Travel Grant
2015/16

The Travel Grant is available to full-time students studying abroad as part of their course or attending a clinical placement in the UK.

How do students qualify?

Students may be eligible for the Travel Grant if they’re studying a full-time higher-education course and getting student finance that depends on their household income.

Students must also be:

• attending an overseas university or college for at least 50% of any academic term. This period of study can be compulsory or optional. The Travel Grant isn’t available to students on a work placement abroad unless the student is on the Erasmus+ scheme and is undertaking study, work, or combined work and study periods as part of their course; or

• attending a hospital or other premises in the UK as an integral part of their medical or dental course. They won’t get the Travel Grant if they’re eligible to apply for means-tested bursaries or awards from the Department of Health. This doesn’t cover any attendance involving residential study.
How much can students get?

The amount of Travel Grant a student can get depends on their household income. It covers reasonable travel expenses during an academic year, which means that the student must buy the most cost effective tickets using the most economical and practical form of transport. For example, taking the train instead of flying and buying standard class instead of first-class tickets.

The first £303 of travel costs are disregarded, which means this is deducted from the amount of Travel Grant the student applies for. There will be a further reduction if their household income is over £50,753.

If eligible, students can claim for:

- up to three return journeys between the UK and the overseas institution they are studying at during a full academic year abroad
- any travel costs associated with clinical training where attendance at a hospital or other premises is necessary
- the cost of a child/children’s fare between the UK and the overseas institution if it's necessary for a lone parent who’s also a student to take them abroad
- mandatory medical insurance, visas, medical expenses for the purpose of studying abroad
- a rate of 24p per mile if they have to travel by car

How do students apply?

Once the student has applied for their student finance and they’re eligible to apply for a Travel Grant, they’ll automatically be sent the correct forms to complete.

Students who are studying abroad must complete the Travel Abroad Expenses Form and get their university or college to complete the Course Abroad Form.

Students on a clinical placement in the UK must complete the Clinical Study Travel Expenses Form.

They can apply for the Travel Grant at any time during the academic year and there’s no limit to how many forms students can submit.
What evidence do students have to send?

Students must provide evidence to support their claims for travel expenses. They’ll only get the full amount of Travel Grant if they send us all the evidence we ask for.

This must be photocopies of proof of payment, not just an itinerary or quote. For example, it could be an e-receipt for payment of flights. Receipts in a foreign language may need to be translated at the student’s own cost.

How do students get paid?

The Travel Grant is paid on an ad hoc basis so students won’t have to wait until their next instalment of student finance to get their money and is paid straight into their bank account.