

How to Apply for Full-Time HE Student Funding for 2022/23

Funding (Loans and Grants) are available to cover the cost of your tuition and for your living.

Student Finance rules in Wales changed in 18/19. Students will need to apply for;

- Tuition Fee Loan for the full amount of your course (Per year, paid directly to the University)
- Maintenance Loan / WG Learning Grant – to help with your living costs, made up of loans and grants, depending on your circumstances, up to the maximum allowance

The maximum maintenance support available is a combination of grants and loans. The 22/23 thresholds are;

- Students living away from home - maximum of £10,710.
- Students living at home – maximum of £9,095

All students living in Wales get at least a £1,000 **Maintenance Grant**, which can increase up to £8,100 dependent on your household income and whether you live at the family home. You top this up with a **Maintenance Loan**, which are available up to the maximum (above).

Where you live and your status in the UK will determine what student finance is available to you. Normally you need to be a UK citizen, have settled status and have lived in UK for at least 3 years to receive student finance.

Details can be found on <https://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/discover-student-finance/>

Repayment of loans – once earning £27,295 in the April after you leave your course, via the tax system (PAYE, Self Assessment). This amount can change each tax year.

The maintenance grant doesn't have to be repaid.

Special Support Grants have replaced some or all of the Welsh Government Learning Grants for students in certain circumstances. If eligible, students can get the first £5,161 as a Special Support Grant. Anything over this will be a Welsh Government Learning Grant. This means students on the lowest incomes will be able to get extra money.

Other grant funding is also available, depending on your circumstances, such as disability student allowance and dependents' grants. These grants are paid to eligible students in addition to main student finance and don't usually have to be paid back.

You need to apply directly for the funding online, to help you with the costs of the course that you have applied for. You can apply usually apply from March. For Students living in Wales please visit

www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

You will need to **create yourself an account**, and then start your online application for 2022/23. Keep a note of your Customer Reference Number, and your password, secret answer (separately). You will need them when you need to log back into your account.

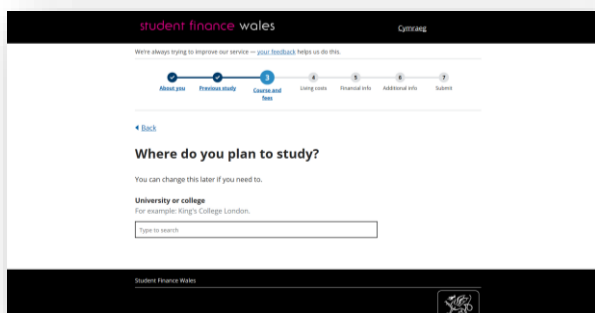
Please read the guidance available on the website carefully, you will need to have your passport number (if you have one), your National Insurance number, and your Bank details in order to complete your application.

Courses that we deliver are mainly franchised from our partner Universities; you should use the table below to ensure that you pick the correct partner University when making your application.

Title	Select the University / College	UCAS Code	Qualification & Type	Fee 1st Year Students	Fee 2nd Year Students
Applied Computing	University of Wales Trinity St David	I358	HND	£9,000	£9,000
Business Management	University of South Wales	NN41	HND	£7,500	£7,500
Business Management (Accounting) Top up	University of South Wales	N79A	BA Hon Degree	£9,000	n/a
Business Management (Marketing) Top up	University of South Wales	N79M	BA Hon Degree	£9,000	n/a
Criminal Justice	University of South Wales	LM3M	Foundation Degree	£7,500	£7,500
Childhood Development Practice	University of Wales Trinity St David	5G12	Foundation Degree	£9,000	£9,000
Electrical / Electronic Engineering	University of Wales Trinity St David	2H99	HND	£9,000	£9,000
Events Management	University of Gloucestershire	N823	Foundation Degree	£7,500	£7,500
Fashion & Textiles Design	University of Gloucestershire	W231	Foundation Degree	£7,500	£7,500
Mechanical Engineering	University of Wales Trinity St David	8N2G	HND	£9,000	£9,000
Sports Development & Management	University of Wales Trinity St David	S85Q	Foundation Degree	£9,000	£9,000
Visual Effects and Motion Graphics	University of South Wales	VE28	Foundation Degree	£7,500	£7,500

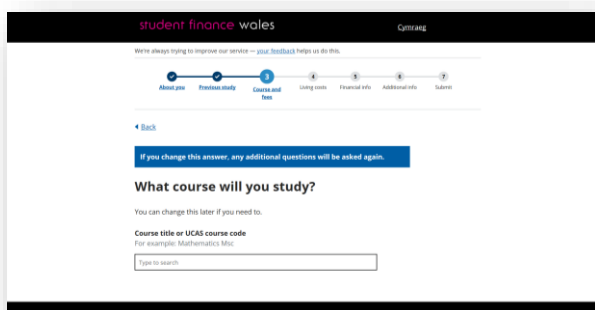
Entering College and Course Information

Enter the name of the University / College (as shown above)



The screenshot shows the 'student finance wales' website with a progress bar at the top. The current step is '3. Course and fees'. Below the progress bar, there is a 'Back' link and the heading 'Where do you plan to study?'. A sub-heading says 'You can change this later if you need to.' Below that, it says 'University or college' and 'For example: King's College London.' There is a search input field with the placeholder text 'Type to search'.

