



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Student Finance 2014

a guide for UK/EU undergraduates



If you are thinking about going to university in 2014 you may be wondering about the cost of tuition and the availability of grants, loans and bursaries. This booklet sets out the financial support which is on offer for new undergraduates at LSE and also what is available from the UK Government. You should read this information carefully to make sure that you don't miss out on money that you are entitled to receive. There are also many other resources which provide information on student finance and a list of useful websites can be found at the back of this booklet.

The information in this booklet is correct at the time of going to print in March 2013. Please do check online materials for the most up-to-date information.



LSE tuition fees

Undergraduate tuition fees for UK and EU students

LSE will charge **£9,000** a year for all its undergraduate degree programmes starting in 2014.

New UK and EU undergraduate students starting in 2014 will be charged this fee. Continuing UK and EU students will be charged according to the system of fees and financial support in year one of their programme.

Tuition fee loans

Students from England and the EU

Students living in England and the EU do not have to pay the tuition fee up front. The UK Government provides students with a tuition fee loan to cover the full cost of the fee for the duration of your undergraduate programme. You do not have to start repaying the loan until you have graduated from your course and you are earning over £21,000 per year (see page 5).

The tuition fee loan is administered by the Student Loans Company (SLC), the company which also handles maintenance grants and loans for students. You should apply for the tuition fee loan at the same time that you apply for your grant and maintenance loan, which is usually in the spring before you start university.

Once the tuition fee loan is arranged, it is paid by the SLC directly to LSE after you have registered. The tuition fee loan is not paid to the student.

Students can apply for a loan for £9,000 or for any amount below £9,000 (if you or your family want to pay some of the fee up front).

Interest charged on the tuition fee loan and the repayment terms are the same as those applied to the maintenance loan (see page 5).

Non-UK EU students are generally eligible to take out a tuition fee loan.

More information about tuition fee loans can be found on the following websites:

Gov.uk

gov.uk/student-finance

www.gov.uk/government/news/student-finance-arrangements-for-the-2014-to-2015-academic-year

Moneysavingexpert.com

moneysavingexpert.com/family/student-loans-tuition-fees-changes

Students from Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Students living in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, including those who study in England, receive their financial support from their “home” devolved administration. It is a matter for the devolved administrations to decide how they wish to support their students.

In 2013, students from Scotland and Northern Ireland received tuition fee loans to cover the full cost of the fee for the duration of the undergraduate programme.

Students from Wales received a non means-tested grant (payable to the University) for part of the tuition fee, together with a loan of £3,465.

Students should check out the relevant website below for the latest information on fees and financial support available for 2014 entry from their administration:

Northern Ireland

www.studentfinancenir.co.uk

Scotland www.saas.gov.uk

Wales

www.studentfinancewales.co.uk



LSE financial support

LSE Bursary

Undergraduate students from the UK and the EU who are eligible for a full or partial grant (see UK Government financial support on page 4) are also eligible for an LSE Bursary. For new students starting in 2014, the maximum Bursary available is **£4,000** per year for those students with the lowest residual incomes. The Bursary value tapers to £750 for those students on a partial grant.

LSE Bursaries

Students' household income	Grant status	LSE award per annum
£0 – £18,000	Full grant	£4,000
£18,001 – £25,000	Full grant	£3,500
£25,001 – £30,000	Partial grant	£2,750
£30,001 – £35,000	Partial grant	£1,750
£35,001 – £40,000	Partial grant	£1,000
£40,001 – £42,611	Partial grant	£750

You can use this Bursary to help with your living costs or to help pay your accommodation. It is up to you how you choose to use your Bursary.

UK students do not have to apply separately for the LSE Bursary. We will use the financial information you provide to the SLC when applying for your grants and loans to determine your eligibility for and the value of your Bursary, provided you opt to be means-tested (see Applying for grants and loans on page 4).

You will be notified during the summer before the start of your degree programme of your Bursary award. The Bursary will then be paid into your bank account in three termly instalments. The first instalment will be paid in the October of the first term once you have registered.

Eligibility for the LSE Bursary is assessed annually (in line with annual assessments for maintenance grants and loans).

There is no limit to the number of LSE Bursaries available. All UK students who are eligible for an LSE Bursary will receive one.

The LSE Bursary does not have to be repaid.

EU students are eligible for an LSE EU Bursary based on the same income assessment. Application is by completion of a form, which can be downloaded from lse.ac.uk/financialSupport



LSE National Scholarship Programme (NSP)

Students ordinarily resident in England and with a household income of less than £6,000 per year are also eligible to receive the LSE National Scholarship Programme (NSP) Award, in addition to their LSE Bursary. For students starting in 2014, the LSE NSP is worth £6,000 over a three year programme, and can be used for accommodation or fees, with a maximum of £1,000 being available as a cash award in your first year.

