Ask us about money

UK Students

0151 794 5863
money@liverpool.ac.uk

www.liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport/money
Twitter and Instagram: @LivUniSWAG
Money Advice and Guidance (MAG) is part of Student Welfare Advice and Guidance (SWAG). We realise that coming to University and managing your money can be daunting and that everyone has different financial circumstances. We offer advice and support to students on a range of financial matters and can help with information on statutory funding, budgeting, debts, welfare benefits and financial assistance from the University Hardship Fund. We can also refer you to other teams within SWAG if necessary.

This leaflet gives an overview of the services we offer but please do contact us for further advice.

MAG offer a daily drop-in 2pm – 3.30pm (subject to change), see our webpage for changes to drop-in times or events www.liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport/money Twitter and Instagram: @LivUniSWAG

Appointments are available by request.

If you have any worries or concerns about your money please contact the team by emailing money@liverpool.ac.uk or telephone 0151 794 5863.

Caroline
Ann-Welsh
Maria

University Hardship Fund (UHF)
MAG administer the UHF which has been established to provide support for home (i.e. UK) students experiencing financial hardship. The UHF is part of the University’s commitment to providing financial support to students.

Students may be eligible for financial help from the fund in cases where their income isn’t sufficient to cover essential day to day costs or in exceptional one off financial difficulties that couldn’t be planned for. Applications to the UHF are assessed on a case by case basis and awards are made based on financial need. **Applications are assessed following the UHF Guidance shown here www.liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport/money/fundingforstudents/hardshipfund.** If you are worried about money it’s important you talk to the team about the UHF, we’ll also be able to ensure that you are receiving the correct amount of any statutory funding entitlement.

International students are not eligible to apply to the fund. As part of the Tier 4 visa application students have to prove that they have arranged funds for Student Fees and living expenses in advance of beginning their studies and will be expected to be able to maintain and accommodate themselves during studies. If you unexpectedly run into financial hardship and need some advice and support please contact International Advice and Guidance: iagteam@liverpool.ac.uk

Statutory Funding
Most students will fund their studies through student loans, additionally there are grants for dependents, childcare and disabled student allowances. In some specific cases, students can also receive welfare benefits. It can be difficult managing your money as a student so it’s important to make sure you’re receiving all of the funding that you’re entitled to. If you’re concerned that you may not be receiving all of the money that’s available to you, come in and see us at a drop-in and we’ll check you’re receiving the correct amount.

Previous study
If you’ve had any previous higher education study before starting your current course, your entitlement to statutory funding could be reduced. For further information regarding this please contact the team.
Changes to study pattern
It’s possible that some students may have to change the pattern of their study, this may be due to a temporary suspension or re-sits or in some cases a permanent withdrawal from the course.

All of these scenarios may affect eligibility to both current and future funding so it’s important to get financial advice as soon as possible. In these cases MAG will be able to support you by offering advice and if necessary by liaising with your funding body.

Budgeting
Many students worry about how they’ll manage their money during their studies and budgeting income when it is paid in large chunks can be difficult. Your first student loan instalment will seem like a lot of money when you receive it but it is important to pay your rent and other bills before working out what is left to spend. It’s really important to try to plan a budget and stick to it, you can try using on-line budgeting websites such as Brightside www.studentcalculator.org or there are a range of phone apps to help you keep a track of your spending. If you’d like help planning your budget you can contact the team for an appointment or you can attend our drop-in.

See some of our top budgeting tips below:
• Set up a budget plan and try to stick to it – visit MAG for a budgeting session.
• Sign up for an NUS card (TOTUM) to get lots of discounts.
www.nus.org.uk/en/nus-extra/about-the-card
• Use a refillable water bottle instead of buying bottled water daily, this will help the environment as well as your pocket.
• Plan your meals ahead and share shopping and cooking with your housemates.
• Take a packed lunch into University instead of buying lunch on campus.
• Sign up for any student discount vouchers, look at Student Beans and UNiDAYS.
• Set up a birthday club with your friends, plan fun and cheap ways to celebrate birthdays without buying each a present.
• Arrange budget nights out: check out free events in the Guild, 2 for 1 cinema and game nights in with housemates.
• Return books on time to avoid library fines, if possible scan rather than photocopy to save money and paper.
• Try visiting Careers and Employability in the Alsop Building for advice on part-time jobs: www.liverpool.ac.uk/careers

Difficulties with debts
Anyone can struggle with debt in their life. Being in debt will affect your finances and it can also affect mental health and ability to concentrate on your studies. Money problems can happen for a variety of different reasons, it may be a delay in student funding or a welfare benefit, it could be because your income has dropped or it may because you find it difficult to manage your money. Whatever the reason, if you’re worried about debts come and visit MAG. We may be able to negotiate with your creditors to discuss an affordable payment plan and we can offer budgeting advice to make sure you’re managing your money and getting all of the funding you’re entitled to.

