# Student Finance and Budgeting

University finance explained – 2024 entry

# Contents

- The main costs
- The funding available
- Student Finance application
- Repayments

# Main costs and loans

- What to expect

# Main costs

**Main costs**

Tuition fees

Living costs

**Loans**

Tuition fee loan

Maintenance loan

Not obligatory

Low rate of interest

# Tuition Fees

## Tuition Fees

- University fees can be up to £9,250
- No upfront costs

## Tuition Fees Loans

- Covers the full cost of your tuition fees
- Apply each year of your course
- Goes direct to the university

# Living costs

- Approximately £10,500

- Accommodation (based on halls - approx. £6,500)
- Food
- Course costs
- Socialising
- TV licence
- Bills (e.g. phone, internet)
- Travel

## Maintenance Loan

- Basic loan or;
- Means tested

# Means Tested

- Household income (2021 to 2022 if you're applying for the 2023 to 2024 academic year)

Household income is the income of any parents, step-parent, parent's partner, wife, husband or civil partner you usually live with

# Maintenance Loan – away from home

| Household Income £ | Maintenance Loan £ (Repayable) | Total funding £ | Annual Shortfall of £10,500 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 25,000 | 9,978 | 10,728 | +228 |
| 35,000 | 8,552 | 8,552 | 1,948 |
| 45,000 | 7,125 | 7,125 | 3,375 |
| 55,000 | 5,699 | 5,699 | 4,801 |
| 65,000 | 4,651 | 4,651 | 5,849 |

# Maintenance Loan – living at home

| Household Income £ | Maintenance Loan £ (Repayable) |
|---|---|
| 25,000 | 8,400 |
| 35,000 | 6,988 |
| 45,000 | 5,576 |
| 55,000 | 4,163 |
| 65,000 | 3,698 |

www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator

## University Bursaries

- Universities provide extra money or fee waivers to students who meet a certain financial criteria

- The amount you will get, and whether you are entitled will vary from university to university

**For example:** NTU offer a £750 cash bursary if you have a household income of £27,500 per year or less for 2023 entry

# Student Finance application

- How does it work?

www.gov.uk/studentfinance

# The application process

- Register with Student Finance England and apply online: www.gov.uk/studentfinance

- Application is open at the end of March

- Apply with your preferred choice, you can change the details later if necessary.

- **If you want to be assessed for the maximum loan available, you should complete the means tested section**

- Deadline is usually the end of May.

- You can apply after this date, but you may get your funding late.

# Important to note:

You'll need to apply for Student Finance each year for the following year

# Where does the funding go?

- Tuition Loan goes directly to your university
- Maintenance Loans, Grants and Bursaries are paid directly to you
- Paid in three instalments throughout the year

# Rates of interest

Interest on 2023 student loans will go up in line with the Retail Prices Index (RPI) rather than RPI +3% like it used to.

This is good news as it means there's no 'real cost' to your student loan, as the rate is set at inflation.

So say you borrow enough to buy 100 shopping trolleys' worth of goods, you'll only repay enough to buy 100 shopping trolleys' worth of goods at future prices.

The interest is added on to the total amount borrowed and does not affect your monthly payments.

https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/video/should-i-pay-off-plan-1-student-loan/

# Repayments

- What are the future implications of having a loan?