Full details of the NSP are published on our website. The Government has said that the scheme is to be kept under review, so may be subject to change in the coming years.

LSE NSP Award

Year of study	NSP Award	Form of award
1	£3,000	£1,000 cash bursary £2,000 accommodation/tuition fee discount
2	£1,500	Tuition fee/accommodation discount
3	£1,500	Tuition fee/accommodation discount

LSE Discretionary Bursaries

A number of Discretionary Bursaries are available for LSE students who face exceptional financial need. This might include, for example, caring responsibilities, financial need related to disability or unavoidable requirement to live at home. The value of the award may vary according to need, but is not expected to exceed a total of £4,000 combined with the LSE Bursary. These bursaries do not have to be repaid.

You should apply using the application form on the Financial Support website lse.ac.uk/financialSupport. The form should be returned to the Financial Support Office by the end of August 2014.

LSE scholarships

In addition to the LSE Bursary and LSE NSP Award, the School also makes available a range of scholarships for its new undergraduates from the UK, EU and overseas. These scholarships are donated by external organisations or alumni of the School, such as Stelios Haji-Ioannou.

Eligibility is often limited by, for example, place of residence or programme of study. However, all scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need.

In 2013 the following scholarships were available for students from the UK and EU.

LSE scholarships and eligibility (2013)

Name	Value	Eligibility
UK/EU Undergraduate Scholarship	£8,500 per year	Any Home UK or EU applicant
Stelios Scholarships	£6,206 per year	Home UK/EU applicants to business related disciplines
The Filiberto and Maria Fuentenebro Memorial Scholarship	£8,500 per year	Any Home EU student
Kadas Scholarship	£15,000 per year	Home EU students from specific countries
Bottriell Scholarship	£9,000 per year	Any Home UK student

It is too early to say which of these awards will be available in 2014 but you should check the Financial Support Office website (lse.ac.uk/financialSupport) in autumn 2013 to see what is available for students starting in 2014. The deadline for scholarship applications is June 2014.

Government financial support

The following information on government financial support is provisional at the time of going to print (March 2013). Please check the gov.uk/studentfinance website for the most up-to-date information.

Maintenance grant

Students ordinarily living in England with household incomes of up to £25,000 a year will be entitled to a maintenance grant (to help with living costs) of **£3,387**.

Students from households with an income between £25,001 and £42,611 will be entitled to a partial grant of between **£3,387** and **£50**.

The grant is paid into your bank account at the beginning of each term once you have registered on your course.

The grant does not have to be repaid.

Maintenance loan

All eligible students from England will be able to take out a maintenance loan to help with living costs. The maximum loan available for students studying in London (ie, at LSE) and living away from home is **£7,751**. If you study outside London or if you live at home while you study, the maximum loan value is lower.

There are two elements to the maintenance loan: a guaranteed loan and an income assessed loan.

Guaranteed loan: Up to 65 per cent of the maintenance loan will be available to everyone in 2013 regardless of their parental income.

The Income Assessed loan: 35 per cent of the amount you can borrow is means-tested (ie, it depends on your or your parents' household income).

The maintenance loan does have to be repaid.

Applying for grants and loans

You should apply for all of your grants and loans (maintenance and tuition fee) in the spring before you start university. The Student Loans Company (SLC) usually announces a date in

January/February when applications open and a deadline in May by which you should submit your application. You should check out the gov.uk and SLC websites for further details.

You and your family will need to complete a PN1 form which asks for a range of financial information about you and the household in which you live. It is this financial information which the SLC uses to assess your eligibility for a grant and part of the maintenance loan. The information submitted on the application form allows the SLC to calculate the "household residual income" (see section below). You can also allow your chosen university to access this financial information so that they can assess your eligibility for their own bursaries and scholarships. In the case

of LSE, this means that you will not have to apply separately for our Bursary and NSP package (see LSE financial support section on page 2).

Household residual income

This is effectively the household income BEFORE tax and AFTER any pension contributions or allowances for dependent children.

For all those dependent students (ie, not independent) then the income assessment is based on your combined parents' income – though if you have substantial savings/ investments of your own generating income they will be taken into account.

If your parents are divorced or separated then the SLC will assess the income of the parent you live with most of the time. If that parent remarries or has a cohabiting partner, their joint income will then be assessed.

Students from Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the EU

In 2013 there were grants and loans for living costs available for students from the UK devolved administrations. Please see their websites for information on 2014 support.

