

Bursaries, Scholarships and Trusts

Some Colleges and Universities, as well as industry organisations, businesses, and government departments, offer additional bursary and/or scholarship funds. You can apply for these directly to the institution/organisation, and you may be expected to submit a form along with a piece of work, for example, a short essay. The decision on who receives this money is at the discretion of the institution. Similarly, a number of Educational Trusts exist, which provide support to a wide range of students. These are more likely to be based on such things as the school you attended, your family history or where you live or were born.

You can find out more information about this through the institution you are applying to or SAAS which has a Register of Educational Endowments.

Other important information:

Student Loan

You will only have to repay your loan after you have completed your course. The Student Loan Company will expect you to repay 9% of your annual income over £15,000; the amount you pay will fluctuate with your income.

When to study

You can choose to study at any time, not just straight from school. Should you choose to follow a different path straight from school, and return to study after age 25 you would be considered a mature student. You would be entitled to different forms of support in this situation, which can differ slightly from that available to young students.

Studying at an institution outside Scotland

Variable/Top Up Fees are charged by some Non-Scottish institutions in the rest of the UK over and above the standard tuition fee. It is best to check with the individual institution for further details. SAAS will pay the upfront fees to the institution, but you must take out a Fee Loan in order to cover the actual cost. This will be absorbed into your Student Loan, so repayments are made on the same basis.

Where to go for further help and advice:

Always remember to ask if you aren't sure about something!

Each College and University has a Student Support Service (provided by the institution) and a Students' Association/ Union (run by elected students, on behalf of the student body). From these services you will be provided with both institution-specific and general financial support information, as well as guidance through documentation and forms. For further information on these services, have a look at the website for the institution you wish to attend, or give them a ring directly.

While SAAS exists to administer funding to students, it is also the best place to find all the information you are likely to require in one place. **And if they don't know, they will know someone who does!**

Helpful links:

SAAS

www.saas.gov.uk

Student Loan Company

www.slc.co.uk

EMA

www.emascotland.com

UCAS

www.ucas.ac.uk

National Union of Students

www.nusonline.co.uk

YoungScot

www.youngscot.org

Educational Grants Advisory Service

www.egas-online.org.uk

Scholarships

www.scholarship-search.org.uk



Know Your Money

Choosing to go to College or University is a big decision...

Not only do you have to decide what course you'd like to study, and where you'd like to go, but you need to start planning ahead for all the things you'll need. Your finances may seem complicated and daunting, especially as there is a wide range of support options available to choose from. This handy leaflet is to help break down all the information available and help guide you to the right place, in order to get all the support to which you are entitled.



Types of Funding

College and University courses can be divided into Advanced and Non-Advanced categories. The funding for these types of courses varies depending on a number of factors, such as your age, at the start of your course.

Non-Advanced programmes are one year courses which include Highers, National Qualifications (NQs), National Certificates (NCs), City and Guilds and Scottish Group Awards. Sources of support for living expenses for students attending these courses include either an Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) or the Further Education Bursary Fund.

EMA

An Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is for students aged 16 or 17 attending a full time course at College or staying on at school. Applications should be completed no later than 6 weeks before you start your programme. An EMA is assessed based on parental income, and is to cover living expenses incurred during your studies. If your family is in receipt of benefits/child allowance this is not affected by an EMA award. It does not cover summer or Christmas holidays. There is the opportunity to qualify for a bonus, subject to your achievements on your course.

Further Education Bursary Fund

A Further Education Bursary is designed to cover living expenses, travel costs and books/study materials. Different levels of support are available, based on age and personal circumstances and will be assessed based on your or your parents' income. However those aged 16/17 will receive full travel/materials costs irrespective of their parents' income.

If you are aged 16-19 you will be entitled to either an EMA or a Further Education Bursary.

Advanced Programmes

Advanced Programmes are courses which last more than a year and include Higher National Certificate and Diploma (HNC/HND) and Degrees. Funding options for these programmes is comprised of a combination of options. Your eligibility for support is assessed by SAAS (Student Awards Agency for Scotland) and is administered either by them or the Student Loans Company. This assessment will determine if you are eligible for support to cover costs such as tuition fees, living costs and travel costs.

Scottish students, who choose to study at a Scottish institution, are entitled to free tuition. Students can also apply for an income-assessed Student Loan, a Young Students' Bursary and an Additional Loan, where appropriate. If you are eligible for the Bursary, this will replace some of your loan, reducing the amount of money you have to pay back on completion of your study. The amount of Student Loan you receive is dependent on your course, where you live whilst studying and your parents' income.

The table below shows the breakdown of how your support would be made up depending on your joint parental income. If your parent's income is less than £24,275 they will not have to make a contribution.

Income	Parents' contribution	Young Students' Bursary	Loan	Additional loan
£	£	£	£	£
18,000	0	2,640	1,985	605
20,000	0	2,518	2,107	308
23,000	0	1,986	2,639	0
26,000	237	1,453	2,935	0
29,000	570	921	3,134	0
32,000	903	389	3,333	0
35,000	1,237	0	3,388	0
38,000	1,570	0	3,055	0
41,000	1,903	0	2,722	0
44,000	2,237	0	2,388	0
47,000	2,570	0	2,055	0
50,000	2,903	0	1,722	0
53,000	3,324	0	1,301	0
56,000	3,785	0	915	0
59,000	4,247	0	915	0

Note: SAAS amends these figures annually in relation to inflation. Figures correct for 2009/2010

Travel Expenses

You can also apply for assistance with your travel expenses from SAAS. This will assist you with the costs of daily travel to and from College or University. If you live away from home you may be eligible for expenses between home and term-time address at the start of each term. SAAS will not pay the first £159 of any expenses and will only contribute to the most economical form of travel, for example, weekly or monthly tickets.

Should your circumstances differ slightly, for example, you take a year out, the funding may be different. SAAS can provide comprehensive information on all your funding options.

Other funds available:

Hardship Funds are optional funds held by Colleges and Universities and are awarded to help those students in severe financial difficulties, especially where it may impact their ability to continue in education, priority being given to meeting living costs. Each institution has its own eligibility criteria and the amount they will offer is dependent on your application.



www.routes2success.org.uk