

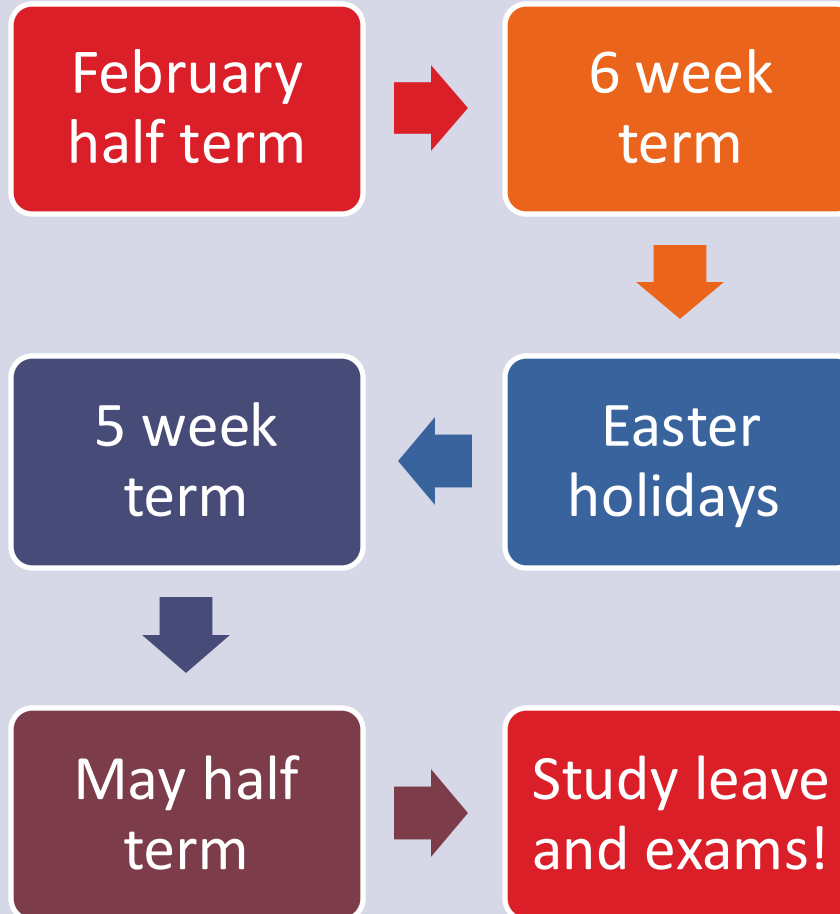
REDCLIFFE SIXTH FORM Y13 Parents/Carers' Information



FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION

- Key dates
- Revision
- Summer Exams
- Pastoral Support
- Progression
- Student Finance

The Final Stretch



Key dates

Thursday 13th Feb

- Y13 assembly with gradesheet released

Thursday 27th Feb

- Y13 Parents/Carers Subject Evening

By Easter holidays

- EPQ completed

Monday 12th May

- A Level and AS exams start

Friday 16th May

- Last day before study leave

Friday 23rd May

- Leavers Service

Wednesday 25th June

- Leavers Ball

Thursday 14th August

- A Level Results Day

At the moment, students should be...

- Attending all lessons
- Attending registration on a Wednesday or a Thursday
- Completing homework on time
- Completing coursework/EPQ
- Planning their revision and starting to review Y12 content as well as Y13
- Using free periods to make the most of the day
- Asking teachers what they need to do to achieve their target grades if they are not clear

When and how should students start revising?

Plan

- Check exam dates and plan backwards from these
- Make a revision timetable (using the booklet provided)

Summarise

- Order revision guides
- Organise notes
- Use revision resources on Moodle
- Use strategies discussed in registration
- Go to revision sessions

Test

- Download past papers and mark schemes
- Work with friends / classmates – test each other

Feedback

- Mark practice questions
- Ask teachers for feedback

Moodle site: The Route & SMRT study skills site:

<https://www.smrt.bristol.sch.uk/index.php/sixth-form/sixth-form-study-skills-support>

Exams

- The **dates of exams** will soon to be on our website. It is not uncommon for students to have exams which clash.
- Do not panic if this is the case.
- Students will receive a **personalised timetable on Bromcom** with rooms and seat numbers which resolves all clashes, closer to Easter.

On the day of an exam...

