

Student Funding – Frequently Asked Question’s – 2022/23

The majority of these FAQ’s relate to students applying to [Student Finance ENGLAND \(SFE\)](#) .

Many questions you may have about your funding may be answered here in this FAQ document. If you still cannot see the answer, please email student.funding@solent.ac.uk

If you are not from England, you will need to check on your own student funding body’s website for their information / application forms:

- Scotland: [SAAS](#)
- N.Ireland: [SFNI](#)
- Wales: [SFW](#)
- EU Team at SFE: [EU team contact details](#)

If your query is urgent and you can’t find the answer here, you should contact your student funding body directly.

Q. How do I contact the Student Funding Team at Solent University?

A. If you would like to discuss anything about your student funding you can come and see us in the Student Hub (RM050) during our drop-in times: 10am - 4pm Mon-Thurs and 10am - 1pm Friday or via email: student.funding@solent.ac.uk Alternatively you can contact us to [arrange a telephone or teams appointment](#).

Q. How do I apply for my funding?

A. If you haven’t applied yet you should do so ASAP (applications usually open in March each year). You can [sign up to get notifications](#) when Student Finance England (SFE) applications open. Students can apply for their funding for the current academic year up to 9 months after they start their course. You can do this online (if a UK resident) via the [gov.uk website](#).

If you are a NEW EU student and have pre-settled status, you need to complete the EU22N form to apply for a tuition fee loan only. If you are a returning EU student (with pre-settled status) then you need the EUPR1a form. EU students with settled status may be eligible to apply, like UK students, for the maintenance loan and tuition fee loan using the PN1 form (if new) or PR1 form (if returning). Forms will be available via this link: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-forms> .

Q. I've only just applied for my funding / haven't applied yet, can I get some help from the university until my maintenance loan comes through?

A. We advise you open a student bank account with an interest free overdraft / get a part time job / ask family for help, where possible. These can all tide you over until your loan comes through.

If you do apply late find out [how to get your first payment here](#).

If you have tried all these resources, you might be able to get a [short term loan](#) from the student funding team if you have evidence you have applied for your student funding (maintenance loan).

Q. I've been told by student finance that the university need to confirm my attendance?

A. Please contact Student.registry@solent.ac.uk as they confirm your attendance

Q. How long will it take for my funding to come through once I start my course?

A. Once the university has confirmed your attendance it can take 3-5 working days for your funding to arrive. If there are any problems with your application Student finance may have asked you for more information, so keep [checking your online account](#). If you continue to have problems with your funding please contact a student funding adviser or call your student funding body directly.

Q. I'm not getting a full maintenance loan, how can I get more?

A. First, check you have been income assessed by Student Finance. Did your parents (or partner, if living with) provide their income information for tax year 2020/21 to your student funding body? If not, they need to complete a [PFF2 form](#) or go [online](#) to do this.

If they have already done this, then this may be all you can have. If you want to check with Student Finance England, you can call them on **0300 100 0607**.

However, if their income has dropped by at least 15% since 2020/21 (redundancy, pay decrease etc) they can complete a CYI '[current year income form](#)' and return it to Student Finance England (*other funding bodies may have their own form*).

- Q. Do I apply every year, or does this cover me for the course?
- A. You apply for your funding for every year of study. Applications usually open from February / March each year ready for the September start.
- Q. I'm applying for my funding and my course / code is not on the list?
- A. Please contact Student.registry@solent.ac.uk as they set up the codes for your course
- Q. I've decided to change my course. How do I do this?
- A. If you have not yet enrolled onto your course you can change this via your [online account](#) with Student Finance. More information is on the [gov.uk pages](#)
- If you have already enrolled onto your course, please contact student.hub@solent.ac.uk who will be able to advise you on what forms to complete (as below).
- Q. I've just started at Solent and want to change my course. How do I let student finance know?
- A. Once you have enrolled onto your course and you decide you want to do a different course our student registry team will process your transfer form (available from the student.hub@solent.ac.uk) which then notifies your Student Finance body.
- Q. Is there any funding available from the university?
- A. We have many grants, bursaries, and scholarships available to eligible students. Full details can be found on our [webpages](#) and [university portal](#). Most of our grants require you to have a maintenance loan to be able to apply.
- Q. I'm from the EU can I get a maintenance loan?
- A. This will depend on your residency status. Some EU students can apply for the maintenance loan (e.g., those with settled or Migrant Worker status). Please see our [EU funding page](#) on what eligibility criteria you need to be able to apply. Student Finance will then assess you based on your evidence and *may* then award you the maintenance loan.
- Q. I'm an EU student who started in 2020/21 (or prior) can I still get a tuition fee loan in 2022/23?

