

Fees & Funding Guide

For English, Welsh & Northern Irish Students

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UNIVERSITY
OF ABERDEEN

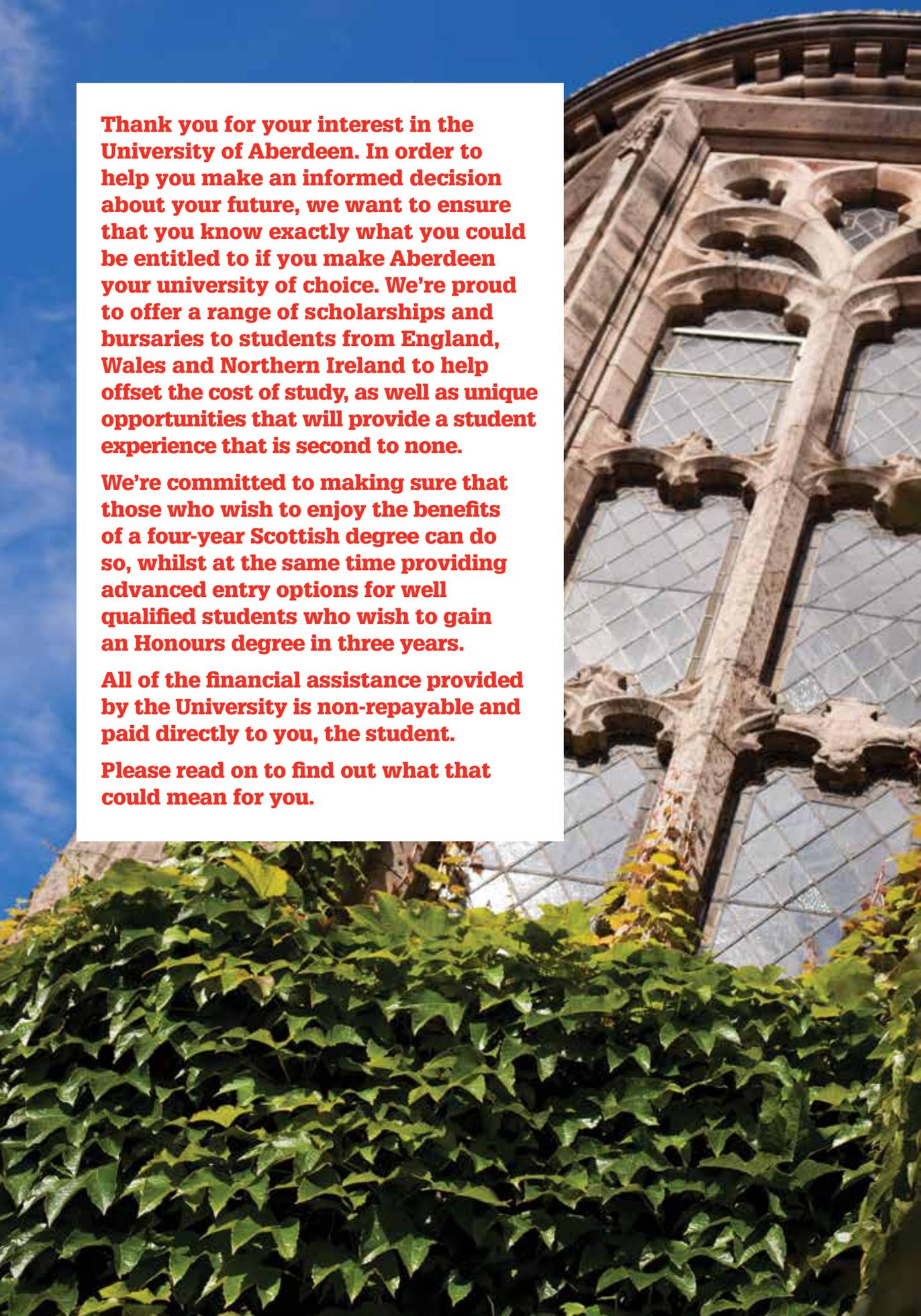


Thank you for your interest in the University of Aberdeen. In order to help you make an informed decision about your future, we want to ensure that you know exactly what you could be entitled to if you make Aberdeen your university of choice. We're proud to offer a range of scholarships and bursaries to students from England, Wales and Northern Ireland to help offset the cost of study, as well as unique opportunities that will provide a student experience that is second to none.

We're committed to making sure that those who wish to enjoy the benefits of a four-year Scottish degree can do so, whilst at the same time providing advanced entry options for well qualified students who wish to gain an Honours degree in three years.

All of the financial assistance provided by the University is non-repayable and paid directly to you, the student.

Please read on to find out what that could mean for you.



