

## EU Applicants - Data Protection Act 1998

**This statement sets out who will use the information you have provided in connection with your application for student finance and what they will use it for.**

The information which you, your partner or relatives give (“your personal information”) will be used to process your student finance application. The Secretary of State for Education, if your place of study is in England, the Welsh Ministers, if your place of study is in Wales or the Department for the Economy, if your place of study is in Northern Ireland has transferred certain functions relating to student finance applications to the Student Loans Company Limited (SLC).

This Data Protection Statement applies generally to all students. The specific details are set out below.

SLC will need the information provided in connection with your application to determine whether you are eligible for student finance, to assess the maximum amount of financial support you are entitled to, to make payments as appropriate and to maintain your account. SLC will retain this information to provide customer services to you, to respond to your questions and update information on your account. SLC will keep personal information about you, your partner and your relatives so that it can audit its assessment of financial support.

SLC may also use your information to maintain or develop its systems and processes.

SLC is a joint data controller for this information. The Department for Education (if you study in England), the Welsh Ministers (if you study in Wales) and the Department for the Economy (if you study in Northern Ireland) are also joint data controllers as appropriate for this information as they are responsible for it by law. If you would like to see your information in any case, please contact SLC.

If you breach the terms of the loan contract, SLC may share information about you and your account with any person, including the Government or a Government agency of another country, who may assist them in establishing your whereabouts and/or in taking action to recover outstanding loan amounts.

**Your university or college** will receive information from SLC so that SLC can pay to it any tuition fee grant or loan you are entitled to, and so that it can confirm the details of your course of study. Your university or college may have shared access to your application and account information in the future for these purposes.

Your university or college may also ask for information that you provide in connection with your application for student finance such as your personal, financial and course details or information about your eligibility for student finance, for bursary administration purposes from SLC, the Secretary of State for Education, if your place of study is in England, the Welsh Ministers, if your place of study is in Wales or the Department for the Economy, if your place of study is in Northern Ireland. This information will only be shared where you and (where relevant) any person named on your application that is providing financial information, have not opted out of giving consent for the information to be shared for bursary administration purposes.

In this instance, the university or college will be the data controller of the information and will use it to assess eligibility and make payment of any bursary or scholarship to which you may be entitled. If you would like to see this information please contact your university or college.

**The Department for Education (DfE) (if you take up a place of study in England), the Welsh Ministers (if you take up a place of study in Wales) and the Department for the Economy (if you take up a place of study in Northern Ireland)** will have access to your account information to provide customer services to you and may use the information you have provided on this form to monitor the performance of the student finance system and to develop future policy. Any published output from this statistical work will be anonymous and will not identify individuals.

**The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) and Jobcentre Plus.** Information will be given to the DWP to check your National Insurance Number and personal details. Information will also be given to HMRC to check your National Insurance Number to help SLC collect loan repayments. In future HMRC may have shared access to your loan account information to help SLC collect loan repayments. Jobcentre Plus may ask us to provide confirmation of your eligibility for a loan in order to help you obtain a National Insurance Number.

**The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW) and the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)** which carries out certain functions on behalf of HEFCE and HEFCW may, in carrying out HEFCE and HEFCW’s statutory functions relating to the funding of education, use the information provided on this form for statistical analysis. HESA, HEFCE and HEFCW will not identify individuals in any published results.

By law, SLC and your university or college must protect the public funds they handle and may use the information you have provided on this form to prevent and detect fraud. They may also share the information, for the same purposes, with other organisations which handle public funds.

SLC may also share information with other bodies including banks, building societies, General Registrars Office, the Borders and Immigration Agency, third parties with whom SLC has contracted to carry out ID and Income checks, utility providers, the Chief Executive of Skills Funding, HMRC, DWP, fraud prevention and law enforcement agencies such as the Police and the Serious Crime agency to check the accuracy of information and to prevent and detect fraud both in the student finance application process and more widely. If false or inaccurate information is provided and fraud is identified, details will be passed to fraud prevention and law enforcement agencies who may access and use this information.

SLC and other organisations may also access and use this information to prevent fraud and money laundering, for example, when:

- Checking details on applications for credit and credit related or other facilities
- Managing credit and credit related accounts or facilities
- Recovering debt
- Checking details on proposals and claims for all types of insurance
- Checking details of job applicants and employees

Please contact us at Counter Fraud Services, Student Loans Company Limited, 100 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, G2 7JD if you want to receive details of the relevant fraud prevention agencies. SLC may also, along with other organisations, access and use from other countries the information recorded by fraud prevention agencies.