- **Sickness** - A doctor's note is essential if a student is too sick to attend and needs to be presented to the exams office.
- **Ongoing sickness** – the school should be made aware and a letter of consideration can be sent to the exam board – can vary marks but normally only 2-3%
- **Lateness-** Students can enter exams up to 20 mins late as long as they have called ahead to explain the delay. They can be admitted up to an hour late if they have been under constant adult supervision
- **Clearance Form-** Once all exams are finished students will need to return books and complete a clearance form.

Support available

- We know this is a stressful time for students
- Lots of people available to support students...
 - Tutor
 - Mr Mansell (Head of Year)
 - Mrs Sancto-Halpin (Deputy Head of Year) - Revision and study skills
 - Learning mentors – Removing any barriers to learning
 - Millie – Mental health and other pastoral issues
 - Lisa and Megan - Educational needs support
 - Simon – Safeguarding
 - Butterfly Counselling and Off the Record

PROGRESSION

Year 13 Progression

- UCAS ~80% (including after Gap Years)
- Apprenticeships
- Work
- Gap, Art Foundation, Internships etc

Rhian Apps – 6th Form Progression Coordinator

Appsr@smrt.bristol.sch.uk

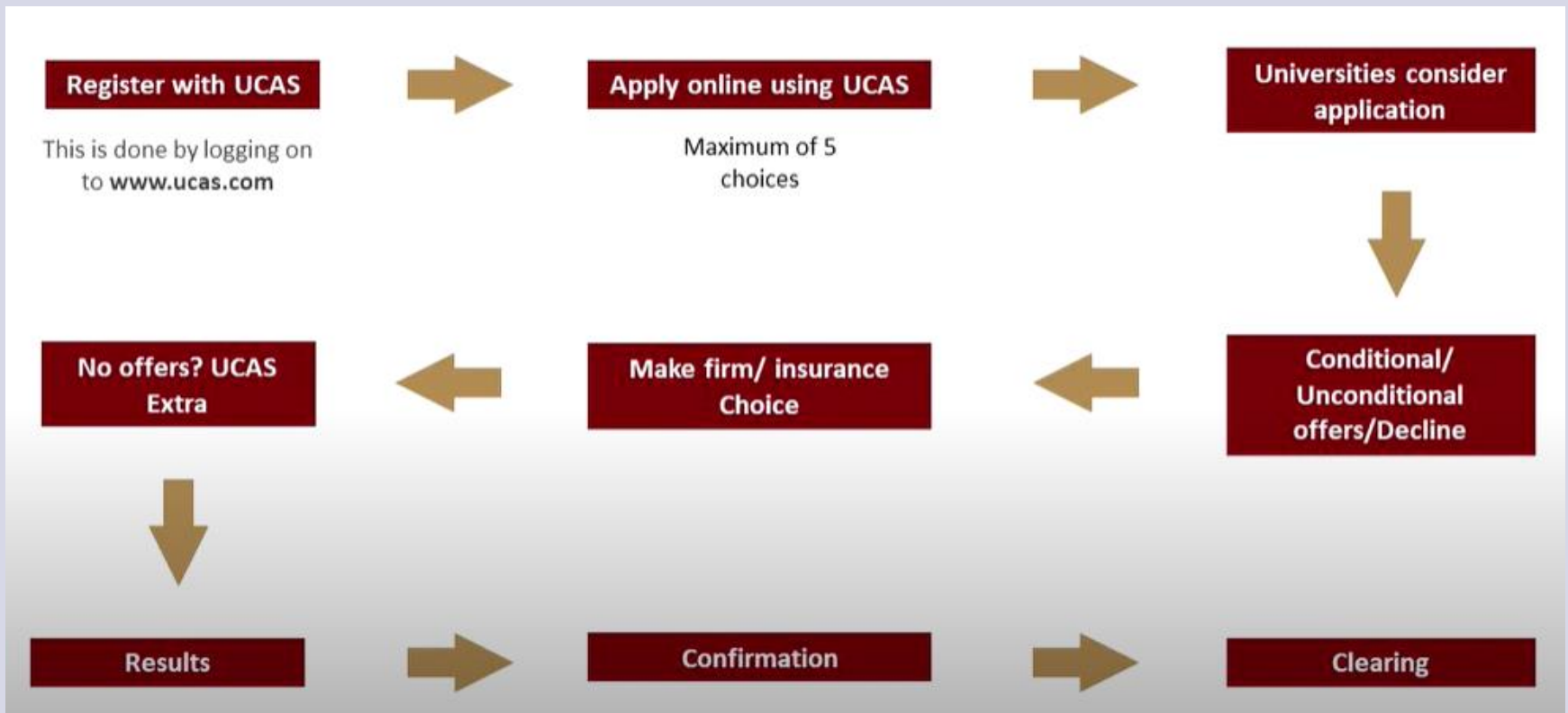
Apprenticeships

- Unifrog – search up to date apprenticeships
- Gov website
- No central application portal – apply like a job