What you need to know

- > **Your tuition fees will be £9,000 a year at Aberdeen. However, this will be capped and no student will pay more than £27,000 for a full four year Honours programme (with the exception of enhanced degrees and Medicine and Dentistry).**
- > **You won't have to pay anything up front.**
- > **You won't have to make any repayments until you are employed and earning a set salary. See page 4.**
- > **We offer a number of scholarships and bursaries to help fund your studies. See page 9.**
- > **We have invested over £280 million in student facilities.**
- > **We have excellent graduate employability – over 96% of our graduates enter directly into work, further study or training within six months.**
- > **Aberdeen is the European energy capital. We have strong links with industry and a buoyant local economy.**

Tuition Fees in Scotland

As of September 2012, students from England, Wales and Northern Ireland who begin an undergraduate degree at a Scottish University are required to pay higher tuition fees. The need to change the fee level paid by students from the rest of the UK to study in Scotland was prompted by changes to university funding brought forward by the UK Government. English universities also charge annual tuition fees of up to £9,000 a year from 2012/2013.

At Aberdeen you will pay the maximum fee of £9,000 per year but this will be capped at £27,000 for a full four-year Honours programme. Please see page 6 for more information.

Not all Scottish universities will follow the same fee paying structure and have agreed their fees independently. As these fees apply to students from the UK living outside of Scotland, they may be referred to as the Rest of the UK or RUK fees. Find out more about the University of Aberdeen's RUK fee paying structure on page 6.

How does it affect you?

If you live in England, Wales or Northern Ireland and choose to study in Scotland you will be asked to pay tuition fees – just as you would if you choose to study anywhere else in the UK. There are no up-front tuition fees as you can apply for a Government loan to cover the full cost of your fees and the money will be paid directly to the University.

The loan is not repayable until after graduation and you are earning a set salary. For students from England and Wales, this will be £21,000 per year. For students from Northern Ireland, repayments start once you are earning £16,910.

Depending on where you live, you will also be able to apply for additional financial help, including government grants, scholarships and bursaries and maintenance or living cost loans, to help cover your living costs while at University.

For more information visit the site that applies to you below:

England: www.gov.uk/studentfinance

Northern Ireland: www.studentfinancenl.co.uk

Wales: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

Many universities offer students bursaries, scholarships and other financial support. You can find out what financial help is offered at the University of Aberdeen on page 9.

We understand that the idea of tuition fees can be overwhelming. It is important to remember that all RUK students are in the same situation and universities are working hard to offer you as much advice and support as possible. We hope our guide helps answer some of your questions and allays your concerns.





Our Tuition Fees & Additional Costs

The University of Aberdeen's tuition fees for students from England, Wales or Northern Ireland commencing their studies from September 2012 onwards are £9,000 per year for all our full-time undergraduate degrees. However, no graduate will pay more than £27,000 for a full four-year Honours degree programme (excluding those taking enhanced degrees and Medicine and Dentistry). This means that students studying with us will pay no more for their degree programme at Aberdeen than they would for a three-year degree at universities of similar standing across the rest of the UK.

We took this decision so as not to disadvantage English, Welsh and Northern Irish students who wish to come and experience the full four-year Honours degree programme in Scotland.

We want the decision to study at Aberdeen to be made on academic merit and the pedigree of the institution alone and not on the basis of costs. We believe strongly in the quality of our four-year degree programme and do not want decisions over whether to study for three years or four to be made purely on financial considerations.

However, in line with our current admissions practice, advanced entry for good A Level students will also be possible, meaning that students are still provided with the flexibility to complete our Honours degree in three years.

More information and details of how to apply for financial assistance can be found at www.abdn.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/finance

Help with your Money

Students from England, Wales and Northern Ireland can apply to the Student Loans Company for a tuition fee loan. This tuition fee loan is paid directly to the University by the Government and students only need to start repaying the loan once earning over £21,000 (for Northern Irish students it's £16,910) after graduation, with all outstanding debt written off after 30 years, (25 for Northern Ireland). In addition, Government grants are available. Please see page 8 for more detailed information.

You can also find out more about student finance by contacting:

Students from England

Student Finance England
Tel: +44 (0)300 100 0607
www.gov.uk/studentfinance

Students from Wales

Student Finance Wales Contact Centre
Tel: +44 (0)300 200 4050
www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

Students from Northern Ireland

Student Finance
Tel: +44 (0)300 100 0077
www.studentfinancenir.co.uk



Scholarships and Bursaries

An extensive scholarship and bursary programme is on offer to students, with scholarships ranging from those focused on financial need, to those offered on the basis of academic merit, as well as those available for excellence in a particular extracurricular field. Hundreds of students currently benefit each year, and scholarships can often be awarded for amounts of £3,000 – £6,000 depending on the length of your degree. See page 9 for more details.