Select from the courses listed, look out for Gower College, Gower College Swansea, or GCS in the course title, or type the UCAS number (as above), and select when the course appears (course will highlight in yellow once accepted)



The screenshot shows the 'student finance wales' website with a progress bar at the top. The current step is '3. Course and fees'. Below the progress bar, there is a 'Back' link and a blue notification box that says 'If you change this answer, any additional questions will be asked again.' Below that, the heading is 'What course will you study?'. A sub-heading says 'You can change this later if you need to.' Below that, it says 'Course title or UCAS course code' and 'For example: Mathematics BSc.' There is a search input field with the placeholder text 'Type to search'.

Continue with your Application.

Confirm the Tuition Fee (as shown above)

Fees – Our fees are set by the University that are franchising the course to us, and are shown above. Use these figures to answer the questions regarding your fees. **Students will have to pay or get a tuition fee loan for the full amount.** You will see this figure on the Student Finance Wales website.

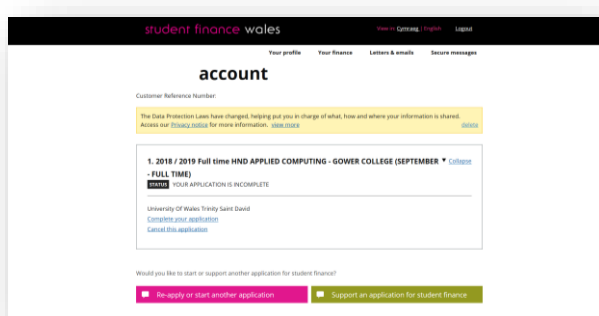
Allowing the University / College to update the tuition fee loan information removes the need for you to adjust your application later.

Continue with your Application

Apply for any Maintenance Grant, Maintenance Loan and any other help that you wish to receive.

Once you have finalised your application, Student Finance Wales will correspond with you by email and post. Please look out for their emails, they will tell you what you need to do next, and what evidence you need to provide. Make a note of your Customer Reference number.

You can access your application at any time by logging back into Student Finance Wales. If you have already applied for funding, but were unable to attach a College or Course, you should log back in, and update your College and Course details, to avoid problems with your payments.



Arrangements for Enrolment with us

If you choose to enrol with us, we will give you a date to do this, giving details of what we need you to bring with you.

This will include the **University or College Payment Advice sheet** (that Student Finance Wales will send you). We need this form to confirm with Student Finance Wales (via the University) that you have enrolled with us, and are attending. Student Finance Wales will then release your fees to the University/College and your maintenance loans/grants to you. If this isn't available when you enrol, please bring to the MIS Office, in the HE Centre for us to copy.

Arrangements for Enrolment with the Franchising University

We will tell you if, when and how you need to do this.

Payment of Fees

If your tuition fee loan has been approved and on your student finance application you select that fees are paid directly to the College you will not be sent an invoice.

If you select that the tuition fees are paid directly to yourself or you are self-funding the College will send you an invoice for the full amount of fees.

Any remaining balance of fees is fully payable by the student and can be paid in full on receipt of the invoice or in equal instalments over the three terms (payable by 1 December, 1 February and 1 April respectively).

Bursaries

Bursaries of £1,000 are payable for all full time courses other than those marked with a *. The bursary will be paid in two instalments of £500 at February half term and the end of May. The bursary will be paid subject to:

February Payment

- 70% Attendance
- Submission of all assessments that were due at that date

May Payment

- Confirmed achievement of the Award, or
- Confirmed achievement of the requirements to progress to the next year
- Payment of fees is up-to-date

If you need to leave your course

You will be eligible for the tuition fee for all terms that you are registered with us. If you need to withdraw it's very important that you tell us straight away.

Tuition fee payments are made by Student Finance in three instalments: 25% in term 1; 25% in term 2 and the remaining 50% in term 3.

If you withdraw from your course part way through a term, you are liable for the fee for that term. No tuition fee loan will be paid by Student Finance after you have withdrawn.

The fee payable if you withdraw is as follows

Term	Fee Payable
Withdraw during term 1	25%
Withdraw during term 2	50%
Withdraw during term 3	100%

Please note that this may vary slightly by University partner so please make sure you fully understand the costs of potentially withdrawing from your course before you enrol.

If you have questions:

Queries with your course application, and enrolment dates – Bethan Hughes HE Admissions on 01792 284098 bethan.hughes@gcs.ac.uk

Queries with your initial funding application – Student Finance Wales – 0300 200 4050, you can also look through the guides produced by Student Finance Wales on their website.

- Problems confirming your course – please log back into your account, and check that you have the correct University, and course attached to your record (see table above), you need to do this SFW cannot do this for you over the phone.
- If you want College to contact SFW on your behalf, you have to contact SFW and give permission for us to do so, details of how to do are on <http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/contact/consent-to-share.aspx#.VXcTTs9VhBc>.

Queries with your funding application, attendance confirmations and loan payments **once enrolled** – MIS on 01792 284005.

Queries with your Invoice or Bursary – Finance on 01792 284075.