

Financial Support for Students

Home NI/GB Undergraduates

Undergraduate students eligible for student finance through [Student Finance NI](#), [Student Finance England](#), or [Student Finance Wales](#) may apply to their respective provider for a means-tested Childcare Grant.

You cannot apply for the Childcare Grant if you:

- Claim the childcare element of Universal Credit or Working Tax Credit
- Receive tax-free childcare from HM Revenue and Customs
- Pay a relative to care for your child only
- Receive childcare funding through the Department of Health Nursing Bursary

University Student Support Fund

This fund, provided by the Department for the Economy, considers applications from Home NI/GB students who:

- Have applied for all available student funding and relevant social security benefits they may be eligible for
- Are experiencing financial difficulties

This is a discretionary fund, and each application is assessed based on individual circumstances.

Further information on applying to the Fund can be found [here](#)

Home Postgraduates

Currently, Childcare Grants are not available at postgraduate level, except for students undertaking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), who may be eligible for undergraduate-level student finance.

University Student Support Fund

Home NI/GB postgraduate students may apply for discretionary support with childcare and other costs (except tuition fees) if:

- They have accessed all available funding and relevant social security benefits they may be eligible for
- Their application demonstrates financial hardship

International / ROI Students

Students on a Student Visa are subject to a No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) condition. This means they cannot:

- Apply for statutory student finance (including the Childcare Grant)
- Receive childcare financial support from the state
- Receive awards from the University Student Support Fund

University Financial Assistance Fund

This discretionary fund may offer limited financial assistance to International and ROI students facing financial difficulty. However:

- The fund is extremely limited in both number and size of awards
- Applicants must demonstrate exceptional and unexpected circumstances that occurred after the start of the current academic year
- Supporting documentation of the exceptional circumstances is required

Further information on applying to the Fund can be found [here](#)

Other Financial Support

The following websites offer search tools for external charitable support, benevolent funds, educational scholarships, and private student loans:

- [The Scholarship Hub](#)
- [Turn2us Grants Search](#)
- [International Scholarships](#)
- [International Education Financial Aid \(IEFA\)](#)
- [Scholarship Portal](#)

Need Advice?

[SU Advice](#), located at Level 3 of the Students' Union, can provide guidance on:

- Applying for statutory student finance
- Eligibility to apply for social security benefits
- Understanding discretionary support options

Drop-in advice sessions are held every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 11.30am and 2pm or email su.advice@gub.ac.uk

Please note: Advisers cannot direct students to financial support sources beyond those listed above.