For further information visit

www.abdn.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/finance

or visit our Funding Database at

www.abdn.ac.uk/funding

Other Costs

The figures below will provide an approximate guide to additional costs to assist you with your financial planning. Please note, these figures are just a rough guide and will vary depending on lifestyle.

Accommodation Costs

(average costs based on standard let – figures are for guidance only)

Halls of residence (catered)	£5,811
Halls of residence (self-catered)	£3,510
Books and Stationery	£250
Clothes	£400
Laundry/Cleaning	£80
Telephone	£200
Sport/Leisure	£500
Travel	£240
Other costs	£200
Total (catered halls)	£7,681
Total (self-catered halls)	£5,380

Other Support

Our Student Support Office provides a Money Advice Service and can advise on personal budgeting. The Aberdeen University Students' Association's (AUSA) Student Advice Centre can also help you find part-time work and vacation work if you need it, which won't impact on your studies. Aberdeen's buoyant local economy means there's no shortage of holiday and part-time work on offer and students often find Aberdeen a less expensive city to live in than Edinburgh or Glasgow.



What Financial Support is Available to Me?

Depending on where you live, you will also be able to apply for additional financial help, to assist in covering your living costs while at University. Have a look at the tables below to see what applies to you.

Students from England

In addition to the tuition fee loan, you may be entitled to a non-repayable Maintenance Grant and can apply for a Maintenance Loan to help meet your living costs. Both of these are dependent upon household income. Need more information?

Visit: www.gov.uk/studentfinance

Students from England living away from home and studying outside of London. Financial support package by household income 2014/15 (figures are for guidance only).

Household Income	Maintenance Grant	Maintenance Loan	Total
£25,000 or less	£3,387	£3,862	£7,249
£30,000	£2,441	£4,335	£6,776
£35,000	£1,494	£4,808	£6,302
£40,000	£547	£5,282	£5,829
£42,000	£168	£5,471	£5,639
£43,000	£0	£5,542	£5,542
£45,000	£0	£5,334	£5,334
£50,000	£0	£4,813	£4,813
£55,000	£0	£4,291	£4,291
£60,000	£0	£3,770	£3,770
Over £65,000	£0	£3,610	£3,610
Repayment	Payable once gross income of £21,000 per annum		

Students from Northern Ireland

In addition to the tuition fee loan, you may be entitled to a non-repayable Maintenance Grant and can also apply for a Maintenance Loan. The criteria for these are outlined in the table below. Need more information?

Visit: www.studentfinancenl.co.uk

Students from Northern Ireland

Summary of arrangement for entry in 2014/2015 (figures are for guidance only).

Maintenance Grant	£3,475 (maximum grant)
Maintenance Grant thresholds	£19,203 or less – full grant £3,475 £19,204 - £41,065 – partial grant £41,065 or over – no grant
Maintenance Loans	For students away from home, but living outside London – up to £4,840
Repayment	Payable once gross income of £16,910 per annum

Students from Wales

In addition to the tuition fee loan, you may be entitled to receive a non-repayable Welsh Government Learning Grant and can apply for a Maintenance Loan. These are dependent upon household income. Need more information?

Visit: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

Students from Wales living away from home and studying outside of London. Financial support package by household income 2014/15 (figures are for guidance only).

Welsh Government Learning Grant	£5,161 (maximum grant)
Welsh Government Learning Grant thresholds	£18,370 or less – full grant £5,161 £18,371 - £50,020 – partial grant £50,020 or over – no grant
Maintenance Loans (based on household income)	For students studying away from home, but living outside London – up to £5,202
Repayment	Payable once gross income of £21,000 per annum

This information is correct at time of going to print, December 2014

Scholarships & Bursaries

The University of Aberdeen is committed to attracting the very best students, regardless of financial circumstances, which is why we offer a large number of scholarships to undergraduate students.

Our Scholarships are available based on two criteria: Access and Merit. Scholarships based on "Access" are there to support those who may otherwise struggle to meet the cost of studies, while "Merit" scholarships are designed for those who have shown considerable academic potential in their A Level results. Students meeting the criteria of both scholarships are entitled to receive both payments, potentially £6,000 per annum. Payments are made in approximately March each year. The scholarships are not available to graduate students undertaking further study.

Access Scholarship

This is a means tested scholarship with two bands:

Band 1: residual household income of less than £20,000: students receive £3,000 a year for 3 years. Band 2: residual household income of between £20,000 and £30,000: students receive £2,000 a year for 3 years.

Merit Scholarship:

Merit scholarship of £3,000 for 4 years would be awarded to Rest of UK (RUK) entrants with AAB at A level or equivalent (with the exception of Medicine).

Access and Merit Scholarship payments are made in March each year, as appropriate, following verification from the Student Loans Company regarding household income and verification from exam boards of qualifications achieved.

