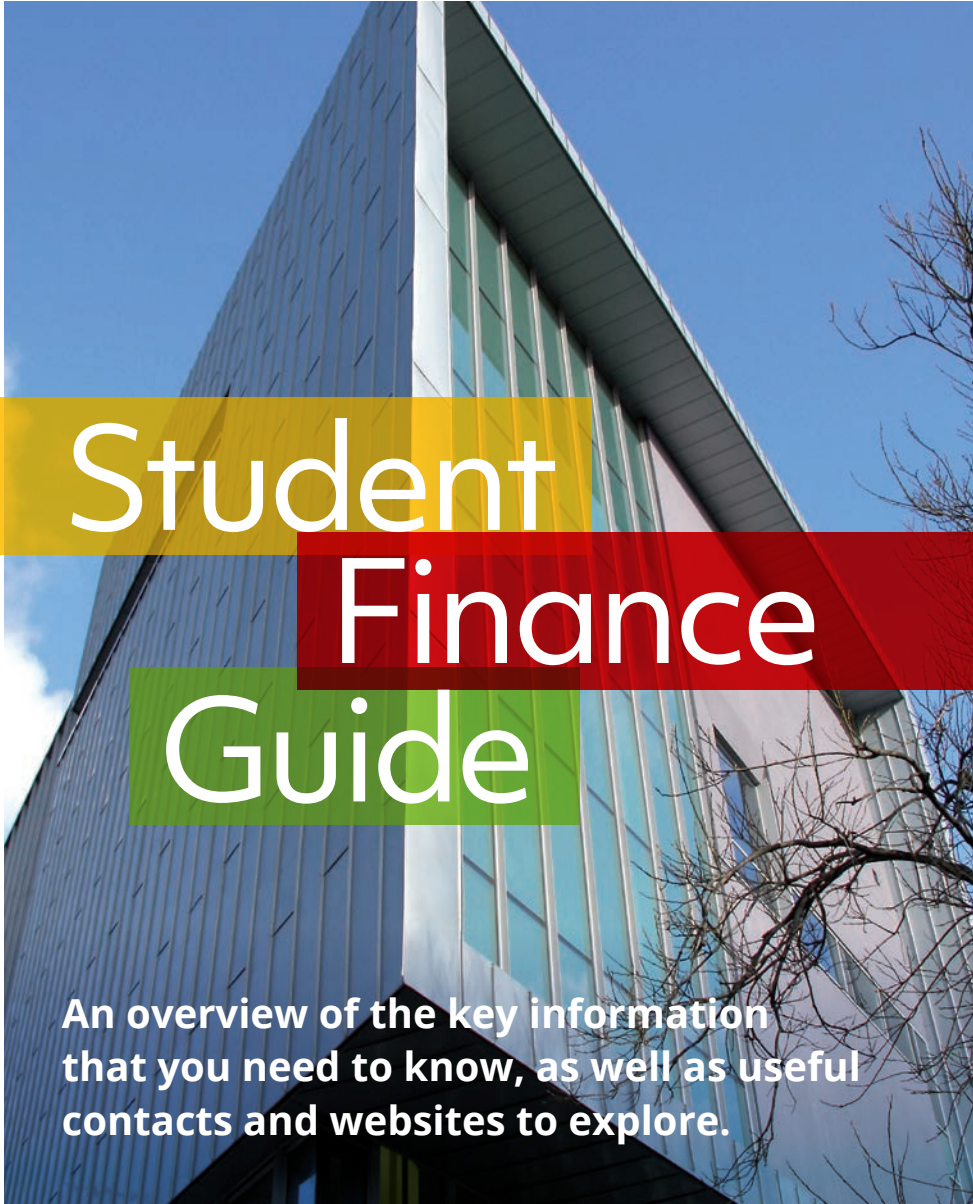


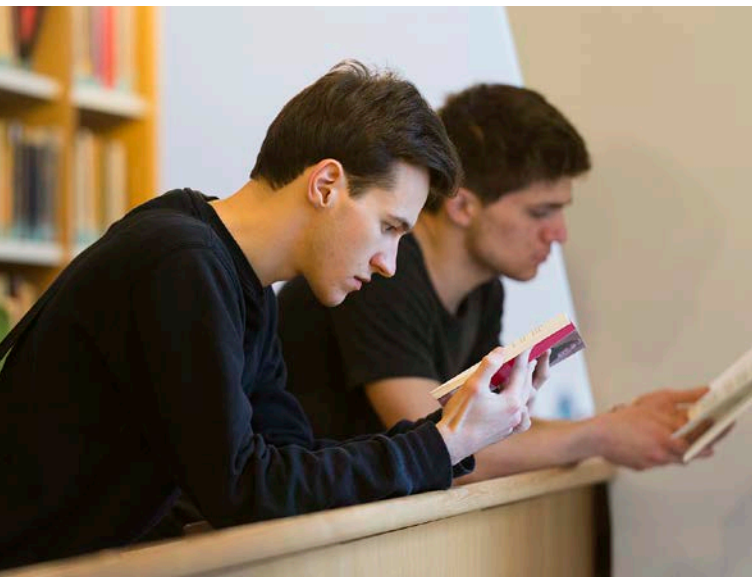
ROYAL CENTRAL

SCHOOL OF SPEECH & DRAMA • UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



Student Finance Guide

An overview of the key information that you need to know, as well as useful contacts and websites to explore.



SECTION ONE

4 Undergraduate Student Finance

- ▶ Tuition fees
 - ▶ Tuition fee loans
 - ▶ Maintenance loans
 - ▶ Paying back your loan(s)
-

SECTION TWO

6 Postgraduate Student Finance

- ▶ Tuition fees
 - ▶ Postgraduate master's degree loans
 - ▶ Paying back your loan
-

SECTION THREE

8 Living Expenses

- ▶ How much will it be?
-

SECTION FOUR

9 Additional Costs

SECTION FIVE

10 Additional Financial Support

- ▶ Central bursaries and scholarships
 - ▶ Government sources of funding
 - ▶ External sources of funding
-

SECTION SIX

12 Useful Contacts and Links

Undergraduate Student Finance

Studying at university is a huge investment, so it is important to know as much as possible about the finances involved, as well as the support that might be available to you. Here is an overview of the key information that you need to know, as well as useful contacts and websites to explore.

We recommend that prospective students take plenty of time to familiarise themselves with this information and undertake further research to ensure that they are as prepared as possible for university life.



Tuition fees

UK and EU students starting a new full-time degree at Central in 2020 will pay the standard tuition fee rate of £9,250 per year for the duration of the course. Overseas students and UK/EEA/Swiss students who already have a bachelor's degree will pay a higher tuition fee per year and this will vary depending on the course. Tuition fees for courses starting in 2020 can be found at www.cssd.ac.uk/content/tuition-fees.

Tuition fee loans

UK and EEA/Swiss students starting a new full-time degree at Central in 2020 will be eligible for a tuition fee loan to cover the cost of tuition fees.

Tuition fee loans are not means-tested and are paid directly to Central on your behalf. Find out how to apply for a tuition fee loan at www.gov.uk/apply-for-student-finance.



Maintenance loans

UK students and EEA/Swiss who have lived in the UK for more than five years before the first day of the first academic year of their course may be eligible for maintenance loans. Maintenance loans are means-tested and the money borrowed is paid into a bank account in three equal instalments at the start of each term. The amount borrowed depends on household income and living situation. For students aged 60 or over on the first day of the first academic year of the course, it is possible to apply for up to £3,893.

Undergraduate students aged 59 and under are able to apply for the following:

**Full-time student
2020/2021 academic year**

Living at home
Up to **£7,747**

Living away from home, in London
Up to **£12,010**.