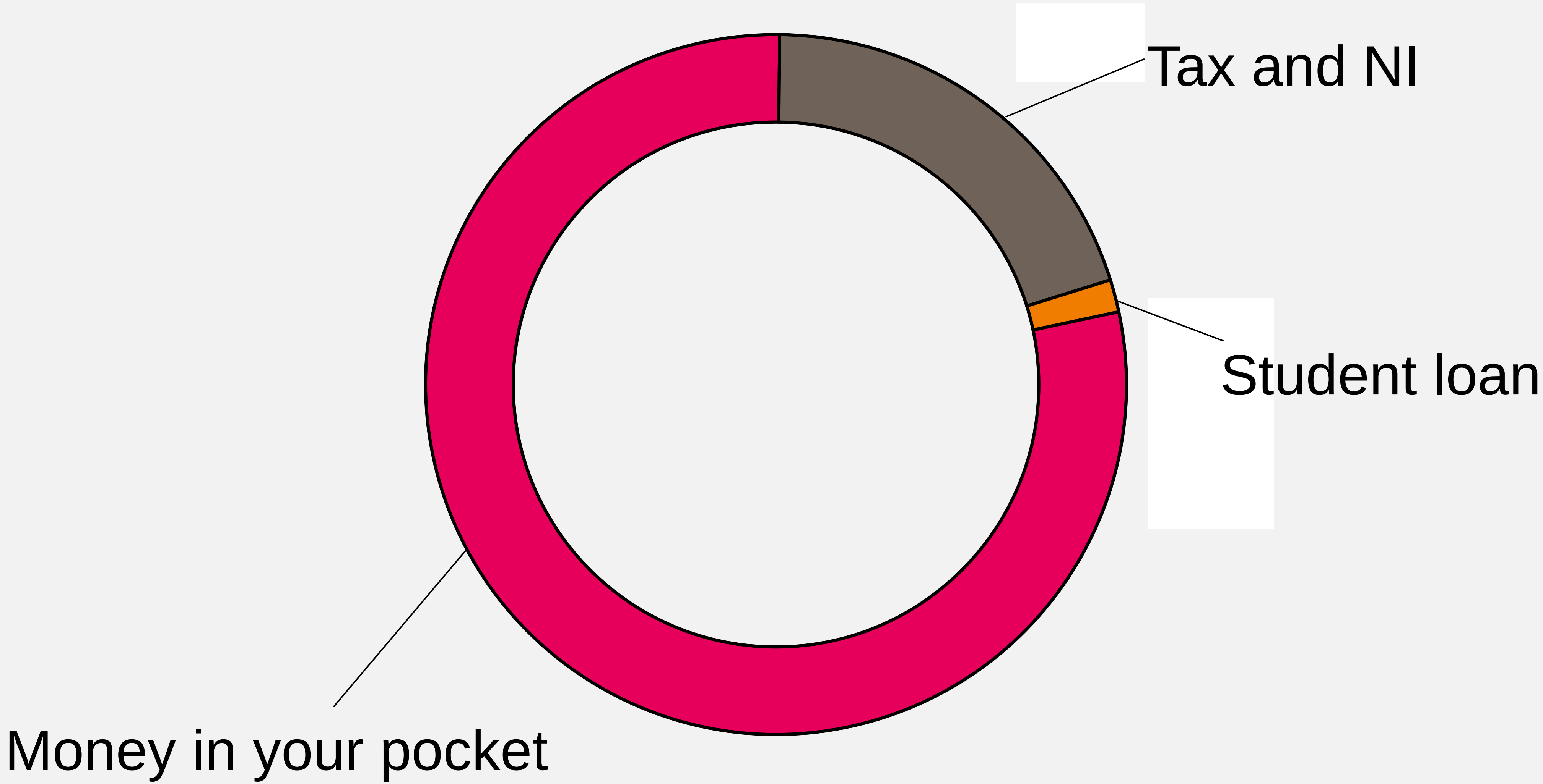
# Repayments

- Based on your salary after you graduate

- Repayments are calculated at 9% of anything you earn over £25,000 divided into 12 monthly payments.

| Annual earnings | Gross Monthly income (before tax) | Monthly repayment to SLC |
|---|---|---|
| £25,000 | £2,083 | £0 |
| £30,000 | £2,500 | £37.50 |
| £40,000 | £3,333 | £112.50 |
| £50,000 | £4,166 | £187.50 |

