

# FUNDING

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THE UNION  
MANCHESTER  
METROPOLITAN  
UNIVERSITY

# FUNDING

Unfortunately, there is not a lot of short-term money or quick access money available to students. Therefore, it is important to start dealing with any potential financial problem as early as possible, before you run out.

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The University has a few support schemes for students in financial hardship. Guidance is provided at <https://www2.mmu.ac.uk/student-life/finance/support/support-funds>. We have some information about the two main, year round funds below.

## DAY TO DAY SUPPORT SCHEME

This is the fund for helping to deal with long term financial hardship. It is intended to help top up the other support you are receiving - it is not intended to be your main source of income. It looks at the difference between your income and your expenditure over the whole academic year and tries to help plug any gap. Because it is looking at a more long-term solution, it does take longer to process and expects some evidence to support your claim. If you receive an award, you will not be expected to pay this back

### WHEN TO APPLY

Apply to the Day to Day Support Scheme as soon as you realise that your money will not stretch far enough. Do not wait until you are down to your last fiver, as applications can take at least four weeks to process. Our tip is to apply early for funding – the sooner the better! If you're the sort of person who leaves everything until the last minute, make sure you don't miss the closing date because late applications will not be considered.

Deadlines will be available on the Day to Day Support Scheme website via <https://www2.mmu.ac.uk/student-life/finance/support/support-funds/>. We encourage you to apply early as the fund is limited and may run out before the closing date.

## CRISIS SUPPORT FUND

This is a quicker fund to apply for but will only provide a fixed weekly amount for a limited amount of time. It is intended to help with subsistence costs while you are waiting for a Day to Day Support Scheme claim to be assessed (or similar). You are not expected to pay this back and some or all of the support may come in the form of supermarket vouchers.

## SUPPORT FOR NHS STUDENTS

Students studying Nursing and other NHS courses may be able to apply for additional support through the NHS Learning Support Fund. This includes additional support if you have a child and an "Exceptional Support Fund" if you are still struggling after the University's support scheme has assessed you. More details of the learning Support Fund can be found at <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/learning-support-fund>.

**IF YOU'RE UNSURE ABOUT WHAT HELP YOU'RE ENTITLED TO DROP IN AND SPEAK TO US**

# WELFARE BENEFITS

Most full-time students will not qualify for welfare benefits for the whole of their course, including summer vacations. There are exceptions to this rule and you should get advice about your entitlement if you:

- + Have children
- + Are sick or disabled
- + Are under 19 and taking an Art Foundation course
- + Are over pension age.

You may qualify for benefits when you have finished one course and are waiting to enrol on another.

**IF YOU WANT TO  
KNOW MORE ABOUT  
WELFARE BENEFITS  
DROP IN AND SPEAK  
TO US**

# FUND-RAISING

You may be able to apply for extra help from educational trusts and charities. This can be a time consuming and slow process, but a number of students have achieved successful outcomes. Charities and trusts will often only help specific groups. For example, they may be restricted to helping students on certain courses, above or below a certain age, from particular parts of Britain, or in defined occupations or professions.

## HOW TO APPLY TO A CHARITY OR TRUST

The first stage is to check the website for the instructions or to contact the trust or charity giving brief details of your situation. If you fit their criteria then the organisation will usually send you their own application form.

You may need to write a letter explaining why you are applying. You should include:

- + Title of your course
- + University start date and what year you're currently in
- + Age
- + Place of birth
- + Brief details of your previous study
- + Explanation of your financial difficulty and why you are applying
- + Estimated financial requirements
- + How your studies would benefit yourself or others
- + Any information about why you are appropriate for that trust fund.

Awards are often quite small (around £300 - £500) and charities generally make one-off payments.

# WHERE TO LOOK FOR FUNDING

## POSTGRADUATE SEARCH

You can search for scholarships and funding that you might be eligible for in the Scholarship Search database. There are £250 million worth of scholarships and postgraduate courses grants available to students annually. This can be used for courses and can be used by UK, EU and international students.

<https://www.postgraduatesearch.com/funding>

## TURN2US

This website has details for hundreds of grant-giving charities that may be able to provide financial support. Not all the charities are just for students, most of them are based on your personal situation (e.g. if you have a disability or if you have children). If you do an advanced search you can find the charities that best match your circumstances. Turn2us can be used by undergraduates, postgraduates and UK, EU and international students.

[www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk)

## PROSPECTS

This website is specifically for postgraduate students. It has details of research council awards, scholarships, bursaries, charities and trusts. It also has a regularly updated list of funding opportunities from UK higher education institutions.

[www.prospects.ac.uk/funding\\_my\\_further\\_study.htm](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/funding_my_further_study.htm)

**IF YOU WANT TO KNOW  
MORE ABOUT ADDITIONAL  
AREAS OF FUNDING  
DROP IN AND SPEAK TO US**

## BRITISH COUNCIL GUIDE TO SCHOLARSHIPS

This website is specifically for international students who want to study in the UK. The site hosts a full list of the scholarships and bursary options available to specific groups. This is just a brief list and searching through one of the above databases will give you a list of charities that match your particular circumstances.

