

## BA Social Work Bursary Nominations

### *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)*

It is really important to prepare in advance so you feel confident about being able to pay for your university fees. For some students bursaries from our NHSBSA stakeholder can form part of this picture. We strongly recommend you read the guidance on the NHS bursary website and the FAQs below carefully so you are fully informed.

Please note that should you receive a bursary this will not be paid until after the start of the semester. Therefore you may be expected to pay a portion of the tuition fees during the enrolment period to enable you to enrol on the course.

#### **Q. How do I know if I am eligible for a bursary?**

You need to check the NHS bursary website to check whether you satisfy the residency and course related eligibility criteria <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/social-work-students/check-if-youre-eligible>

#### **Q. If I am eligible for a bursary what do I do next?**

Follow the guidance provided on the NHSBSA website about applying for a bursary place. Please note eligible students should apply for the bursary ahead of the deadline set on by NHSBSA. Where the university is able nominate students for a bursary nomination recommendation it is important to note the final decision is made by NHSBSA about which students will receive a bursary. The university does not guarantee that you will receive bursary. NHSBSA will confirm the final list of students who will receive financial assistance.

#### **Q. Does everyone receive a bursary?**

No. The government sets the number of bursaries available for Social Work and this is less than the numbers of students on the programme. Given the number of available bursaries are limited there is no guarantee that you will receive a social work bursary even if your application is accepted by NHSBSA and you take up an offer of a course place.

#### **Q. How does the university decide who is shortlisted for a bursary nomination recommendation?**

The Course Director in consultation with the Head of Department decide on the students who will be shortlisted for a bursary nomination recommendation. The decision is based on achievement. The students with the highest grades will be eligible for available bursary.

#### **Q. When are the bursary nominations made?**

The shortlist is agreed following the summer progression exam board at the end of year one once student assessments grades and progression have been ratified.

#### **Q. How are students notified whether or not they have been shortlisted?**

The academic course team will notify students.

#### **Q. Am I able to appeal if I am not nominated for a bursary?**

There is no right to appeal the LSBU decision process made with NHSBSA or the university if you are not nominated for a bursary. However we do hold a waiting list in the event a nomination become available we will reallocate it to someone else. We will not be able to advise you were in the waitlist you have been placed.

**Q. Am I able to transfer a Social Work bursary that I received from another university to LSBU?**

No. If you transfer from another university your bursary will not automatically transfer with you.

**Q. Are there any other allowances that I may be eligible to apply for?**

Even if you are not nominated for a bursary by LSBU you may still be eligible for a Placement Travel Allowance if you satisfy the residency and other eligibility criteria. Please refer to the NHSBSA website for more information.

**Q. Will the bursary cover all my fees and costs?**

No. You will need to carefully consider the costs by checking the LSBU website (and liaise with the Fees team) for up to date fees information. It is also worth checking the amount the bursary will cover. You will need to be able to fund the remaining fees yourself. Please also visit the NHSBSA website for more information.

**Q. How does the Bursary affect my enrolment?**

In order to enrol you will need to demonstrate to LSBU how you are going to pay your fees. This may include:

- Confirmation from NHSBSA that you will receive a bursary once enrolled (bursary letter)
- Evidence of a tuition fee loan from Student Finance England
- A letter of sponsorship from an employer/recognised sponsor
- Payment of tuition fees
- If you are paying your own tuition fees, you will be required to pay a minimum of 50% of the fee during your enrolment in order to fully enrol. It is imperative that you ensure you have sufficient funds in place to cover your tuition fees.

**Q. How does the bursary affect my funding?**

If you are in receipt of an NHS Social Work Bursary (helping to cover living costs) you can also apply to Student Finance England for an undergraduate tuition fee loan and a maintenance loan.

**Q. NHSBSA have contacted me to advise I have been nominated for a bursary, when will I receive it?**

After you receive notification of the nomination NHSBSA will progress your application. Please visit the NHSBSA website for timescales.

**IMPORTANT NOTE ON TIMESCALES:** The bursary is not released until after you begin your studies. This is because NHSBSA will not release your bursaries until:

- you are fully re-enrolled at LSBU
- LSBU have confirmed your attendance once you have satisfied all re-enrolment conditions

**Q. Do I need to do anything else?**

You need to liaise with NHSBSA directly.

**Q. If I received a bursary in year 2 will I automatically receive a bursary in year 3 and when will it be paid?**

No. You will need to re-apply through NHSBSA for your third year of bursary. This is subject to you continuing to meet the eligibility criteria and successfully completing the full application process within the deadline set by NHSBSA. Please be aware that NHSBSA will not release your funds until:

- you are fully re-enrolled at LSBU
- LSBU have confirmed your attendance at the beginning of the academic year