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Student Finance Policy Changes for AY 2017/18





Aim

- Summarise the rollover policy for HE Undergraduate students
- Briefly outline the 17/18 Postgraduate policy changes
- Give an overview of 17/18 HE Undergraduate policy changes for:
 - England
 - Wales
 - Northern Ireland



Rollover

Product	England	Wales	Northern Ireland
Maintenance Loan	Up 2.8%	Up 12%	No Change
Maintenance Grant	N/A	No Change	No Change
Special Support Grant	N/A	No Change	No Change
Grants for Dependants	Up 2.8%	No Change	No Change
Disabled Students' Allowances	Up 2.8%	No Change	No Change
Full-time Fee Loan	TEF Uplift	TFL/TFG Split Change	Up 2.68%
Full-time Fee Grant	N/A	TFL/TFG Split Change	N/A
Part-time Fee Loan	TEF Uplift	No Change	Intro of PTL
Part-time Grants	Up 2.8%	No Change	No Change



Policy Changes

Northern Ireland

Introduction of PT Tuition Fee Loan

Introduction of PG Tuition Fee Loan

Increase in tuition fee caps linked to TEF

Changes to Nursing, Midwifery and AHP Funding

Armed Forces Distance Learning Change

Changes to Course Designation in Wales

Introduction of Erasmus Tuition Fee Charges (Scotland)

All Domiciles

England

Extension of Part-time ELQ Exception Subjects

PGL Master's Loan Enhancements

Wales

Introduction of the PGL Master's Loan

Introduction of Part-time Honours Degree Exceptions

Changes to the Tuition Fee support split



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PG Policy Changes

England – Enhancements to the current PGL Master’s Loan

Wales – Introduction of a PGL Master’s Loan (contribution to cost)

Northern Ireland – Introduction of PG Fee Loan product



Introduction of Erasmus Fee Charge in Scotland

Scheme: HE

Driver of Change: Wales

Domicile(s) Affected: Wales only

- Introduction of tuition charges for ‘Erasmus years’ for rUK students attending Scottish HEPs
- HEPs in Scotland will be able to charge up to £1,385
- rUK will provide fee support for ‘Erasmus years’ in Scottish HEPs



Introduction of Part-time TFL

Scheme: HE

Driver of Change: Northern Ireland

Domicile(s) Affected: Northern Ireland only

- Tuition fee loan of up to £3,022.50 for new and returning students.
- Fee grant still available for eligible students.
- Must study a minimum of 25% intensity.
- Study can be at destinations in rUK and NI.



Studying : English Honours Degree (Year 1)

AY: 17/18

Intensity: 50% **Aims to complete in:** 6 Years

Fee Amount: £3,000

Applying for: TFL and TFG

Household's Income: £14,500



NI PT TFL Example - Hugo

QUESTION:

Are they eligible for TFL and TFG?

- Neither
- Both
- TFL Only
- TFG Only



Eligible for TFL and TFG

Why?

Hugo is studying above the 25% minimum and intends to complete his course in no more than twice the length of the FTE course.

Maximum amount of grant can be awarded as his income is below the lower threshold .

$$\text{TFL} = (£3,000 - £820) = £2,180 \quad \text{TFG} = £820$$



Studying : Sport Science Foundation Degree (Year 1)

AY: 17/18

Intensity: 25%

Aims to complete in: 8 Years

Fee Amount: £2,000

Applying for:

TFL and TFG

Household's Income: £12,000



Eligible for TFL

Ineligible for TFG

Why?

Sarah is studying above the 25% minimum and intends to complete his course in no more than 4 times the length of the FTE.

Despite having a low income, Sarah will not be able to complete the course in twice the length of the FTE course so cannot get TFG.

TFL = £2,000



NI PT TFL Example - Ian

Studying : Geography Honours Degree (Year 2)

AY: 17/18

Intensity: 75%

Aims to complete in: 4 Years

Fee Amount: £3,022.50

Applying for: TFL and TFG

Household's Income: £31,000





Answer - Ian

Eligible for TFL

Ineligible for TFG

Why?

Ian is studying above the 25% minimum and intends to complete his course in no more than twice the length of the FTE.

Ian's income is higher than the upper threshold for TFG so no TFG is awarded

TFL = £3,022.50



Changes to Designation

Scheme: HE

Driver of Change: Wales

Domicile(s) Affected: All

- Changes to the automatic designation process.
- ‘Charitable’ Institutions located in Wales can apply to HEFCW for the approval of a fee and access plan.
- If approved, courses will be automatically designated (Regulated).
- Alternative Providers can still apply for specific designation (Non-regulated).