<https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/>

## MYNSHULL'S EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Grants are made to students up to the age of 25 for educational purposes, such as equipment, textbooks and one-off travelling expenses. The areas covered by this fund are the city of Manchester and the adjoining districts. The Trust does not make grants to postgraduate students.

[www.gaddumcentre.co.uk/trust-funds-more-info/](http://www.gaddumcentre.co.uk/trust-funds-more-info/)  
T: 0161 834 6069

## STUDENT DISABILITY ASSISTANCE FUND

This Fund helps students with disabilities to keep up with their studies. The maximum amount of each award is £500 and students must be involved in higher education on a full-time or nearly full-time basis. Students must apply for the Disabled Students' Allowance before applying to the Fund.

<http://www.studenthealthassociation.co.uk/bursaries/>

## GILCHRIST EDUCATION TRUST

Applications are considered from students who have made proper provision to fund a degree or higher education course but find they are facing unexpected financial difficulties that may prevent them from completing it. For example students who are required, as part of their course, to spend a short period studying abroad may be eligible.

[www.gilchristgrants.org.uk](http://www.gilchristgrants.org.uk)

## HEYWOOD/MIDDLETON EDUCATIONAL TRUSTS

Applicants must have lived or attended school in the relevant area and the trust can provide assistance for any purpose that promotes

the education, training and development of the applicant.

<http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/grants/Pages/charitable-trusts.aspx>

## THE HARRIS CHARITY

The charity can assist throughout Lancashire (although Preston District has special priority), and aims to help those under 25. They can provide grants for books, equipment or appropriate training and education.

[www.theharrischarity.co.uk](http://www.theharrischarity.co.uk)

## THE SAVOY EDUCATION TRUST

You can apply to this trust for a small grant of usually no more than £500 to assist you if you are undertaking a hospitality related degree course and need help with fees or to purchase items required for the course such as books, uniforms and practical equipment.

[www.savoyeducationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.savoyeducationaltrust.org.uk)  
T: 0207 849 3001

## THE SIR RICHARD STAPLEY EDUCATIONAL TRUST

This trust is specifically for postgraduate students. Grants are usually £400 to £1200 and there are strict eligibility criteria.

Applications for 2021/22 will be open from 4 January 2021. Please see the below website:

[www.stapleytrust.org/applications](http://www.stapleytrust.org/applications)

## THE TALENTED ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME (TASS)

TASS is a partnership between National Governing Bodies of Sport and Educational Institutions designed to help athletes in higher and further education. The programme has been created to help students fulfil their sporting potential by maintaining a sensible balance between academic life whilst training and competing as a performance athlete. Scholarships are up to £3,500. You should speak with your governing body to establish whether they are willing to nominate you for an award.

[www.tass.gov.uk](http://www.tass.gov.uk)  
T: 0191 607 8270

## UNITE FOUNDATION

This is a charitable trust from Unite Students aimed at estranged students and care leavers. Successful Applicants get support with accommodation. They award scholarships to students with a wide range of backgrounds and academic grades.

<http://www.unitefoundation.co.uk/get-a-scholarship/>

# ADDITIONAL BURSARIES

## STUDENT SUPPORT PACKAGE

If you have a household income under £25,000, you can apply for the Student Support Package. This should be automatically awarded as long as you have not opted out of sharing information from Student Finance England with the university. If you are in Manchester Met Accommodation, this should automatically come off your Halls fees. Otherwise it will be paid onto your MetCard. If you are in Halls and would like the money on your Metcard, please contact [instbursary@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:instbursary@mmu.ac.uk). More information can be found here: <https://www.mmu.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/funding-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/student-support-package>

## CARE LEAVERS BURSARY

Care leavers at Manchester Met can also apply for an additional cash bursary of £1,000 per year. More information can be found here: <https://www2.mmu.ac.uk/student-life/finance/support-support-funds/>

## ESTRANGED STUDENTS

Estrangement means you have no relationship with either parent. The Advice Centre may be able to help with applying to Student finance England. The University offers an Estranged Students bursary intended to help with summer accommodation costs. More information can be found here: <https://www2.mmu.ac.uk/student-life/finance/support/support-funds/>

## SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Our Sport Scholarship programme supports talented athletes from a variety of sporting backgrounds as they combine a demanding training and competition programme with study for a world-class degree. More information can be found here: <http://www2.mmu.ac.uk/sport/sport-scholarships/>

## MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF ART CREDIT

If you are studying on a course in The Manchester School of Art, the University will credit your met card with up to £200 to help you to cover the additional costs of materials associated with art and design practice based courses. More information can be found here <http://www.art.mmu.ac.uk/credit/>

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# CONTACT US

T: 0161 247 6533

E: [s.u.advice@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:s.u.advice@mmu.ac.uk)

W: [theunionmmu.org/advice](http://theunionmmu.org/advice)

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Disclaimer: The Union has made every effort to ensure that the information in this leaflet is accurate. The Union cannot be held responsible for the consequences of any action taken as a result of reading this leaflet. Before taking any action you are advised to visit the Advice Centre.

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