Key date – Online apprenticeship session for parents & students
Wednesday 12th March
Sign up via newsletter

Name	Level	Equivalent
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE's at a pass
Advanced	3	2 A level's at a pass
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or Master's degree

The UCAS Application Process



Responding to offers

- UCAS deadline was January 29th 2025.
- Universities will now be reviewing applications and making decisions.
- Some students may have heard back from all universities whilst some students might still be waiting – this is normal.
- Students will be asked to choose a firm and an insurance choice.
- Students will be withdrawn from the remaining universities / courses.
- Reply dates vary – students need to login to UCAS to check (likely 5th June)

UCAS – Firm (first) & Insurance

- Firm choice – first choice
- Insurance choice – second choice/back up
- The insurance choice should be a safety net, a university with lower entry requirements.
- However, it is important students do not accept somewhere they aren't prepared to go.

Results day

- **Thursday 14th August 2025**
- On site in the main school hall
- We will be available on the day to support students with university offers, challenging exam results with re-marks, external re-sitting of exams and internal re-sitting of exams and courses as Year 14 (subject to teachers approval)
- UCAS track will be updated on the morning of results day to inform students of which they have been accepted to – firm, insurance or none
- Sometimes universities will still offer, even if they have slightly missed the grades

UCAS Clearing

- Clearing – courses yet to be filled
- If students are not accepted into their Firm or Insurance choices
- OR, if students do better than expected
- Lots become available on results day
- Check out the UCAS website for more info on this

What happens if students are unplaced, change their mind etc?

- Speak to us on results day – we can help
- We will contact Unis or help you to do so
- Apply online to access UCAS ‘Clearing’ system – agree a place by phone then confirm online
- Reapply to UCAS in Sept for 2026 (using the school support and with a new buzzword)
- Students who want to apply in their GAP year should email their tutor after results day to let them know and ask for the buzzword
- We will support students with the process, write a reference, check personal statements etc

STUDENT FINANCE

STUDENT FUNDING

Josh Shapland

Widening Participation Officer

Please note, all figures correct at time of publication: February 2025



We will cover

- Myth-busting!
- Types of support: Government Funding
- Types of support: University Funding
- Additional Support

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You can get a loan from the government to cover the full costs of tuition...



True

You must pay all the loan back...



False

You can apply for a government loan to help with living costs...



True

You must spend the maintenance loan on certain things...



False

Government loans are the only source of funding available for students...



False

Funding available from UK Government

UK students can apply to take out two types of loan from Student Finance:

1. Tuition fee loan
2. Maintenance loan



student finance wales
cyllid myfyrwyr cymru



Do make sure you check your eligibility.
Loans need to be repaid – you can find out more about repayments on your funding providers webpage.

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Tuition Fee Loan

- Currently, tuition fees are charged at £9250 per academic year.
- From 2026 entry these will rise to £9535
- Tuition fee loans are not means-tested.
- Tuition fee loans are paid directly to the University.



Maintenance Loan

- A loan to help with living costs such as rent, bills, food and activities.
- Paid directly to the student, in three instalments at the start of each term.
- Unless funded by Students Awards Agency Scotland then it's received in monthly payments.