Welfare Benefits
The majority of full-time students are not eligible to receive means-tested welfare benefits however there are some groups including single parents or students receiving Personal Independent Payment or Employment Support Allowance who may have an entitlement. In addition, some part-time students may be able to claim. If you think you may be eligible or if you’re already receiving benefits but think the amount may be incorrect come and see MAG and we can discuss your situation in more detail.

EU students
You may be entitled to get a Tuition Fee Loan if you’re from an EU country. Additionally you may be eligible for help with your living costs if you’ve lived in the UK for more than 5 years before the first day of the first academic year of your course or you are an EEA Migrant Worker/ family member. If you are unsure you can contact the team for further advice.
Care Leavers
If you’ve been in Local Authority Care prior to coming to University we’ll support you while you’re here. The University of Liverpool provide a bursary to students who have been in care for a specified period of time and we’ll contact you before you arrive at University to arrange an appointment to discuss your eligibility for the bursary. In addition to the bursary, we can discuss any other financial difficulties you are experiencing and we can offer a range of other support including liaising with Local Authorities, academic department or other Student Services if you need referral.

Estranged Young Adult Carers
If you are estranged from your parents this can be difficult and you may feel unsupported. If you have been classed as independent on the basis of estrangement by your funding body you may be eligible for the Estranged Student Bursary offered by the University. To apply for this bursary you need to contact MAG to arrange an appointment so that we can confirm your eligibility. If you are estranged from your parents but you are experiencing difficulty providing evidence to prove this, you can contact us and we will support you by advising on evidence that can be submitted. If necessary, we can also liaise with your Funding Body to try and resolve the issue.

Young Adult Carers
If you are a Young Adult Carer you may be entitled to a bursary from the University to help with your finances. To discuss this and other financial support contact MAG and we will arrange an appointment to discuss your eligibility. If you have not previously been involved with a local young carers centre, we may be able to refer you to Barnados in Liverpool who can advise on a carer’s assessment.

Useful contacts

Internal

Disability Advice and Guidance
T: 0151 794 5863
E: disteam@liverpool.ac.uk

Advice and Guidance
T: 0151 794 5863
E: advice@liverpool.ac.uk

International Advice and Guidance
T: 0151 794 5863
E: iagteam@liverpool.ac.uk

Counselling and Mental Health Service
T: 0151 794 3304
E: counserv@liverpool.ac.uk

Student Fees and Funding Office
T: 0151 794 5927
E: feesenq@liverpool.ac.uk

Student Administration
T: 0151 794 6759
E: studentenq@liverpool.ac.uk

Accommodation
T: 0151 794 0319
E: accommodation@liverpool.ac.uk

Guild of Students
T: 0151 794 6868
E: guildweb@liverpool.ac.uk

Careers
T: 0151 794 4647
E: careers@liverpool.ac.uk

External

Student Finance England
T: 0300 100 0607
W: www.gov.uk/student-finance

Student Finance Wales
T: 200 4050
W: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

Student Finance Northern Ireland
T: 0300 100 0077
W: www.studentfinanceni.co.uk

SAAS
T: 0300 555 0505
W: www.saas.gov.uk

NHS Bursaries Unit
T: 0300 330 1345
W: www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-bursary-student

Stand Alone
W: www.standalone.org.uk

Barnados
T: 0151 228 4455
W: www.barnardos.org.uk/youngcarersnorthwest

Shelter
T: 0344 515 1900
W: www.shelter.org.uk

Turn2us
T: 0808 802 2000
W: www.turn2us.org.uk

Grant Fairy
W: www.grantfairy.com

Entitled To
W: www.entitledto.co.uk
Money Advice and Guidance
Student Welfare Advice and Guidance

Alsop Building (759 campus map)
Brownlow Hill, Liverpool L3 5TX

T: 0151 794 5863
E: money@liverpool.ac.uk
www.liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport/money