Cross Domicile Implications

Providers		Available Fee Support			
		Wales	England	NI	Scotland
Regulated	Public	£9,000	£9,000	£9,000	£9,000
	Alternative	£9,000	£9,000	£9,000	£6,000*
Non-Regulated	Public/Alternative	£6,000	£6,000	£4,030	£6,000*



Changes to Tuition Fee Support Split

Scheme: HE

Driver of Change: Wales

Domicile(s) Affected: Wales only

- When £9,000 is charged:
 - £4,046 Tuition Fee Loan
 - £4,954 Tuition Fee Grant

- When £9,250 is charged:
 - £250 additional fee loan to top up fee support



Tuition Fee Support Example - Benjamin

Domicile: Wales
AY: 17/18
Studying: Mathematics
Location: Swansea University
Fee Amount: £9,000

TFL

TFG

£4,046

£4,954



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Tuition Fee Support Example - Susan

Domicile: Wales
AY: 17/18
Studying: Geography
Location: Bristol University
Fee Amount: £9,250

TFL

£4,046

TFG

£4,954

Additional TFL

£250



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Introduction of PT Honours Degree Exceptions

Scheme: HE

Driver of Change: Wales

Domicile(s) Affected: Wales only

- A Student who holds an Honours degree from a UK institution can receive support for a second degree part-time.
- The new course must fall within one of the specified categories.
- Exception courses are identified via JACs code.
- Consideration must be given to students transferring.



Extension of PT ELQ Exceptions

Scheme: HE

Driver of Change: England

Domicile(s) Affected: England only

- Extension to the list of Honours Degree subjects that attract an ELQ exception.
- Builds on the initial list introduced in AY 15/16.



Exceptions Courses

Subject Area	JACs	England	Wales
Engineering	H	15/16	17/18
Technology	I	15/16	17/18
Computer Science	J	15/16	17/18
Subjects Allied to Medicine	B	17/18	17/18
Biological Sciences	C	17/18	17/18

Subject Area	JACs	England	Wales
Veterinary Sciences, Agricultural and Related Subjects	D	17/18	17/18
Physical Sciences	F	17/18	17/18
Mathematical Science	G	17/18	17/18
Welsh Language	Q	N/A	17/18



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Exceptions Transfer Example - Jane

Domicile:	Wales	
Holds a Qualification?	Yes – Honours Degree from Cardiff (11/12)	
AY:	17/18	
Studying:	H310 Applied Physics	Year 2
Transfers to:	F300 Physics	Year 1



Answer

Ineligible

Why? At the point of establishing eligibility in 2016/17 there were no exceptions to the UK honours degree rule for Wales domiciled students.



Domicile: England

Holds a Qualification? Yes – Honours Degree from Leeds (15/16)

AY: 17/18

Studying: H430 Avionics Year 2

Transfers to: F300 Physics Year 1



Answer

Eligible

Why?

Avionics falls within one of the exception subjects introduced in 15/16 for England domiciled students, as such they are transferring from an exception course to an other exception course.



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TEF Related Fee Increase (1)

Scheme: HE

Driver of Change: England

Domicile(s) Affected: All

- Public HEPs in England who are awarded ‘meets expectations’ via TEF.
- Can raise fee charges above £9,000 (current cap) in line with inflation for 17/18; this will be £9,250.
- Students at a Private HEP in England awarded ‘meets expectations’ via TEF, can access more Fee Loan in 17/18 - £6,165.



TEF Related Fee Increase (2)

- Scotland and Northern Ireland HEPs are not participating in TEF but can increase fee charges.
- HEPs in NI cannot charge a NI Student more than £4,030
- HEPs in Wales cannot charge more the £9,000.
- Students from Wales at an AP in the rest of the UK can access £6,165 TFL.
- All domiciles will provide support to the level charged (or support cap for APs).



NHS Bursary Changes (1)

Scheme: HE

Driver of Change: England

Domicile(s) Affected: All

- Nursing, Midwifery and AHP students studying in England will no longer receive the NHS Bursary.
- These courses will not be subject to previous study rules.
- NHS BSA will still provide some additional support for England domiciled students studying in England.



NHS Bursary Changes (2)

- Bursaries will remain for NI domiciled students on commissioned courses in NI.
- These courses are not available to rUK students going to NI.
- Where a bursary is not available, NI will provide the standard support package.
- Previous study and ELQ rules remain unchanged for NI domiciled students.



NHS Bursary Changes (3)

- Wales have confirmed that a bursary is available to students on a commissioned course in Wales.
- Students will need to agree to work in Wales for 2 years in order to access the bursary.
- Where a bursary is not available Wales, will provide the standard support package.
- Previous study and UK First Degree rules remain unchanged for Wales domiciled students.



NHS Bursary Changes (4)

- Scotland's non-income assessed Nursing and Midwifery bursary will remain for Scotland domiciled students only.
- rUK Students can still study on these courses
- The AHP bursary is no longer available.
- Where a bursary is not available, Scotland will provide the standard support package.



Changes to Distance Learning (1)

Scheme: HE and FE

Driver of Change: England

Domicile(s) Affected: HE – All, FE – England only

- Exception has been created for Armed Forces personnel and their families.
- Personnel must be actively serving, and family members must be living with an actively serving person.
- This change will affect new and continuing students in HE and only new students in FE.



Changes to Distance Learning (2)

- The Family members in scope for UG HE, FE and PG NI are:
 - The spouse or civil partner
 - The child, step-child or adoptive child
 - The dependent parent
- The Family members in scope for PG England and Wales are:
 - The spouse or civil partner
 - The dependent parent