# Repayments on a £30,000 salary



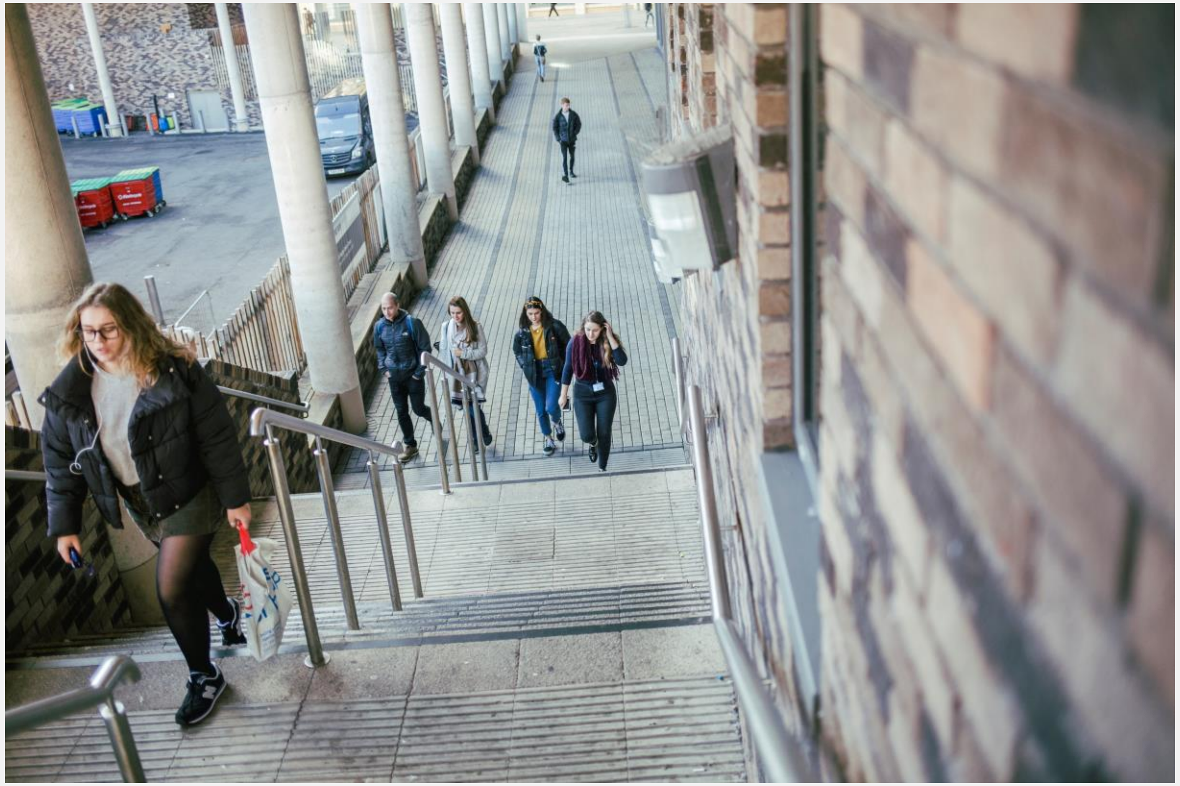
# The highlights

- Repayable after graduation and only if you're earning £25,000 + per year
- No pressure to pay back your loans if you can't get a job
- If higher education has not been worth it for you, you don't pay for it
- The repayments come out of your wages like tax and national insurance

# But what about the debt?

# Not a normal "debt"

- Written off after 40 years
- Does not affect your credit rating
- It's highly unlikely to affect your eligibility to apply for a mortgage



# Other financial support

- Extra funding

- Scholarships
- Sponsored degrees

- Extra income

- Gap year
- Placement year
- Employment

- Extra support

Overdrafts www.moneysavingexpert.com
Parental support

# NHS Funding

[www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/lsf](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/lsf)

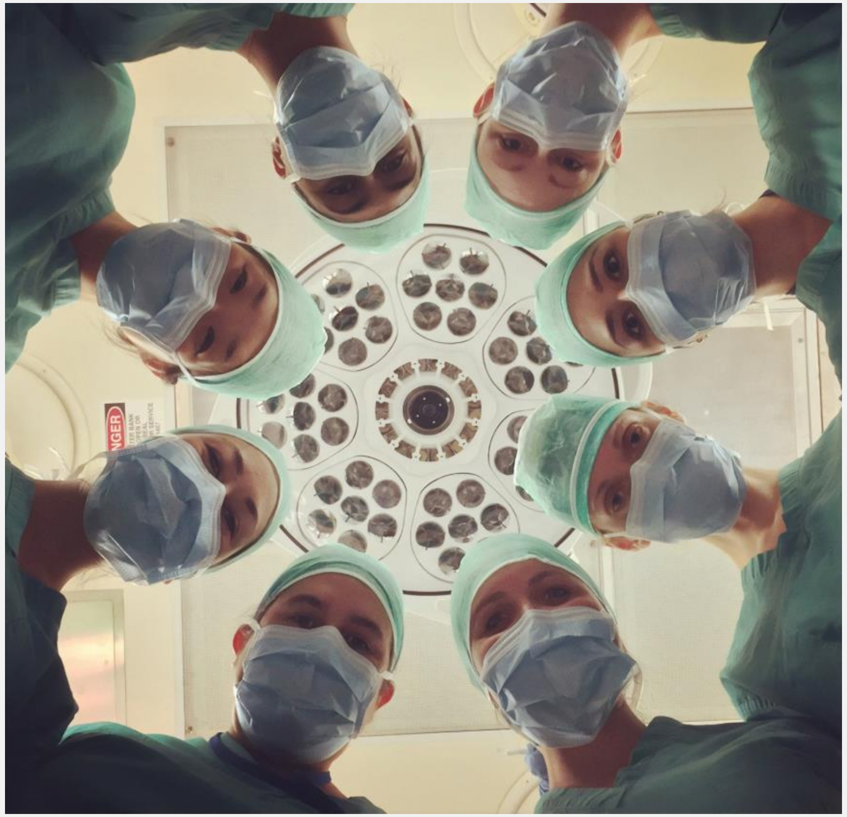
**Training Grant -** £5,000 per academic year