A. Provided you have settled or pre-settled status and don't leave your course you can still receive the tuition fee loan in 2022/23 and for the rest of your course. If you withdraw (leave) and return to start a new course from 2022, then you will no longer be eligible. You must have applied for pre-settled or settled status. More information is available on our [EU funding page](#).

Q. I'm repeating a year - how do I change my funding application?

A. You apply as normal for your funding for your repeat year. Our Student Registry team will notify your Student Finance body of the year you will be repeating. If you are repeating due to personal or medical reasons, please read our leaflet on [how to claim 'compelling personal reasons'](#) and the impact on funding.

Q. I want to suspend my studies – how will it affect my funding?

A. If you [suspend your studies](#) SFE will reassess your application. Your maintenance loan entitlement will be recalculated based on your period of attendance until you suspended. Any amount of maintenance loan paid to you in excess of this will be classed as an overpayment and will need to be repaid. The overpayment amount is usually recovered straight away or from any remaining payments you're due to receive when you return to your course. If you cannot repay, it is advisable to contact your student funding body for further guidance and maybe set up a payment plan.

If you're suspending your studies due to medical reasons or personal reasons, then you may be able to receive support for an extra 60 days beyond the date you've suspended and you need to indicate this on the university's suspension form – please also read our leaflet [how to claim 'compelling personal reasons'](#)

Q. I want to leave my studies (withdraw) – how will it affect my funding?

A. If you leave your studies SFE will reassess your application. Your maintenance loan entitlement will be recalculated based on your period of attendance until you withdraw from your course. Any amount of maintenance loan paid to you in excess of this will be classed as an overpayment and will need to be repaid. SFE will advise you about a payment plan if you cannot pay straight away.

If you leave a course through illness or personal reasons please read our leaflet [how to claim 'compelling personal reasons'](#) which will explain how to protect your future funding should you ever wish to return to higher education.

Please also read our leaflet [withdrawing from your studies](#) which explains about the tuition fee liability. For further information please also go to the [UK Government website](#).

Q. I have personal reasons for leaving; changing or repeating my course – can this affect my funding?

A. Please read our leaflet on [how to claim 'compelling personal reasons'](#) and the impact on funding. You can contact us to [arrange a telephone or teams appointment](#) if you would like to discuss your situation. Or you can come and see us in the Student Hub (RM050) during our drop-in times 10am-4pm Mon-Thurs and 10am-1pm Friday.

Q. I've just started my cadetship (Warsash students) and I want to apply for the maintenance loan.

A. New entrants are no longer eligible to apply for a maintenance loan. Please contact Student.registry@solent.ac.uk with any questions you may have. You may need to try contacting external maritime charities/sources for financial help if your sponsorship isn't enough to cover your living costs.

Q. I have to pay my own tuition fees, who do I speak to about paying them?

A. Please contact the income.team@solent.ac.uk who can discuss payment and setting up a payment plan. If you are a UK or EU student, you may be able to receive a [Tuition Fee loan](#).

Q. I have a debt to the university for my accommodation, who do I speak to?

A. Please contact the income.team@solent.ac.uk who can discuss payment and may set up a payment plan with you.

If you are struggling financially, please contact the funding team. You can contact us to [arrange a telephone or teams appointment](#) if you would like to discuss your situation. Or you can come and see us in the Student Hub (RM050) during our drop-in times 10am-4pm Mon-Thurs and 10am-1pm Friday or email: student.funding@solent.ac.uk

Q. I have a debt to the university for my tuition fees, who do I speak to?

- A. Please contact the income.team@solent.ac.uk who can discuss payment and may set up a payment plan with you.

You should also contact the Student Funding Team so we can check if you should be paying your own fees or are eligible for a tuition fee loan.

Q. I am an international student, can I get any financial help?

- A. International students are expected to self-fund their own tuition fees, living costs and any associated course costs for the duration of their studies. However, if you experience a short term, unforeseen emergency you should contact the Student Funding Team.