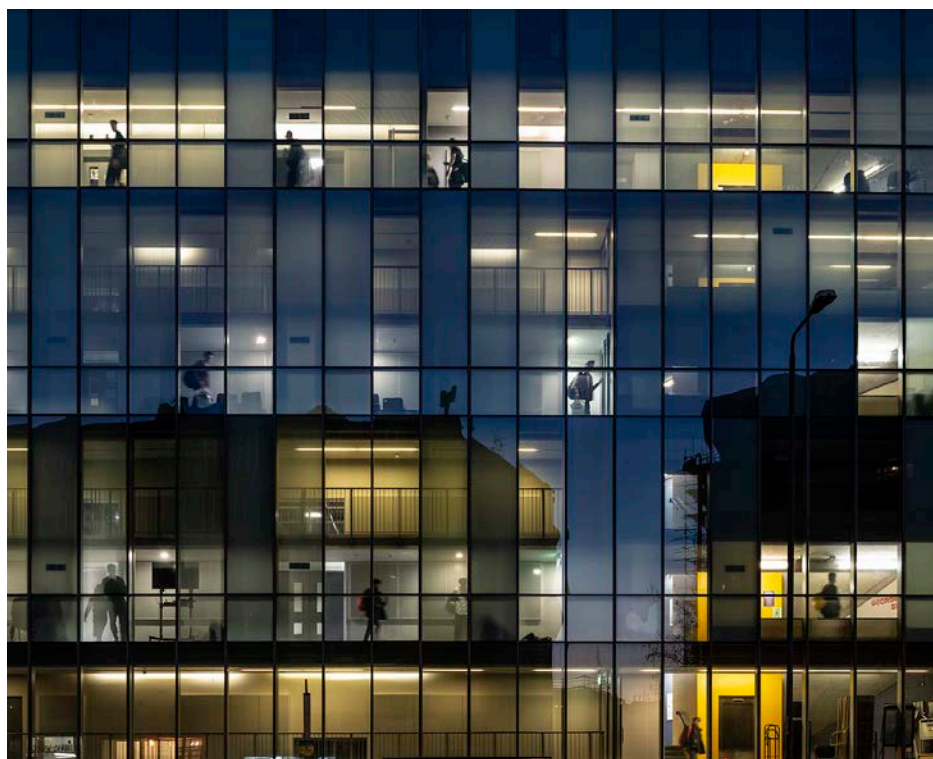
Paying back your loan(s)

You will not start repaying your loan(s) until the April after you leave your course and are earning over a certain amount. The size of your monthly repayments will depend on how much you earn, not what you owe. Details on what the threshold is and how much you might pay back each month is available to view at www.gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan/what-you-pay.

You will be charged interest on the loan from the day you take it out, however the terms and conditions may change.

Postgraduate Student Finance

Finance is one of the key considerations for those looking to undertake a master's degree at university. The information below provides an overview of postgraduate student finance and some sources of extra funding; we recommend prospective students explore as many funding options as possible and, where appropriate, save money to help part-fund their studies.



Tuition fees

UK and EEA/Swiss students starting a master's degree at Central in 2020 will pay a set tuition fee to cover the cost of delivering their course. For this reason, tuition fees vary depending on the course and change annually. Much like undergraduate tuition fees, international students will pay a different tuition fee amount than UK/EEA/Swiss students. Tuition fees for courses starting in 2020 can be found at www.cssd.ac.uk/content/tuition-fees.

Postgraduate Master's Loan from the government

A Postgraduate Master's Loan can help with course fees and living costs while you study.

The amount that students starting courses on or after 1 August 2020 has not yet been set, but for courses starting after 1 August 2019 this figure was £10,906.

The Postgraduate Master's Loan is paid directly to your bank account, so you can use it for course fees and living costs. The loan is paid in three instalments over the academic year. You will receive the first payment after the course start date once Central confirms that you have registered. If you are studying a two-year MA or MFA, the loan will be paid in six equal instalments over two academic years. Whether you qualify for a loan depends on:

- ▶ your course
- ▶ your age
- ▶ your nationality and residency status.

You will not be able to get a loan if:

- ▶ you are already getting payments from student finance for another course that you are studying
- ▶ you received a Postgraduate Master's Loan before - unless you left your course due to illness, bereavement or another serious personal reason
- ▶ you already have a master's degree, or a qualification that is equivalent or higher
- ▶ you are behind in repayments for any previous loans from the Student Loans Company.

You will still be eligible if you have a PGCE or a postgraduate diploma or certificate.

Full information on the Postgraduate Master's Loan is available at www.gov.uk/masters-loan/eligibility.

Paying back your loan

You will repay 6% of everything earned above £21,000 – if you earn less than this, then you do not repay. Much like undergraduate loans, this repayment is taken directly from your salary. If you are repaying a Postgraduate Master's Loan at the same time as your undergraduate loan, then this will appear as two separate payments on your payslip due to the difference in amounts paid.

