

Student Success Scholarship 2017/18

The University is investing £1.2 million in the Student Success Scholarship in 2017/18. The scholarship offers access to enhanced support packages to all applicants as well as a limited number of financial awards designed to address students' needs.

The Student Success Scholarship is open to all UK domiciled students with Home Fees status, who meet the eligibility criteria. It is not open to students with Overseas Fee status.

The University has also identified priority groups for support based on income, course type and personal circumstances. These include:

- a residual household income (RHI) of up to £42,875
- on a high intensity or high cost course, or a course with a high cost placement¹
- students with caring responsibilities
- students leaving local authority care (under 25)
- students who are estranged from their family (under 25)
- student parents (with more than one child)
- disabled students
- transgender students

Applications will be assessed according to the number of priority groups a student falls within. Those students who meet multiple criteria will be more likely to receive greater awards. As the number of awards is limited priority will be given to students who are known to be facing higher financial challenges, as defined by the priority groups of the scheme.

Eligibility

The scholarships may be available to students who meet the following criteria:

- an undergraduate starting their first year as a new student at Sheffield Hallam University in 2017
- a full time student, or a part-time student studying at a minimum of 25% intensity of the equivalent full-time course.

¹ These are courses which the University has defined as being high intensity, high additional cost or high placement cost according to this [list](#)

- liable to pay the university's 2017-18 tuition fee of £9,250
- have had a means-tested assessment as part of their application for a student loan, or a part time student who can provide evidence of their Residual Household Income

Students in the following categories would NOT be eligible for the scholarship:

- students continuing directly from one course to another in 2017 (for example starting on a top up course from a foundation degree or HND to final year of an honours degree)
- postgraduate students (including PGCE)
- part-time students who are studying at less than 25% intensity of the equivalent full-time course
- students whose fees are paid in whole or part through sponsorship (for example by their employer)

Additional clarification on eligibility

The University's financial support arrangements are specific to a student's academic year of entry. Continuing, transferring or repeating students who started a course of study with the University prior to academic year 2017/18 are not eligible for this scholarship.

If the year that a student would normally have started their degree course is not 2017/18 then they will not be eligible for this scholarship. For example, someone starting at Sheffield Hallam as a new student in 2017/18 but entering directly into their second or third year or starting as a top up student in 2017/18 would not be eligible.

Levels of award

Financial awards will typically range from £200-£2,000. However, there may be some variance in the exact value of awards allocated according to the level of need evidenced at application. Where equal levels of need are evidenced specific household income and postcode data will be used to differentiate awards. All available money will be allocated.

Part time students will receive a proportion of the full time student award based on their course intensity.

Please note: although eligible students can apply every year payments will be awarded on the basis of need evidenced at each separate application cycle. Students who receive a financial award in 2017/18 are not guaranteed to receive the same or any payment the year after, even if their circumstances are the same.

Support packages

Applicants to the Scholarship will gain priority access to broader packages of support which develop world-ready skills and knowledge and help to provide students with the best opportunity to succeed during and after their time at Sheffield Hallam.

Notifications about relevant support packages will be sent to applicants via SHU email addresses as part of the application process.

How to apply

- All applications must be submitted online by logging into My Student Record and clicking on the 'Scholarships' link
- Applicants must have enrolled on their course of study prior to submitting an application to the Scholarship
- Applications will be assessed according to the data held and the evidence supplied by the deadline date

Deadlines and payment dates

Course start date	Applications open	Applications close	Payment date
September 2017	25 September 2017	8 December 2017	February 2018
March 2018*	12 March 2018	25 May 2018	July 2018

*applies to undergraduate healthcare students starting a course in March 2018

Awards will be in the form of a cash bursary paid in one instalment. All applicants will be advised whether they have qualified for an award via their SHU email address by

- the end of January for September starters
- the end of June for March starters

Unfortunately due to the high number of applications for the scholarship we are unable to give individual feedback on the reasons for an unsuccessful application. In order to receive a payment you must be able to provide details of a UK current account, funds cannot be transferred into a building society savings account.

Table of criteria and evidence requirements

Detailed guidance on evidence requirements will be available to students on the application portal.

As a summary the following table outlines the priority groups and how we will evidence membership of a group. The examples of how personal circumstances can be evidenced are illustrative and should not be read as exhaustive.

Criteria	Evidence	
	Full time students	Part time students
a) Low income households under	Not required, unless you are a student who is funded	Evidence of Residual Household Income, e.g.