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>



Maintenance Loan

The amount you can get will depend on:

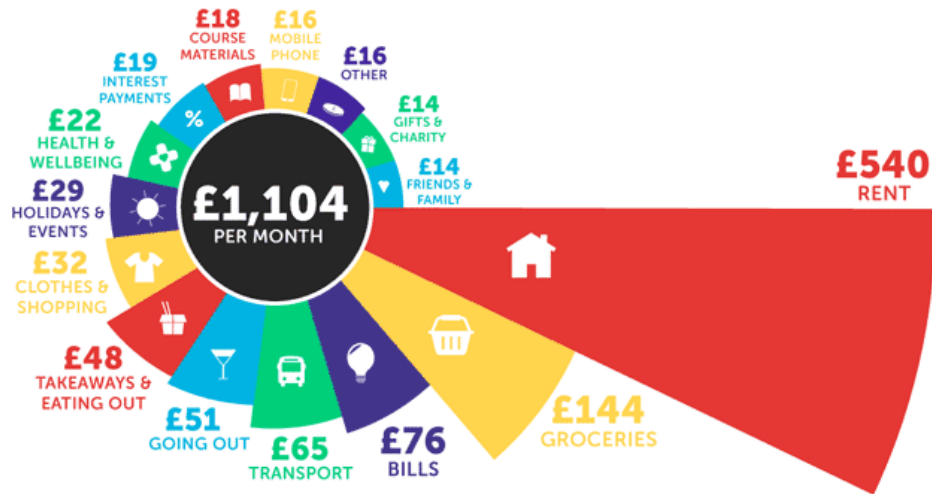
- Who your regional funding provider is
- Where you will be studying
- Where you live whilst at university
- Whether you are an independent or dependent student
- Duration of your course (extra weeks)
- Your household income (if you agree to be means tested)

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Average Student Monthly Spending

The graphic below shows the average monthly spending in different categories, as found by a survey carried out in 2024 by Save The Student.



The cost of living varies depending on where you are studying so your costs may be more than this in the South of England.



Maintenance Loan - SFE



Figures for 2025-26 are...

Rate of loan for students	Maximum loan	Minimum loan
Living at home	£10,473	£3,907
Living away from home and studying in London	£15,008	£6,853
Living away from home and studying outside London	£12,019	£4,915
Studying overseas as part of a UK course	£13,442	£5,838



What is 'Household Income'?

Annual household income is assessed and verified with HMRC.
If you're under 25 and financially depend on at least one parent:



Combined
parental income if
student lives with
both



Father Income if
student lives with
Dad



Mother Income if
student lives with
Mum



Dad and step-
parent or new
partner if living with
student



Mum and step-
parent or new
partner if living
with student



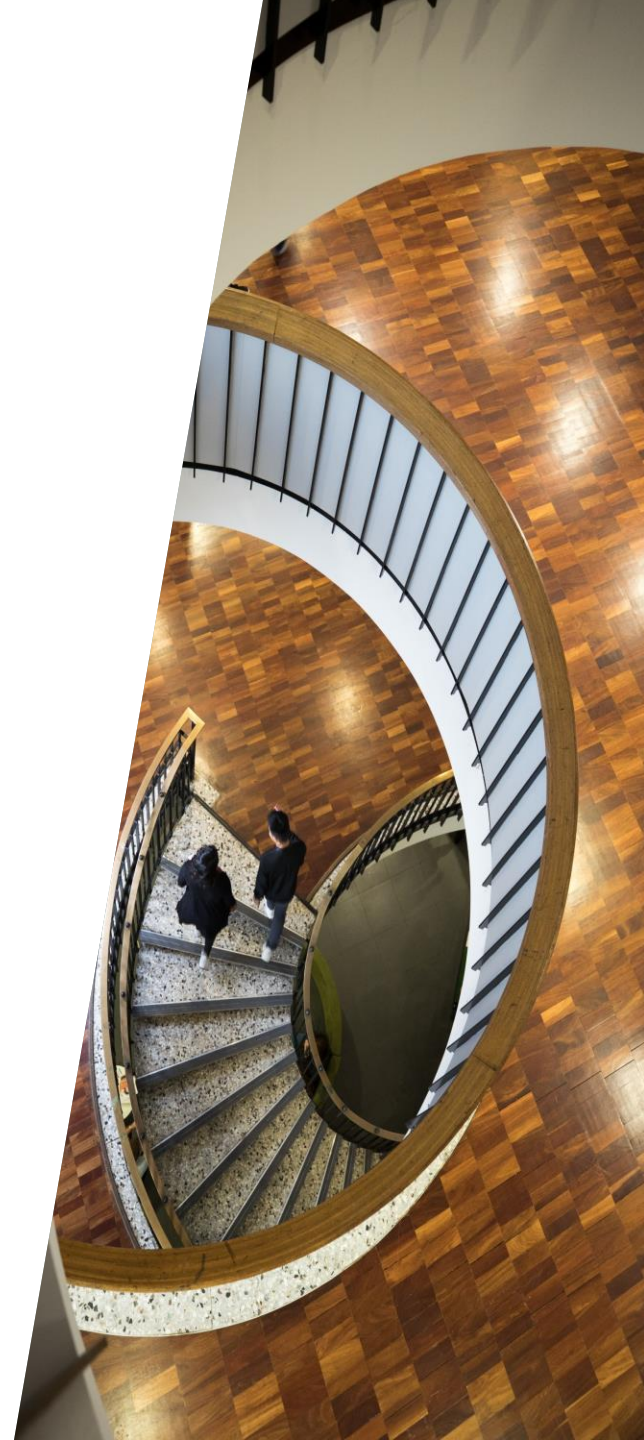
Partner Income if
student is married
or aged 25+ and
living with partner