Financial support by household income*

Household income	Non-repayable grant	Living cost loan (max London rate £7,751)	Total
£25,000 or less	£3,387	£6,058	£9,445
£30,000	£2,440	£6,532	£8,972
£35,000	£1,493	£7,005	£8,498
£40,000	£545	£7,479	£8,024
£45,000	£0	£7,537	£7,537
£50,000	£0	£7,033	£7,033
£55,000	£0	£6,528	£6,528
£60,000	£0	£6,023	£6,023
£65,000	£0	£5,518	£5,518
over £70,000	£0	£5,038	£5,038

**Provisional breakdown based on 2013 data from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and including 2014 inflationary increase*

EU students are not normally eligible for support for living costs, gov.uk/student-finance has full details of eligibility criteria for funding.

Repayment of loans and rates of inflation

If you take out a tuition fee loan and a maintenance loan they are bundled together to make one combined loan. Interest starts to accrue on the loan from the day you receive the money.

You only start to repay your student loan after you graduate and once you are earning over £21,000 per year. You only repay 9 per cent of everything you earn annually above £21,000.

Rates of interest vary throughout the life of the loan.

While studying: The loan accrues interest at the rate of inflation, as measured by the Retail Price Index (RPI), plus 3 per cent. This continues until the first April after graduation after which a progressive taper is applied.

Graduates earning less than £21,000: The loan accrues interest at the rate of RPI inflation.

Graduates earning between £21,000 and £41,000: The interest rate will gradually rise from RPI to RPI plus 3 per cent the more you earn (the interest rises 0.00015 per cent for every extra pound you earn or, put another way, if you earn £1,000 more you accrue 0.15 per cent extra interest). These thresholds will rise with average earnings from 2017.

Graduates earning over £41,000: The loan accrues interest at the rate of RPI inflation plus 3 per cent.

The table below shows some salaries and typical repayments.

The loan is repaid through the income tax system if you work in the UK. Student loans do not go on credit files.

The student loan is written off after 30 years.

In 2012, the Government announced that graduates would be allowed to repay their loans early, if they wished to do so, without any penalty being applied.

Additional support

Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)

Disabled students from the UK can access DSAs which are grants to help with extra costs you might face as a result of a disability, long-term health condition, mental-health condition or specific learning difficulty like dyslexia. DSAs don't need to be paid back and can help pay for specialist equipment, non-medical helpers, additional travel costs and other costs like photocopying.

Childcare Grant (CCG)

You can apply for a Childcare Grant if you're a full-time undergraduate student living and studying in England and you:

- have at least one dependent child who is under 15 and in registered or approved childcare; or

- have at least one dependent child who is under 17, is registered as having special educational needs, and in registered or approved childcare.

Parents' Learning Allowance (PLA)

You can apply for a Parents' Learning Allowance if you're a full-time undergraduate student with dependent children. This helps with the extra costs associated with being a parent and a student. You don't need to be paying for childcare to be eligible.

Adult Dependants' Grant (ADG)

You can apply for the Adult Dependants' Grant if you're a full-time UK undergraduate student and you have an adult who depends on you financially. The adult can be a partner or another adult who depends on you financially, but you can't count grown-up children as adult dependants.

Sample repayments*

Salary	Amount of salary from which 9 per cent will be deducted	Monthly repayment
£25,000	£4,000	£30
£30,000	£9,000	£67.50
£35,000	£14,000	£105
£40,000	£19,000	£142.50
£45,000	£24,000	£180
£50,000	£29,000	£217.50
£55,000	£34,000	£255
£60,000	£39,000	£292.50

*Data supplied by BIS for 2013 entry

Further information

The following websites provide more information for prospective university students:

Moneysavingexpert.com

moneysavingexpert.com/family/student-loans-tuition-fees-changes

LSE alumnus Martin Lewis has also published a number of YouTube videos about student funding and money matters.

Gov.uk

gov.uk/student-finance

www.gov.uk/government/news/student-finance-arrangements-for-the-2014-to-2015-academic-year

LSE Financial Support Office

lse.ac.uk/financialSupport

Students from Northern Ireland

www.studentfinancenir.co.uk

Students from Scotland

www.saas.gov.uk

Students from Wales

www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

Find out more about LSE

For an undergraduate prospectus go to lse.ac.uk/requestProspectus

Email an LSE alum at lse.ac.uk/emailAnAlum

Follow our student bloggers at lse.ac.uk/studentBlogs

Come to one of our undergraduate open days on 26 March and 3 July 2013. To find out more and to book your place go to lse.ac.uk/meetLSE

For information on all our undergraduate programmes and how to apply to LSE go to lse.ac.uk/undergraduate

lse.ac.uk