For further information please visit:

www.abdn.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/scholarships-and-funding-286.php

or visit our funding database:

www.abdn.ac.uk/funding



Case Studies

Case studies below give examples of how scholarships & bursaries would work in practice:

Ben / Cardiff | Household Income: £18,000

Ben is a student from Cardiff with a household income of £18,000. He starts a four year undergraduate Biology degree at Aberdeen.

His fees will be £9,000 per year but will be capped at 3 years meaning a total of £27,000. Ben is eligible for a University of Aberdeen Access Scholarship – receiving £3,000 a year for 3 years.

In Wales, the financial support available to students (see page 8) means that in addition to his tuition fee loan, Ben will be eligible for an Welsh Government Learning Grant of £5,161 and a Maintenance Loan.

Rebecca / London | Household Income: £35,000

Rebecca is a student from London with a household income of £35,000. She starts a four year undergraduate English degree at Aberdeen. Rebecca achieves AAB in her A levels.

Her fees will be £9,000 per year but will be capped at 3 years meaning a total of £27,000. Rebecca is eligible for a University of Aberdeen Merit Scholarship for her academic results – receiving £3,000 a year for 4 years.

In England, the assistance available to students (see page 8) means that in addition to this tuition fee loan, Rebecca is eligible for additional support.

Keira / Belfast | Household Income: £25,000

Keira is a student from Belfast with a household income of £25,000. She starts a five year MSci undergraduate Biochemistry degree at Aberdeen. Keira achieves AAA in her A levels.

Her fees will be £9,000 a year but will be capped at 4 years meaning a total of £36,000. Keira is eligible for a University of Aberdeen Merit Scholarship for her academic results – receiving £3,000 a year for 4 years. Keira is also eligible for a University of Aberdeen Access Scholarship because of her household income – receiving a further £2,000 a year for 3 years.

In Northern Ireland, the financial support available to students (see page 8) means that in addition to her tuition fee loan, Keira will be eligible for a Maintenance Loan of up to £4,840 and a Maintenance Grant (Keira will get a partial grant because of her household income. The maximum grant available is £3,475).

FAQs

How much are tuition fees?

From 2012 onwards, students from England, Wales and Northern Ireland will pay no more than £27,000 for a four-year degree programme but the rate per year is set at £9,000. Those who wish to take advantage of the breadth of study offered by a four-year degree will only pay for three years of study at a rate of £9,000, meaning that total fees for a four-year degree at Aberdeen will be equivalent to those for a three-year degree across the UK.

For students studying Medicine and Dentistry, the tuition fees will be £9,000 for every year of study, and for those students taking enhanced degrees, such as our five year undergraduate Engineering (MEng) and Biological Sciences (MSci) programmes, amongst others, the cost will be £9,000 for four years, with no student paying more than £36,000 for the full degree.

Our website has all the information you'll need about tuition fees, costs of study and scholarships. Visit www.abdn.ac.uk/study for further details.

Why have tuition fees increased?

The need to change the fee level paid by students from the rest of the UK to study in Scotland was prompted by changes to university funding brought forward by the UK Government. English universities also charge annual tuition fees of up to £9,000 a year as of 2012/2013.

Are there any scholarships available?

We recognise that being a student can be costly, so we offer a wide range of scholarships which could help manage your expenses.

Awards are split between Merit awards, for students with exceptional academic qualifications, and Access awards, for students who might find it difficult to enter higher education without financial support. Please see page 9 for more information and examples.

Scholarships are also available for music and sport, and certain academic disciplines have their own scholarships available.

For more information on all our scholarships please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/scholarships-and-funding-286.php

Are there any other costs to consider?

Wherever you choose to study, you will need to consider budgeting for living expenses such as accommodation, food, books, travel and any social costs. For a rough guide to what these costs might look like, see the table on page 7.

Is Advanced Entry possible?

If students have very good qualifications they can be admitted to the second year of study in many of our degree programmes, enabling you to complete an Honours degree in three years. In some cases it is even possible to enter the third year of a degree programme, in which case you are an Honours student from the start.

For more information, please visit

www.abdn.ac.uk/study

Email: sras@abdn.ac.uk

Call: +44 (0) 1224 272090/91



Student Recruitment and Admissions Service

Directorate of Student Life

The Hub

Elphinstone Road

King's College

Aberdeen AB24 3TU

Scotland

Tel: +44 (0)1224 272090/91

Fax: +44 (0)1224 272576

Email: sras@abdn.ac.uk

Web: www.abdn.ac.uk/study

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 **@aberdeenuni**

The information in this guide was correct at the time of going to print, December 2014. The information in this guide applies to students from England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Separate information on tuition fees is available for students domiciled in Scotland, the rest of the European Union and those outside the European Union, on our website www.abdn.ac.uk/study

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