Student Fees, Awards and Support\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2024/1000/contents/memorandum)
 5. An **Equality Analysis** of Higher Education Student Finance changes for undergraduates and postgraduates in 2024/25, can be found on the [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-education-student-finance-2024-to-2025-equality-analysis>
 6. The main changes for 2024/25 were announced through a **Written Statement** on 25 January 2024:

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2024-01-25/hcws209>

ORDERING COPIES OF REGULATIONS:

6. 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:

7. 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