

Department of Economics

MSc Offer Holders' Frequently Asked Questions

How much is my LSE Tuition Fee and what does the Fee cover?

Tuition fee amounts for individual programmes are stated in the [Table of Fees](#) – please ensure you check the relevant academic year.

At LSE, your tuition fee covers registration and examination fees payable to the School, lectures, classes and individual supervision, lectures given at other colleges under intercollegiate arrangements and, under current arrangements, membership of the Students' Union. It does not cover [living costs](#) or travel or fieldwork (if any).

See the Graduate Admissions' [Fees and Funding](#) page for information on tuition fee amounts, fee status classification, fee reductions as well as living costs. This page also provides guidance on funding for Taught Master's programmes.

Can I get funding for my MSc?

MSc funding is decided centrally and does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Department. Please see the Graduate Admissions' [Fees and Funding](#) page for advice on funding for MSc programmes.

Your [Graduate Applicant Portal \(GAP\)](#) account includes a link to the online application form for the LSE [Graduate Support Scheme \(GSS\)](#) – please ensure you submit that [GSS application form](#) by the published deadline to ensure that your application is considered for any available MSc funding.

How do I apply for accommodation?

Visit the [Accommodation](#) office web pages for information on types and availability of accommodation as well as guidance on how to apply for a place in LSE halls of residence.

Please note that the Department does not handle accommodation matters but you are welcome to seek advice from the dedicated team handling [LSE Residential Services](#).

Students on MSc programmes in the Department of Economics must arrive in London by the last week of August for campus enrolment and the pre-sessional courses. To check which halls of residence offer early arrival, please read through the [Arriving Early At Your Hall](#) webpage.

Where can I see the structure and courses of each programme?

See the individual prospectus page for each MSc programme – section “*Programme Content*”.

- [L1U1: MSc Economics](#) (1-year programme)
- [L1U2: MSc Economics](#) (2-year programme)
- [L1UB: MSc Econometrics and Mathematical Economics](#) (1-year programme)

Also see the LSE *Academic Calendar* for all [Taught Masters](#) at LSE > click on “*Programme Regulations*” and “*Graduate Course Guides*” to get detailed insight into the topics covered within each programme of study.

Where can I learn about LSE's teaching delivery?

See information about LSE [Teaching Methods](#).

Can I study the MSc part-time?

The Department of Economics MSc programmes are offered only on a full-time basis, with in-person teaching on campus.

Is it possible to transfer credit from graduate level courses in Economics at my institution to the LSE MSc programmes?

LSE is unable to accept credit transfers to its graduate programmes, from any other institutions. There is no possibility for your formative studies to be mapped on to the courses of any of our taught graduate programmes. Please refer to the current [LSE Programme Regulations](#). Also see information about the “[Bologna Process](#)”.

Is it possible for MSc students to work as research assistant to Economics faculty or in research centres?

Research Assistant (RA) roles may be available in the Department on an ad-hoc basis but tend to be allocated primarily to our PhD students. RA opportunities are, however, sometimes circulated in the Department by the MSc Tutor. Additionally, MSc students may get in direct contact with our [Economics Research Centres](#) or with [Economics faculty](#) who are working in their specific field of interest to find out whether there are research opportunities. However, if/when considering taking up a RA role, students should remember that the MSc programme is intensive, fast-paced and challenging, with a demanding timetable of taught courses, hence careful thought should be given to taking up the commitment of an additional research role!

Are there any compulsory Pre- or Post- sessional courses as part of the MSc Programmes?

Yes. Each MSc programme has different compulsory course requirements at the start and/or end of the academic year. These pre/post sessional courses aim to equip students with the key concepts and techniques required to prepare them for their next phase of MSc study.

- MSc Economics students take [EC400](#): Introductory course in Mathematics and Statistics, starting in late August/early September. This is a 3-week non-credit course of teaching, followed by exams.
- MSc Econometrics and Mathematical Economics students take [EC451](#): a special Introductory course for MSc EME, covering core Economics topics. Starts in late August/early September. This is a 3-week non-credit course of teaching, followed by exams.
- MSc Economics (2-year) students will be required to take the pre-sessional non-credit course - [EC2A0](#): Introductory Course in Microeconomic Principles in early September before the main first year teaching programme starts. Additionally, at the end of their Preliminary Year (in late August/early September), they undertake a post-sessional course - [EC400](#): Introductory course in Mathematics and Statistics - a 3-week non-credit course of teaching, followed by exams.

