



PTGC Notes

Grant application notes
for continuing part-time students
2016/17



About these notes

These notes should be read with your part-time grant application form.

Returning your form

Send your completed form and any documents to:

**Student Finance Wales
PO Box 211
Llandudno Junction
LL30 9FU**

Timescale for returning your form

Your form should be returned within nine months of the start of your academic year, otherwise you may lose your entitlement to student finance.

Make sure you pay the correct postage.

Find out more

Further information

You can find out more information about part-time student finance by:

- going to: **www.studentfinancewales.co.uk**
- reading our part-time guides available on the Student Finance Wales website
- speaking to your university or college
- calling us on **0300 200 4050**

Other Information

Alternative formats

You can order forms and guides in Braille, large print or audio by emailing your name, address and Customer Reference Number along with what form and format you require to:

brailleandlargefonts@slc.co.uk or you can call us on **0141 243 3686**.

Please note the above email address and telephone number can only deal with requests for alternative formats of forms and guides.

1 Your personal details

1.1 Customer Reference Number



Your Customer Reference Number is your personal reference number and is 11 digits long. You'll have one of these if you've previously had a student loan or any other student finance from the Student Loans Company (SLC). You may also have one if you've given financial information for another student's application. If you don't have one, or don't know what your Customer Reference Number is, leave this blank.

1.2 Personal details



You need to send your:

- Change of name deed, if appropriate.
- Marriage/divorce certificate, if appropriate.
- Civil partnership/dissolution order, if appropriate.

1.3 Marital status



Your partner is defined as follows.

- your husband/wife
- your civil partner
- your opposite sex partner if you live with your partner as though you were married **or**
- your same sex partner if you live with your partner as though you were in a civil partnership.

If you've entered into an overseas civil partnership or an equivalent legal relationship with a same sex partner, we will contact you to let you know whether this will be recognised for student finance purposes.

Separated, divorced or dissolved civil partnership



You only need to provide evidence if your marital status has changed since the start of the last academic year.

If separated, divorced or dissolved civil partnership send us:

- Decree absolute **or**
- Dissolution order **or**
- A letter from your solicitor confirming your status.

Widowed or surviving civil partner

If you're widowed or a surviving civil partner send us:

- Original death certificate.

3 About your course

3.5 Course length



You should work this out assuming that you'll study continuously, even if you have different plans. Your university or college will be able to tell you how long, in total, your course will take to complete.

You must be planning to complete your course in no more than twice the time it would take you to finish it on a full-time basis. If you're studying at a faster rate than this, you may be entitled to more Fee Grant, depending on your financial circumstances.

3.7 Full-time distance learning



You should complete this form if you're studying by distance learning, including a full-time distance learning course, and your course started before 1 September 2012.

Don't complete this form if you're studying full-time and are attending your university or college regularly instead of studying by distance learning.

Don't complete this form if you're studying a full-time distance learning course because you have a disability that prevents you from attending; call us on **0300 200 4050** for advice.

If you're not sure, your university or college will be able to tell you whether your course is designated as distance learning or not.

3.8 Initial Teacher Training

A part-time postgraduate Initial Teacher Training (ITT) course is a course taken after a first degree has been attained (Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) and equivalent courses). Returning part-time postgraduate ITT students who started their course in or before 2009/10, should not complete this form, they should complete a PR1 form.

5 University or college information

Course intensity



Course intensity is how long it takes to complete your part-time course compared to the equivalent full-time course. You should check and agree your course intensity each year with your university or college.

6 About your husband, wife, civil partner or partner

6.1 Customer Reference Number



Your Customer Reference Number is your personal reference number and is 11 digits long. You'll have one of these if you've previously had a student loan or any other student finance from the Student Loans Company (SLC). You may also have one if you've given financial information for another student's application. If you don't have one, or don't know what your Customer Reference Number is, leave this blank.

7 Financial details

7.1 General note



If you're not married or in a civil partnership, but are living with a partner, we'll take your partner's income into account, if you have a partner as explained at 1.3 of these notes.

If your husband, wife, civil partner or partner wishes to provide income information separately they can get a separate copy of this form at:

www.studentfinancewales.co.uk or they can call us on **0300 200 4050** to request a copy.

State benefits



You need to send:

- a photocopy of the original document you received from the agency or authority telling you about the benefit, **or**
- a completed 'Confirmation of benefits' (CB1) form along with this application. Download a CB1 form at: **www.studentfinancewales.co.uk** or call us on **0300 200 4050** to request a copy **or**
- a letter from your local Council Tax Office confirming your Council Tax reduction.

7 Financial details – continued

7.2 Gross income from salary or wages



Your gross income means income before deductions from:

- salary/wages
- overtime
- bonuses and/or
- commission.

We require these figures for tax year 2015-16, normally this will be the year ending 5 April 2016, but this may differ if your employer or business has a tax year which doesn't end in April, or you start your course in July.

Also include any income you received in 2015-16 from employment overseas or any other income you get from abroad which is not covered by UK tax as well as any of the benefits asked for.

Don't include any of the following:

- any personal relief
- payments under covenant or
- non-taxable income.



