



Postgraduate Loan information sheet for LSBU applicants

For the academic year 19/20 Student Finance England (SFE) are making a loan of £10,906 available for Home/EU PG students studying a full masters course.

The loan is paid direct to students to help with their costs and is not specifically ringfenced for payment of tuition fees, although inevitably many students will take these loans in order to do so.

Detailed below, we have included some FAQs regarding the Postgraduate Loan scheme (PGL) and the specific arrangements that LSBU has made for your enrolment, if you intend to use PGL funds to pay your tuition fees.

1. Which courses are eligible?

Courses which lead to a taught or research masters level qualification (eg MSc, MA, MBA, etc)

Please note: PGDip/PGCert courses are ineligible.

See our website at [lsbu.ac.uk/ineligible](https://www.lsbu.ac.uk/ineligible) for details of ineligible courses.

2. Do full- and part-time courses qualify?

Yes, although it depends on the duration of the course, so please note that not all **part-time courses qualify**:

If the full-time course is of 1 academic year's duration, the equivalent part-time course must not be longer than 2 years.

If the full-time course duration is longer than 1 academic year (for example 13 months), it is given a duration of 2 years by SFE and the equivalent part-time course must not be longer than 4 years.

See our course finder on our website www.lsbu.ac.uk for details of course durations or contact 020 7815 6454 or visit the Student Life Centre counter for clarification.



3. How are the payments made?

Payments are made from SFE direct to your personal bank account, once LSBU has confirmed your registration (enrolment) on a qualifying course.

Payments are made on a termly basis spread across the duration of the course. For example:

| Duration | September start | January start |
|------------------|--|--|
| 1 academic year | Sep 19, Jan 20, Apr 20 | Jan 20, May 20, Aug 20 |
| 2 academic years | Sep 19, Jan 20, Apr 20 Sep 20, Jan 21, Apr 21 | Jan 20, May 20, Aug 20 Jan 21, May 21, Aug 21 |

For example, if you borrow £10,906 for a 1 academic year course, 3 payments of £3,599, £3,599 and £3,708 will be made.

If your course is deemed to be of 2 academic years' duration (for PGL purposes), 6 payments of £1,800, £1,800, £1,853, £1800, £1,800 and £1,853, will be made.

4. How will I be able to settle my LSBU tuition fees if I am intending to use PGL funds?

Providing that you are able to show your PGL schedule from SFE confirming your loan for the course you are enrolling onto, at the point of face-to-face enrolment, LSBU will fully enrol you (providing all other enrolment conditions are met) without any upfront payment.

This is a concession exceptionally granted to PGL holders, as we appreciate that the scheme only pays out once we have confirmed your registration (after full enrolment).

The exceptional instalment arrangements for enrolling students are:

| September | January |
|---|--|
| 1/3 rd of the year's tuition fee by 31 Oct 19 | 1/3 rd of the year's tuition fee by 28 Feb 20 |
| Followed by 2 instalments of 1/3 rd of the year's tuition fee by 31 Jan 20 and 29 Apr 20 | Followed by 2 instalments of 1/3 rd of the year's tuition fee by 1 Jun 20 and 12 Oct 20 |

5. I expect to be granted APL/APEL exemptions from some of the modules on my postgraduate course. Will this affect my PGL eligibility?

Yes, universities have an obligation to inform SFE of **any** changes to your programme of study, which may affect your eligibility for the PG loan. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- the award of APL or APEL credit giving you exemption from studying the full masters programme
- transfers to programmes that do not qualify for the loan scheme (for example from MSc to PGDip programmes)
- withdrawal or interruption from your course
- exiting the course with a lower qualification

As a result of this notification, Student Finance England may cancel your loan and reclaim any overpayment deemed to have been made.

Further details on the scheme, the qualifying criteria and the specific arrangements LSBU has put in place for your enrolment if you are intending to fund your studies via a PGL, can be found at bsbu.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/fees-and-funding