**Parental Support -** £2,000 for children under 15

**Travel & Accommodation -** Reimbursement for costs incurred on placement

**Disciplines that struggle to recruit -** If study in area with low NHS recruitment

Students will need to reapply for this funding each year



# Extra funding

**Estranged students and care leavers**

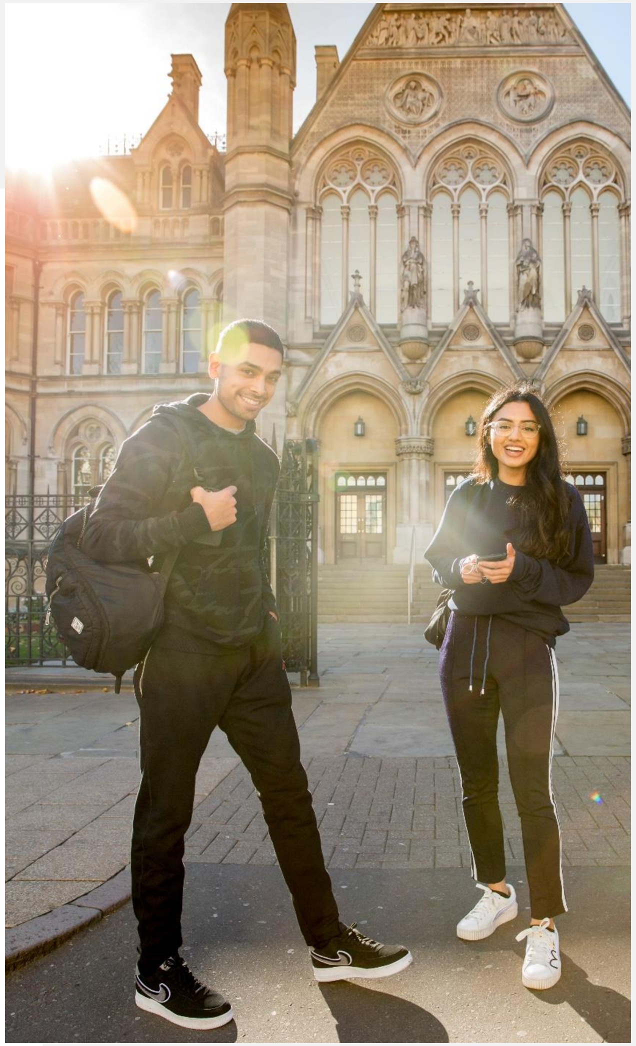
NTU offers an additional £1000 bursary for these students

**Childcare Grant/Parent's Learning Allowance**

for students with children

**Adult Dependant's Grant**

for those who have carer responsibilities for an adult dependant



# Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)

- For anyone with physical or sensory impairments, mental health difficulties, autism spectrum conditions and specific learning differences such as dyslexia

www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas

# Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)

- **Apply early –** the process can take up to 14 weeks
- You will need to provide medical evidence and you will be invited to an assessment, **don’t let this put you off**
- Over half of eligible students miss out because they think they don’t qualify or they cannot be supported

# Useful tasks to complete:

- Stay on track of your application
- Prepare income documentation, NI insurance number
- Browse part time jobs
- Think about how you will budget at university
- Open a student bank account

# Tips, Tricks and Student Hacks

- Buy own-brand groceries
- Learn to cook before you're going to university
- Ask if your flatmates are up for sharing certain ingredients
- Get a rail card 16-25
- Sign up to free student discounts (TOTUM card, UniDays account, etc.)
- Go thrifting!
- ALWAYS ask if a shop or restaurant offers student discount