

As you may be aware students on education FdAs currently receive tuition fee funding from the Local Authority and whilst this will continue in the coming academic year (2011/12), it may not continue into 2012/13. Students commencing this course in September 2011 will therefore receive this funding in their first year of study but there is a chance that they may not receive it in years two and three. We are therefore providing information on other funding streams that may be available to you, in the event that you cannot receive local authority tuition fee funding in years two and three of your study:

- Part-time students can apply for help with tuition fees in the form of a grant from Student Finance England. The amount you receive will depend on your household income and your 'intensity of study' – this means the speed at which you are studying in comparison to a full time course.

There is also a course grant of up to £265 for books and equipment etc.

The table below shows the maximum available in relation to intensity of study.

**Amounts are based on 2011/12 figures.**

Intensity of study	Maximum fee grant available	Maximum course grant available	Total maximum support
50% of an equivalent full-time course (i.e. 50-59%)	£820	£265	£1085
60% of an equivalent full-time course (i.e. 60-74%)	£985	£265	£1250
75%+ of an equivalent full-time course	£1230	£265	£1495

The amount you receive will also depend on your income. As a general guide students with an income of below £16845 will receive the maximum and those with an income between £16845 and £25420 will receive help at a reduced level. There are additional income disregards if a student has a partner and/or children.

This funding is applied for through Student Finance, visit [www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance). It should not affect means tested benefits such as income support, housing benefit or tax credits.

- If you are not entitled to this help or you need extra financial assistance, you may be able to get financial support from one of the many charitable trust funds who award grants for educational purposes.

The University of Worcester is affiliated with the Educational Grants Advisory service (EGAS) so that students can access the online Educational Grants Search to see whether they are eligible for any extra grants or charitable funding. To complete the search visit [www.family-action.org.uk/educationalgrantssearch](http://www.family-action.org.uk/educationalgrantssearch)

Another excellent way of finding relevant educational Trust Funds is via the various Funding search engines available online, some of which are listed below:

**Turn2us** is a charitable service which helps people access the money available to them through welfare benefits, grants and other help. Individuals can search a database of over 3500 charitable funds to find funding based on their particular needs and circumstances. There is also an easy to use benefits checker to ensure people are not missing out on any financial help they may be entitled to through welfare benefits.  
[www.turn2us.org.uk/](http://www.turn2us.org.uk/)

**Student Cash Point** is a website designed to help students find the funding needed to cover the costs of going to college and university, and it provides a searchable

database of student grants, loans, bursaries, scholarships and awards.  
**[www.studentcashpoint.co.uk](http://www.studentcashpoint.co.uk)**

**Hot Courses Scholarship Search** provides a searchable database where you can search for scholarships and other funding you might be eligible for.  
**[www.scholarship-search.org.uk](http://www.scholarship-search.org.uk)**

- Some students may also be able to get help from the Access to Learning Fund (ALF), which is distributed to students experiencing severe financial hardship or those at a financial disadvantage. The fund is non-repayable and may be applied for at any time during the academic year.

It can only help with tuition fee costs if a student is studying part time and has an exceptionally low income.

For further information on eligibility and an application form please visit the University Welfare and Finance Advice website [www.worc.ac.uk/wfa](http://www.worc.ac.uk/wfa)

If you would like to speak to an adviser in more detail about your financial circumstances, you can contact the University Welfare and Finance Advisers. Email: [moneyadvice@worc.ac.uk](mailto:moneyadvice@worc.ac.uk)  
Tel: 01905 542091/8555501.