

Preparing to Apply for Student Finance

This guide will walk through all of the steps you'll need to take to get you ready for applying for student finance.

Step 1 Check if you're eligible

Your eligibility for student finance depends on: your university, your course, and your nationality/residency status. It is likely that your course will be eligible if it is a BA, BSc, foundation degree, or integrated masters.

Task: Have a look at some university prospectuses in order to find a suitable course, and use the details of the course for the next section. Don't spend too much time on this part.

Step 2 Find out what loan amount you could get

The loan amount varies from person to person, but you can get a good understanding of what you can receive by using the tool on this website: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>

Task: Follow the link above and complete the form using the details from the course you found in the previous task. You'll also need to think about some of your personal circumstances when you go to university, such as whether you'll live with your parents. These don't need to be set in stone, but try to be as realistic as you can.

You can find out more information on how your eligibility for the maintenance loan is assessed [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/student-finance-how-youre-assessed-and-paid/student-finance-how-youre-assessed-and-paid-2023-to-2024): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/student-finance-how-youre-assessed-and-paid/student-finance-how-youre-assessed-and-paid-2023-to-2024>

Step 3 - Check for Extra Help

If you meet certain criteria, you may be eligible for extra help. The page on the link below provides more information on what may qualify: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/extra-help>

Task: See if you meet the criteria for extra help. If so, follow the links on the page to see what you might be entitled to.