Where do the Department's MSc students go after graduation?

Our MSc is a long-standing and prestigious degree, highly regarded by employers and by academic departments across the world. In recent years, our graduates have gained employment in leading investment banks (like Goldman Sachs, Bank of America etc), consulting firms (like McKinsey, BCG etc), international organisations (like the IMF, World Bank etc) as well as in the public sector. The overriding reason for our strong placement record is that we train our MSc students to think deeply and rigorously about economic problems, imparting technical skills that are highly prized by employers across the board.

The advanced and technically rigorous nature of the MSc programmes also serves as an excellent foundation for PhD programmes and other research-focused roles.

See the LSE's [Careers Service](#) website. In exploring "[What do LSE graduates do?](#)" you can filter on Department and Degree to obtain more specific information on graduate destinations of our MSc students. You can also explore learning opportunities beyond the classroom with [LSE Student Futures](#).

Are the Department's MSc programmes a suitable route to top PhD programmes?

Yes, the advanced and technically rigorous nature of all the Department's MSc programmes mean that our graduates have excellent preparation for progressing on to top PhD programmes, in the US and across the world, e.g. MIT, Princeton, Stanford, Chicago to name but a few. Our MSc programmes are also designed to prepare students for LSE's own [MRes/PhD in Economics](#).

Can I progress directly and automatically from the Department's MSc programme into the MRes/PhD Economics programme at LSE?

There is no longer any automatic and direct progression from any LSE programme into our MRes/PhD Economics. Students registering on an MSc in our Department of Economics, who wish to continue on to our MRes/PhD Economics after MSc graduation, will need to submit a standard full application package by the deadline published in the [MRes/PhD Economics prospectus](#). All applicants - including LSE students - will be given equal consideration, as part of the MRes/PhD Economics' standard process for admission as well as funding.

Can I transfer to a different programme after enrolling in the Department of Economics?

Any offer of admission and acceptance of a place at LSE would be for the specific degree programme that is named in the offer letter. LSE will normally not allow a successful applicant to transfer from one programme to another after enrolment, unless it considers that exceptional circumstances apply. New students must be fully registered (i.e. campus enrolled) before [requesting a programme transfer](#).

Important: Entry to one programme by no means guarantees transfer to another programme. Each programme has its own prerequisites and standards for entry. Furthermore, programmes may be too full to accept transfers after registration. All transfer decisions will be decided case-by-case, with a formal review process, and approval given by Directors of both the current programme as well as the new target programme. Procedurally, students who have previously applied to and been rejected for an MSc programme during the current admissions round cannot be reconsidered for a transfer to that programme. Overseas students should note that programme transfers may also be constrained by visa restrictions, for which they must first [seek immigration advice](#).

Local Rules: Academic departments may have local rules in place to decide if a transfer can be allowed, e.g. the Department of Economics will normally not permit students to transfer out, to another programme which has an equally challenging quantitative component. We might, however, exceptionally permit transfers to a mathematically less demanding programme if there are justifiable reasons for allowing this. Also, the Department will normally not permit a student in the Preliminary Year of our [MSc Economics \(2 year\)](#) to transfer to a different programme for their 2nd year of study, instead of following their normal progression route into Year 2 – they must then formally withdraw and apply to their new target programme, following standard application procedure.

What if I need further information and advice?

Important!! When contacting any of the teams listed below, please ensure you always state your full name and applicant ID number.

- For general admissions/offer-related queries, please search for the answer on the [Graduate Knowledge Base](#) where you can also follow the “*I Need Help*” link to contact the Graduate Admissions Office by email or Live Chat. You may also [contact Graduate Admissions](#).
- If you have a specific query about your MSc offer / conditions, please [contact the Department of Economics admissions team](#).
- If your query is about the MSc programme content/structure, please [contact the Department of Economics programmes team](#).
- If your query is about funding your MSc study, please read the [Fees and Funding page](#) or [contact the Financial Support Office](#).
- If your query is about Study Visa issues, please contact [LSE Student Advice & Engagement Team \(SAET\)](#) - they are the only LSE team authorised to provide immigration and visa advice.