

Access to Learning Fund (Hardship Fund)

The University Hardship Fund is called the Access to Learning Fund.

It is a non-repayable grant administered by The University of Worcester to help eligible students who are experiencing financial difficulties.

Eligibility

Who can apply?

You must be a Home or EU (but not non-EU International) student as defined by Student Finance England, registered on a course at the University of Worcester or registered as a University of Worcester Student at a Partner College, but not including 'Direct Funding' students who pay fees directly to the Partner College.

A Home student is defined as a person who meets certain residency conditions (the same conditions apply to eligibility for statutory student support, for example, for the student Maintenance Loan).

An EU student is normally defined as someone who is an EU national, who has lived in the EEA or Switzerland for three years or more before their course starts and was living in the UK on the first day of their course.

Priorities for Assistance

- 1 The Access to Learning Fund is limited and not all applicants will receive financial help or cover for their entire financial shortfall. Priority will be given to the following groups:
- 1 Students with children (especially lone parents)Mature students, especially those with existing financial commitments, including priority debts
- 1 Students from low income households
- 1 Disabled students (especially where the DSA is unable to meet particular costs)Students who have entered Higher Education from Care or have previously been in Care
- 1 Students who are or have been homeless
- 1 Students receiving the final year loan rate, who are in financial difficulty (including those who are unable to work because of academic pressure)
- 1 Postgraduate students who are self-funding
- 1 Students who are carers/have caring responsibilities that affect them financially
- 1 Students who are under 25 and are estranged from their parents

Find out more

For full details, including information on how to apply, please see our [Money Advice pages](#).

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<http://www.worcester.ac.uk/your-home/access-to-learning-fund.html>