

Funding for Higher Education (HE) Courses: Part-Time

Frequently Asked Questions

Will I have to pay for my course fees?

If you study on a part-time basis you may be expected to pay your course fees. However, Perth College UHI operates a system of Fee-Waivers which allows some students to study on a part-time basis for free. If you have been resident in the UK/EU/EEA for at least 3 years, are resident in Scotland, and are receiving certain benefits or have a low income, you may be entitled to study on a part-time basis and have your tuition fees waived.

Some courses at Perth College UHI are not covered by the Fee-Waiver Scheme and only certain benefits are acceptable as a basis for a Fee-Waiver. Please contact our Student Funding Adviser for more information and to check your eligibility.

It may also be possible to use funding from an Individual Learning Account (ILA) to pay for or contribute towards course fees. You need to be aged over 16 and living in Scotland to qualify for an ILA, and if you earn £22,000 a year or less, you could get £200 a year towards the cost of learning. Please note that you can only use this kind of ILA funding towards the cost of some courses, and you must have your ILA account set up before you can reserve a place on a course using this funding. Unfortunately, we cannot accept full or part payment through an ILA once a class has started. For more information, please call ILA Scotland on 0808 100 1090, or visit www.ilascotland.org.uk

If you are studying at least 40 Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF) Credits at SCQF Level 7-11, are aged over 16 and living in Scotland, you may qualify for up to £500 per year part time fee grant towards the cost of your tuition fees if you earn £22,000 a year or less. For more information, please visit:

www.saas.gov.uk/student_support/special_circumstances/part_time_dl.htm

Is there any funding available to me?

Some funding may be available to students learning on a part-time basis depending on the course of study, and individual circumstances.

You may also be entitled to receive support through the College's Discretionary and Childcare Funds. These funds offer assistance to students experiencing financial difficulty while at college and to those who pay formal childcare costs while they study. As with other forms of student funding, you will be required to meet a range of eligibility criteria in order to be entitled to receive help through these Funds.


For further information and advice on the funding that may be available to you, please contact our Student Funding Adviser.

Can I stay on my benefits while I am studying?

Depending on the benefit you receive, it may be possible to continue claiming this benefit, and study at the same time. However, it is essential that you check whether or not you are entitled to do this with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) before you begin a college course.

How can I find out more?

The information given here is intended only as a general guide and we would encourage you to discuss your own individual financial situation with our Student Funding Adviser to ensure you are aware of all of the funding that is available to you. You can contact an Adviser in the following ways:

 01738877375

 pc.student_funding@perth.uhi.ac.uk

 The Student Services Centre, Brahan Building, Perth College UHI

Funding for Higher Education (HE) Courses: Full-Time

Frequently Asked Questions

Will I have to pay for my course fees?

If you have been living in the UK/EU/EEA for at least 3 years, are resident in Scotland before the course start date, and you have not received funding for a course at the same level before, it is likely that you will not have to pay fees for your course.

If you have received funding in the past you might still be eligible for further funding but please contact our Student Funding Adviser for more information before completing an application.

Is there any funding available to me?

As a student on a Higher Education course, your main source of funding will be through the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS). If you are eligible, SAAS may provide you with funding support towards your tuition fees, and your living costs (through a student loan and a range of bursaries and supplementary grants). If you live outside Scotland you can apply for funding through www.studentfinance.direct.gov.uk if you live in England, www.studentfinancewales.co.uk if you live in Wales or www.studentfinancenir.co.uk if you live in Northern Ireland.

You may also be entitled to receive support through the College's Discretionary and Childcare Funds. These funds offer assistance to students experiencing financial difficulty while at college, and to those who pay for formal childcare costs while they study. Any assistance from these Funds depends on the income coming into your household.

How much will I receive?

Depending on circumstances and level of course, students will receive different amounts of loan and/or grants. It is important that you obtain individual advice on the funding that may be available to you based on your own personal circumstances. Our Student Funding Adviser will be happy to discuss this with you.

All payments are subject to satisfactory attendance and progress at college.

How will my funding entitlement be assessed?

Your household income will be taken into account when SAAS assess how much you may be entitled to receive, and so the income of your parents, spouse or partner will be taken into account as appropriate to your circumstances.

When should I apply?


When you have been offered an acceptance on a College course you will be sent details on how to apply for funding along with your acceptance letter. When you have accepted your place in writing, you should apply for funding as quickly as possible. You can apply to SAAS on-line from April 2011 via www.saas.gov.uk. **Please apply before the end of June 2011 to ensure your funding is in place at the start of your first term.**

Can I stay on my benefits while I am studying?


Generally, full-time students do not qualify for benefits while studying at HE level. Please contact our Student Funding Adviser or DWP for further information.

How can I find out more?

The information given here is intended only as a general guide and we would encourage you to discuss your own financial situation with our Student Funding Adviser to ensure you are aware of all of the funding that is available to you. You can contact an Adviser in the following ways:

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