Independent students

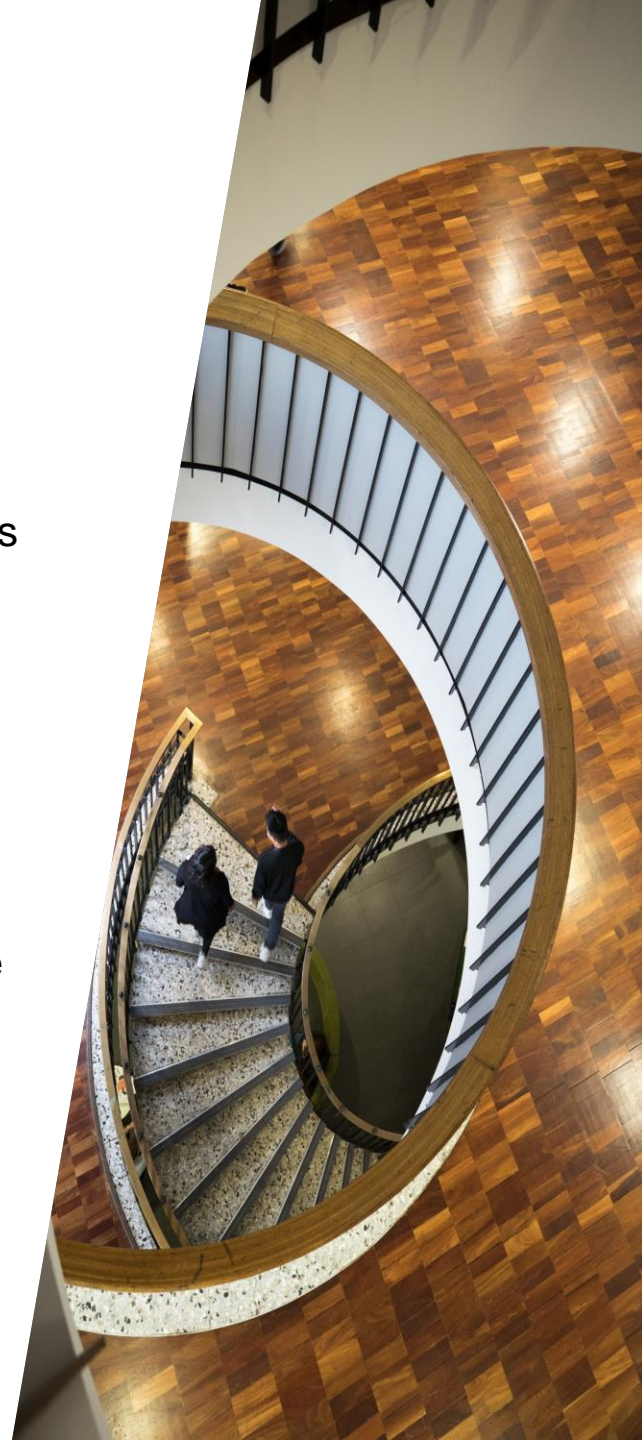
Student Finance won't take parent's income into account if you are considered to be an independent student.

- Students who are 25+ at the start of the academic year (1st September).
- Or if you are a:
 - care leaver,
 - estranged from both parents,
 - or have no living parents.



Independent Students

- You can also be considered financially independent if you:
 - can prove that you have self-supported yourself for 3 years before the start of the course.
 - have a child who is wholly financially dependent upon you.
 - are under 25 and married (even if you are now divorced/separated). Your spouse will also need to provide their household income details.