SECTION THREE

Living Expenses

Managing your finances as a student in London can seem daunting. Students are encouraged to consider how their living expenses will be financed and to prepare a budget in advance. Central's Student Advice Service can provide financial advice and support to you throughout your studies. This might include guidance with budgeting, or general student finance advice, banking, crisis loans or hardship fund applications.

Below is an estimated guide of what a student should expect to pay per week in London:

£150	accommodation*
£10	gas/electricity/water bills*
£25	food
£2.50	contents insurance*
£1	TV licence
£30	entertainment
£30	travel
£5	books/equipment
£10	home broadband*/landline
£15	other costs: e.g. toiletries, clothes, laundry, photocopying, printing

Approximately: £278.50 per week, *based on three people sharing.

It is worth noting that the type of accommodation can change this guide. For example, halls of residence may cost approximately £200 per week (depending on location and room type, it can be more than this).

UCAS offer access to a useful budget calculator, which may provide further support with planning how much you will need to set aside to spend whilst at university. This is available to use at www.ucas.com/budget-calculator

SECTION FOUR

Additional Costs

There may be some limited additional course costs not covered by the tuition fees for materials, equipment, or field trips required for your studies. What these costs refer to and when they need to be purchased will vary by course and information can be seen at www.cssd.ac.uk/content/tuition-fees. You will also receive this information with your electronic offer pack.



Additional Financial Support

A large proportion of students report that additional financial support would provide extra security and comfort during their time studying a full-time degree. There are a number of different sources of extra support provided by Central, the government and a number of external sources.

We recommend that students take some time to research all available funding sources.

Central bursaries and scholarships

Central provides around £500,000 to students in the form of bursaries and scholarships. Eligibility for these depend on the award description, but values of awards can range from £500 to £10,000.

Some examples of awards include:

Embassy Scholarships – these are for undergraduate and postgraduate students with the award amount typically between £2,000 - £5,000.

Leverhulme Scholarships – six scholarships, each to the value of £10,000, for undergraduate and postgraduate students who demonstrate the potential for exceptional talent and also financial need.

Care Leaver Bursaries – to the value of £1,000 per academic year to support with costs associated with living and studying.

Government sources of funding

There may be additional sources of funding that are available from local or national governments. Check www.gov.uk/student-finance/extra-help to find out what you may be entitled to.

International students may wish to look at their own in-country government scholarships. Colombian students, for example, may wish to look at COLFUTURO scholarship opportunities, while American students may apply for Federal Student Aid.

External sources of funding

Educational trusts and charities may offer financial assistance to home, EU and international students. These funds often have very specific criteria that you must meet in order to receive their help.

A few examples are below and we would encourage you to research further external sources of funding.

Aziz Foundation – scholarships and bursaries for master's degree students from the Muslim community
<http://azizfoundation.org.uk/>.

Walcot Foundation – bursaries for Lambeth residents from low income families. Applications open on 1 April and awards multi-year bursaries
www.walcotfoundation.org.uk/grants---individuals.html.

Hull and East Yorkshire Arts and Culture Trust (HeyAct) – individual grants of between £100 – £1,000 to help students from Hull/East Yorkshire with the cost of auditions, travel and accommodation, assistance with accessing prestige courses, or practical help (e.g. contribution to buying an instrument or visiting performances)
<https://e52.co.uk/heyact/>.

There are also external sites which may be useful in helping locate extra sources of funding, including The Scholarship Hub which you can access at www.thescholarshiphub.org.uk.

Useful Contacts and Links

If you have questions about bursaries or scholarships administered and awarded by Central, please contact: **student.funding@cssd.ac.uk**.

If you have any questions about budgeting while at Central, please contact **sas@cssd.ac.uk**.

The student finance calculator is a useful tool to estimate how much support in the form of loans or extra student funding you may be eligible for. This is available to use at **www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator**.

UCAS offer access to a useful budget calculator which may provide further support with planning how much you will need to set aside to spend while at university **www.ucas.com/budget-calculator**.



**The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama
University of London
Eton Avenue, London NW3 3HY, UK
Email: enquiries@cssd.ac.uk**

The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama is registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee, with exempt charitable status, in England and Wales under Company No. 203645. Registered office: Eton Avenue, London NW3 3HY. VAT No. GB 135 6002 46.