<p>£25,000</p> <p>b) Low income households between £25,001 - £42,875</p> <p>c) Household income above £42,875</p>	<p>by The Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS), then the same evidence requirements apply as those for part time students.</p>	<p>Earnings (P60, P45 or wage slips) or evidence of benefits (working tax credits, Job Seekers Allowance, Housing Benefit, Income Support, Incapacity Benefits/ESA) for the previous tax year (2015-16)</p>
<p>From an area where a lower proportion of people go to University. This is defined by the government as Polar 3. To meet these criteria your address must fall into quintile 1 or 2.</p> <p>To see if you meet this criteria you can check your address using the Participation of Local Areas (POLAR search tool).</p>	<p>Not required - internal record check of postcode of home address</p>	<p>Not required - internal record check of postcode of home address</p>
<p>Course Type</p>		
<p>High intensity or high cost course, or a course with high cost placement</p>	<p>Not required - internal record check</p>	<p>Not required - internal record check</p>
<p>Personal Circumstances</p>		
<p>Student with caring responsibilities - someone providing unpaid support to a friend or family member due to an illness, disability, mental health or addiction problem</p>	<p>Letter confirming caring status from a relevant organisation or third party e.g. a carers organisation, social services, teacher or college tutor, support worker, doctor, healthcare professional or other relevant support organisation or network</p>	<p>Letter confirming caring status from a relevant organisation or third party e.g. a carers organisation, social services, teacher or college tutor, support worker, doctor, healthcare professional or other relevant support organisation or network</p>
<p>Care leaver - someone who has been in care for 3+ months in the school years including and after year 10 and aged 25 or under at the time of enrolment with the university</p>	<p>a) If you have already had your eligibility for the Compact Scheme or the Care Leavers Bursary confirmed then evidence is not required - internal record check</p> <p>b) If you were not part of the Compact Scheme and</p>	<p>a) If you have already had your eligibility for the Compact Scheme or the Care Leavers Bursary confirmed then evidence is not required - internal record check</p> <p>b) If you were not part of the Compact Scheme and</p>

	have not previously received the Care Leavers Bursary then we require a letter confirming your care leaver status from your local authority	have not previously received the Care Leavers Bursary then we require a letter confirming your care leaver status from your local authority
Estranged student - someone who is 'irreconcilably estranged' from their family and aged 25 or under at the time of enrolment	Letter from Student Finance England confirming independent status on the grounds of estrangement or Letter confirming estrangement from a relevant organisation or third party e.g. social services, teacher or college tutor, support worker, doctor or other healthcare professional or other relevant support organisation or network	Letter from Student Finance England confirming independent status on the grounds of estrangement or Letter confirming estrangement from a relevant organisation or third party e.g. social services, teacher or college tutor, support worker, doctor or other healthcare professional or other relevant support organisation or network
Student parent with more than one child	HMRC Child Benefit letter	HMRC Child Benefit letter
Disabled student - someone who has registered with the Disabled Student Support team	Not required - internal record check Note: you do not need to be accessing support for your disability but you do need to be registered with the service in order to meet this criteria	Not required - internal record check Note: you do not need to be accessing support for your disability but you do need to be registered with the service in order to meet this criteria
Transgender student - someone who identifies as Trans	Letter from a relevant organisation or third party e.g. social services, teacher or college tutor, support worker, doctor or other healthcare professional or other relevant support organisation or network	Letter from a relevant organisation or third party e.g. social services, teacher or college tutor, support worker, doctor or other healthcare professional or other relevant support organisation or network

Means tested assessments

In order to be considered for an award on the basis of residual household income criteria we would advise students to do the following:

Full time students from England, Wales or Northern Ireland

You should:

- apply to Student Finance for a means-tested student finance assessment so they can verify your individual household income details;
- apply for this means-tested student finance assessment as soon as possible prior to starting your course, and ideally no later than 27th May 2017;
- ensure that all supporting documentation, along with your bank account details, is supplied to Student Finance;
- indicate to Student Finance that your university is Sheffield Hallam University;
- give your consent to Student Finance to share your finance assessment information with the University; and
- ensure that your finance assessment application has been completed and approved by Student Finance.

Student Finance England, Student Finance Wales or Student Finance Northern Ireland will assess your income and notify the University, who will assess your application using this data.

Full time students funded by The Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) or part-time students

You should:

- supply evidence of your household income as part of your application.

The Student Funding and Access Support team will assess your income using the evidence provided and the University will assess your application using this data.

Changes to Residual Household income

Any consideration for an award on the basis of residual household income criteria is subject to information inputted into your Student Finance assessment or provided by you as part of your application to the Student Success Scholarship by the application deadline date. If this information is incorrect for any reason, this may affect your assessment. If your circumstances change prior to the closing date, this may affect your award. If your Residual Household income changes by more than 15% from the income used in the initial assessment, you can ask Student Finance England for a current year assessment. Those students not funded by Student Finance England can supply additional household income information up until the relevant closing date for the scheme.

Definition of Residual Household income

Residual Household income is based on gross household income (before tax and national insurance) minus certain allowable deductions. These can include pension payments, which are eligible for certain specified tax relief, and allowances for other dependent children. For further information about this definition and how income is assessed, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-student-finance/household-income>

Appeals and general policy terms

For information about the appeals process and other general policy terms relating to all University bursaries see the ['Bursary Guidelines'](#).

September 2017