Evidence of your earnings can be:

- a photocopy of P60 for 2015-16 **or**
- photocopies of payslips for month 12 or week 53 showing 'Total paid to date' for earnings in the period 6 April 2015 to 5 April 2016 **or**
- a signed letter from your employer confirming your earnings. The letter should be on company headed paper and also confirm your tax code **or**
- a statement of earnings from HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) **and/or**
- written details of all benefits in kind you receive.

7 Financial details – continued

7.3 Income from self-employment



Give the details shown on your self-assessment form for your trading year which ends during the period from 6 April 2015 to 5 April 2016.

If you can't give us the amounts, you should give an estimate and write 'E' beside the amount on the form.



Evidence of your income from self employment can be:

- a photocopy of your self-assessed tax return **or**
- a letter from your accountant confirming your income

If you're a company director send:

- a photocopy of your P60 **and/or**
- a photocopy of your P11D **or**
- independent confirmation of your earnings and directors' fees from a chartered or certified accountant or HMRC.

7.4 Bank and building society gross interest



You only need to send evidence for bank/building society gross interest if it's the only source of household income.



Evidence of your income from bank/building society gross interest can be:

- bank or building society statements

7.5 Other investment income



You only need to send evidence of income from other investments if it's the only source of household income.



Evidence of your income from other investments can be:

- bank or building society statements; **or**
- annual statement of interest; **or**
- dividend vouchers

7.6 Income from property lettings or rent



Evidence of your income from property, lettings or rent can be:

- a photocopy of your self-assessed tax return **or**
- a letter from your accountant confirming your income

7 Financial details – continued

7.6.1 Rent a Room scheme



We need to know how much of your income from property, lettings or rent is through the Rent a Room scheme as any income from this scheme up to £4,250 per year is tax-free. This means any income from the Rent a Room scheme under this threshold won't count as income for your student finance assessment.



- a photocopy of your self-assessed tax return; **or**
- a letter from your accountant

7.7 Other income types



Include here any other income you've received, for example:

- Scholarships, studentships, exhibitions, bursaries, awards, grants and allowances not already given previously.
- Other payments you receive for attending your course during the academic year.
- Any payments from an employer releasing you for your study during the academic year.
- Any salary or wages that you'll receive from your employer while you're studying for your course. This includes work you finish before the course begins, or work you're paid for in advance which you'll do after your course ends.
- Redundancy payments or compensation for loss of job. You must include the full amount of your redundancy payment, even if you don't expect to pay tax on it.
- Fostering or boarding-out allowances where these are regular payments that foster carers receive to meet the cost of keeping a child.
- For taxable benefits in kind please send your P11D.

If you pay any portion of a pension to a former partner due to an order made under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 or the Civil Partnership Act 2004, don't include this amount as part of your pension income. If you receive any portion of a former partner's pension due to an order made under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 or the Civil Partnership Act 2004, you must include this amount as part of your pension income.



If you've declared any other income types, you need to send us photocopies of evidence to confirm the total amount received during the 2015-16 tax year.

7 Financial details – continued

7.8 Dependent children



You must include any income the child receives from working, from interest earned on savings, from investments and from any maintenance payments you expect to receive for your children as part of **their** income in this question.

Don't include income from sources such as Child Benefit, Child Tax Credit, child element of Universal Credit, Government Child Trust or minimal sums of money from other sources when entering a child dependant's income.



You need to send:

- your child's/children's original birth certificate(s) **and**
- photocopies of evidence showing the child's income from all sources after tax and social security contributions in tax year 2014-15.

Data Protection Act



The Student Loans Company (SLC) and the Welsh Government are joint Data Controllers under the Data Protection Act 1998. We hold information for the purposes specified in our notification to the Information Commissioner including determining eligibility for student finance, assessing the maximum amount of financial support available, payment of student finance and the detection and prevention of fraud, and may use this information for any of these. If false or inaccurate information is provided and fraud is identified, details may be passed to fraud prevention agencies to prevent fraud and money laundering. We may share the information you have given us with other organisations including HMRC, Her Majesty's Passport Office (HMPO), other Government bodies and your university or college for these purposes. We may also get information about you from other organisations. If so, it will only be for the purposes described and as the law permits us to do for the purposes of verifying eligibility for student finance, processing your application and managing our repayment functions.

For further details about whom we share your information with and for what purpose, go to:

www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/dataprotection

Power of Attorney

If you can't sign the form it must be signed on your behalf by your attorney. To grant a person Power of Attorney, you need to fill in a legal form giving their name, the specific period for which they can act on your behalf, and the specific tasks that they can perform. The Power of Attorney letter must be sent with the application before a signature from that attorney will be accepted.

Next steps in your student finance journey

**You're
here**

1

You complete your application form and take it to your university or college, once you've enrolled on your course, so they can complete section 5.

2

You return your application form to us along with any evidence, as soon as possible.
Make sure you read, sign and date the declaration.

3

We process your application. If any information is missing or incorrect we'll get in touch. When we have all the information we need, we'll send you a Student Finance Entitlement letter.

4

You show your Student Finance Entitlement letter to your university or college (if they ask to see it).

5

We pay any Fee Grant direct to your university or college.