How to Apply for Funding

Set up
account and
apply online

- Apply via your regional funding provider as early as possible

Online
verification

- Identity and household income

Receive
Entitlement
Letter

- Outlining how much you can get and payment schedule



How to Apply for Funding

- You need to re-apply for student finance each year of your studies.
- If you are deferring your application, apply for funding in the year that you intend to study.
- You are still entitled to a maintenance loan if you study abroad. Tuition fees may be lower.

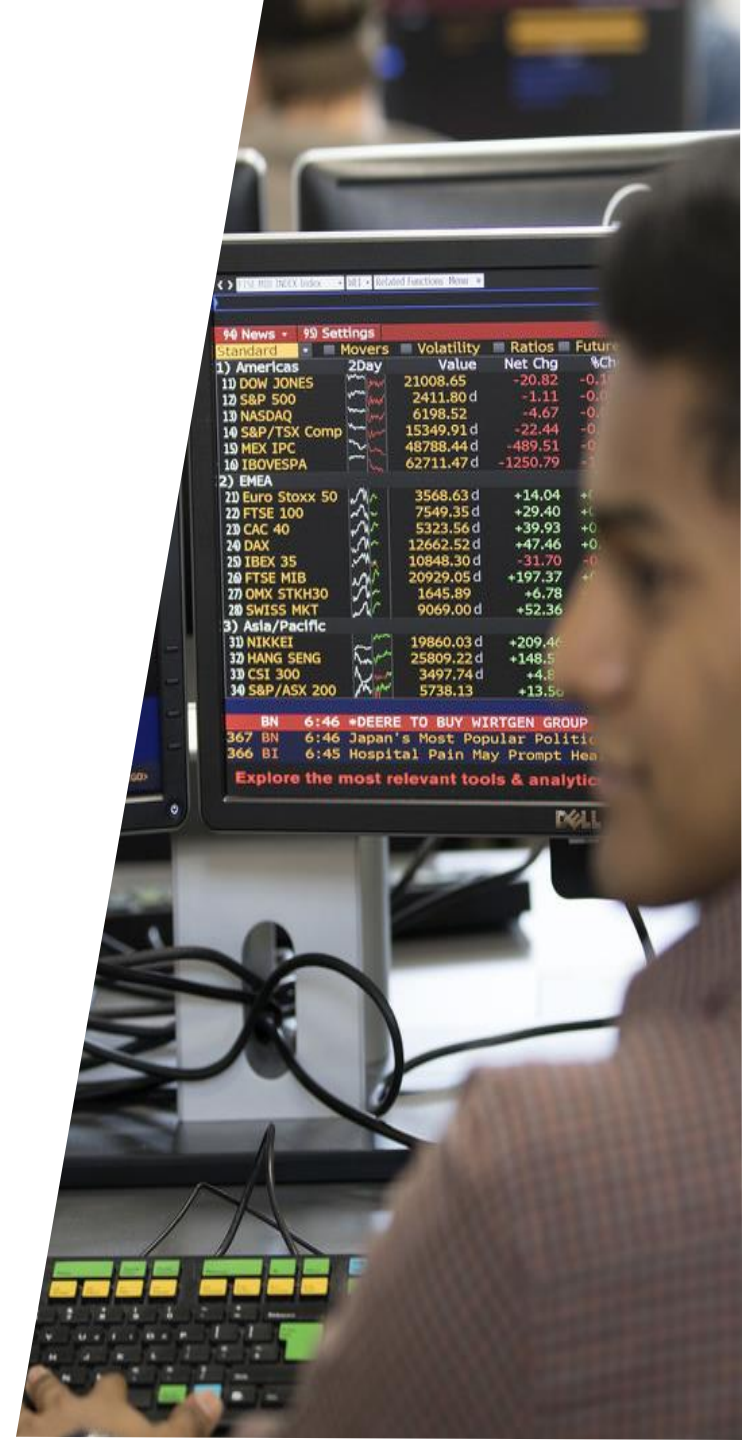


Repayments

- Tuition fee and maintenance loans are combined
- Only repay from the April after graduation
- Only repay if your salary is above a threshold (threshold changes each April)
- Repay 9% of amount over threshold
- As of 2024:
 - Salary threshold is **£25,000**
 - Repay over **40 years**

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-loans-tuition-fees-changes/>

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Extra Government Financial Help

- You may be eligible for extra financial help in the form of a grant if you have dependants or have a disability.
- Full time students with dependent children may be eligible for the [Parents' Learning Allowance](#).
- Full time students with children who pay childcare costs may be eligible for the [Childcare Grant](#)



Extra Government Financial Help

- Full time students with adult dependants may be eligible for the [Adult Dependants' Grant](#)
- If you have a disability, including a mental-health condition, long-term health condition or specific learning difficulty, such as dyslexia or dyspraxia, you might be able to get [Disabled Students' Allowances](#).



Bursaries and Scholarships

- Non-repayable – yours to keep!
- All fee-charging universities offer bursaries
- Most will also offer scholarships for sports, music or academic excellence
- Eligibility criteria and application processes will vary by university, and by award



Visit our bursaries
and scholarships
page for more info

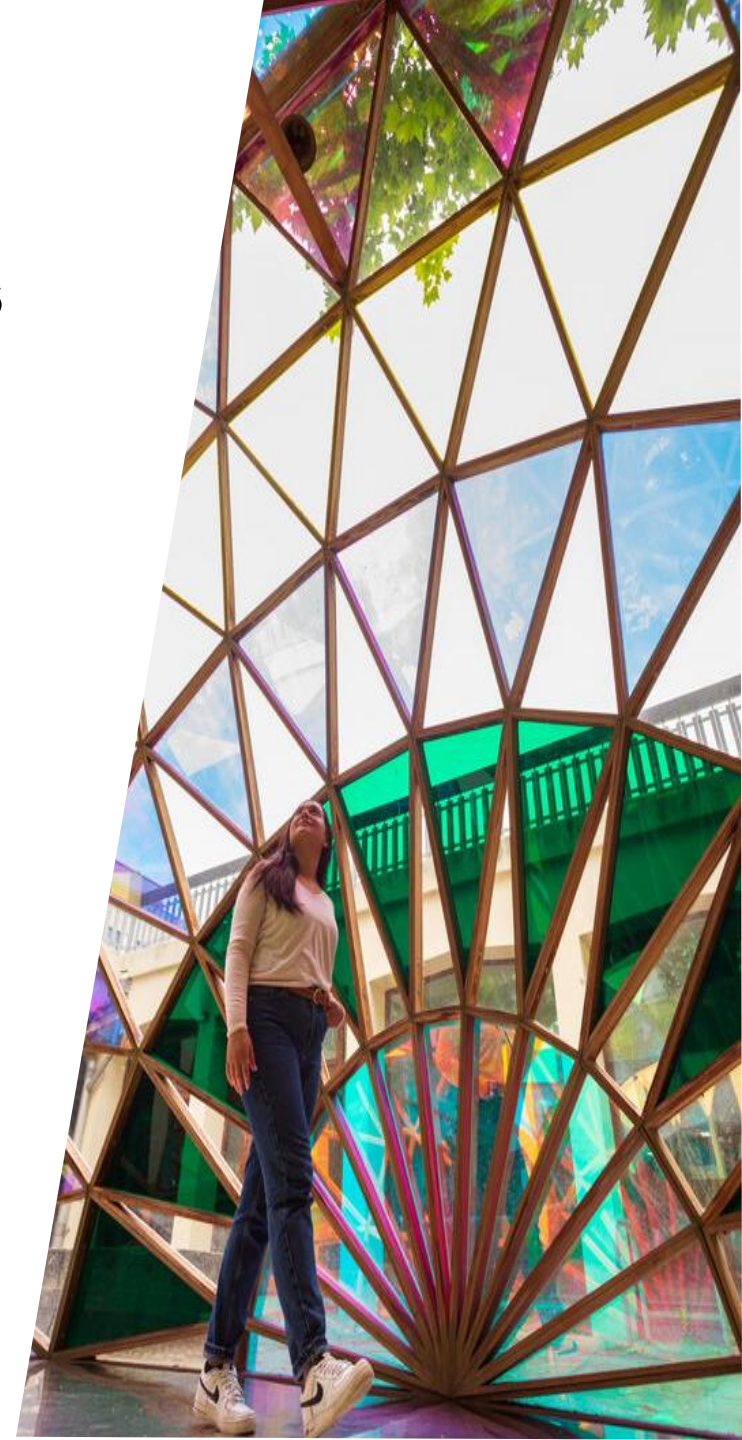
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Bursaries and Scholarships

- Prospective UK undergraduate students can apply for a range of funding provided by donations from friends and alumni of the University of Bristol.
- You can apply via: [Additional funding | Current students | University of Bristol](#)
- The deadline for 2025 is May 18th
- Payment schedules and amounts depend on the bursary or scholarship awarded to successful applicants.
- Bursaries and scholarships are not guaranteed to run every year.

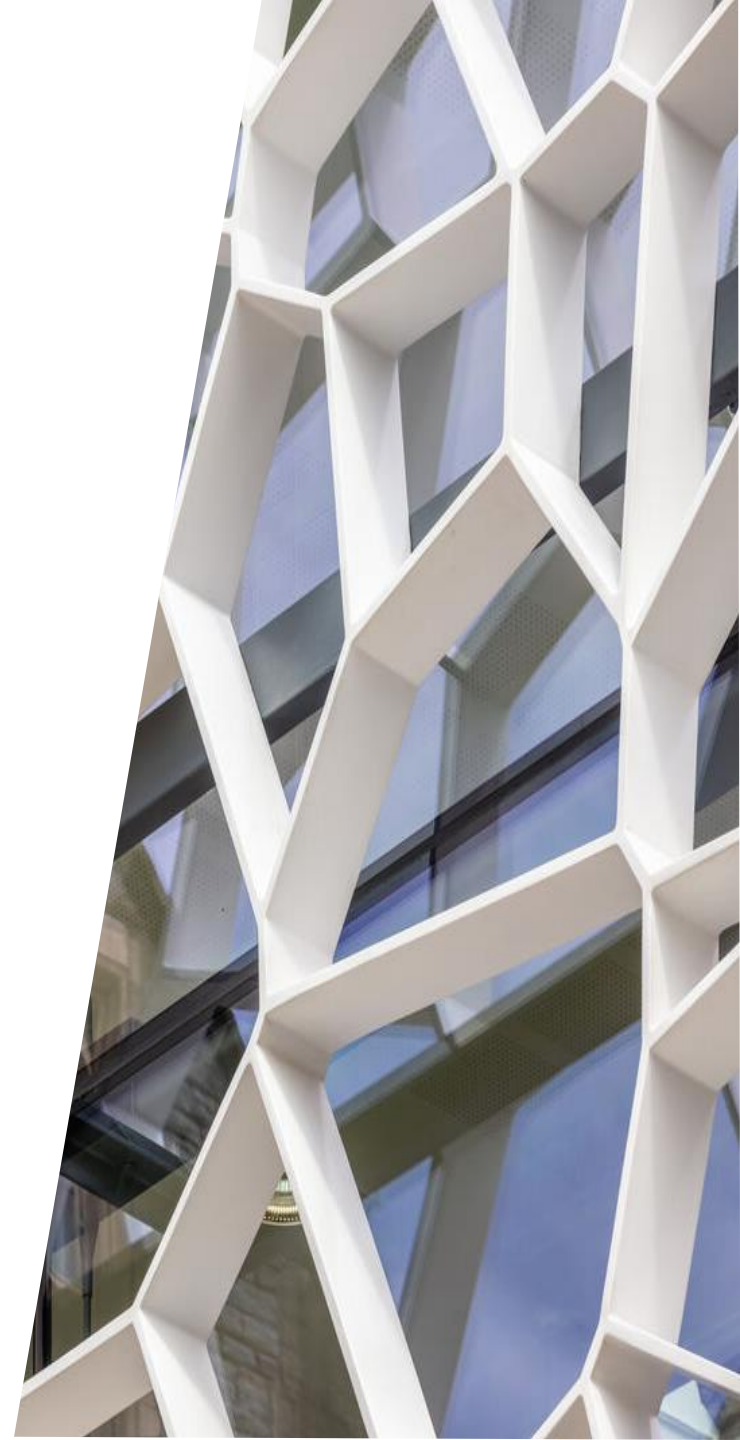
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Part-Time Work

- There are number of part-time opportunities with the University to work as Student Ambassadors.
- The Careers service can also offer support for finding part-time work.
- [Part time work | Careers Service | University of Bristol](#)
- Recommended work hours for full-time undergraduate students is no more than 15 hours per week during term-time.

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ANY QUESTIONS?

Email choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk for any general enquiries

