

Student Finance - Placements

How do I apply for Student Finance for a placement year?

You should go through the application procedure as normal by applying online at www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance (or the PR1 form if you are unable to apply online). Remember to indicate that you are on a placement year when asked (make sure that you tick the correct boxes on your application!) and apply in good time to ensure your funds are available at the beginning of your placement.

The University will inform Student Finance about your time away from University during the summer period before you are due to go – please ensure you upload your information in the My Placement portal as soon as you are able to at <https://studentmobility.manchester.ac.uk/> to allow plenty of time for this. If you receive a blue verification form from Student Finance, you should take this to a Student Support Hub to be stamped.

Please note you are still required to complete online registration with the University of Manchester during the period you are on placement/study abroad.

How will going on a placement or a study abroad period affect my funding?

The amount of funding you will be entitled to varies depending on where you go and what you do. See below for further information.

Please note:

- *These figures are based on a student who is on placement in 2025/26 (unless otherwise specified) and is neither living with their parents nor living in London.*
- *Amounts will be different if you are in the final year of your course or are currently in receipt of benefits*
- *You will need to be overseas for at least 8 weeks per term to be eligible for increased funding.*
- *EEA students paid by Student Finance England Migrant Worker Team should seek advice about their entitlements, as these may change significantly if work patterns change*

Tuition fees for students on a full year placement or year abroad

Fees are paid to the University of Manchester only and not the host institution - you will usually be entitled to the full loan for this amount.

Home students	Fee Due (on the £9,535 fee rate)
Full year study abroad or Turing-funded work placement	£1,430
Full year work placement (non Turing-funded)	£1,905
Half study and half work	£1,430
International students	Fee Due
Full year study abroad or work placement	20% of the appropriate tuition fee due

Maintenance loan for students on a full year placement or year abroad

Study	Work placement — overseas, Turing-funded	Work placement — overseas, non Turing-funded	Work placement — UK
£5,838 to £12,076 depending on household income		£3,194 (non-means tested)	

Household income assessments

If you are on a placement (UK or overseas) and want to be assessed for means-tested funding (this includes the Manchester Bursary and Turing Scheme funding), you **MUST** complete a PFF2 form with Student Finance to have a financial assessment of your household income carried out. We would strongly recommend that all students whose household income makes them eligible to receive means-tested loan complete a household income assessment to ensure accurate and timely assessment of eligibility for funding such as the Turing Scheme. Students must also not opt out of this information being shared with the University.

Manchester Bursary

The University offers generous bursaries for students on a year abroad or on placement based on residual household income. For further information please visit: <http://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/finances/funding-opportunities/all/bursaries-and-scholarships/>.

What if I am doing a mixture of a work placement and a study placement?

If your course has a combination of study and paid work placement you will receive each type of support on a pro-rata basis as assessed by Student Finance.

Fees and funding for a single semester placement or study

	Study	Placement overseas, Turing-funded	Placement UK/overseas, non Turing-funded
Tuition Fees	Tuition Fees will remain unchanged for the year at £9,535		
Fees are paid to the University of Manchester only and not the host institution - you will usually be entitled to the full loan for this amount.			
Maintenance Loan	Rate while in Manchester		
	Min (all students regardless of household income): £4,915 Max (sliding scale depending on household income): £10,544	£3,194 (non-means tested)	
	Rate while overseas/on placement		
	Min (all students regardless of household income): £5,838 Max (sliding scale depending on household income): £12,076	£3,194 (non-means tested)	
Manchester Bursary	University of Manchester bursaries will remain unchanged for the full year – if you are eligible for a bursary during a ‘normal’ year, you will continue to receive this bursary in full throughout the year – including the time the you spend away . For further information please visit: http://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/finances/funding-opportunities/all/bursaries-and-scholarships/ .		To qualify for standard University bursaries (as per the information to the left), you will still need to have a financial assessment carried out by Student Finance through a PFF2 form.

Important

Student Finance make assessments on the basis of 3 terms (which is why you receive your student loan in 3 instalments) rather than 2 University semesters and will assess your entitlements based on the dates that you are away.

Therefore you may find that your funding is calculated at 2 terms at the higher overseas rate and 1 term at the standard home rate or vice-versa. Term dates do differ based upon your course however the standard dates for University of Manchester students in 2023/24 are as follows:

Term 1 = 29/09/25 – 19/12/25

Term 2 = 16/01/26 – 27/03/26

Term 3 = 13/04/26 – 12/06/26

Are there any exceptions to the rules for non Turing-funded/UK work placement students?

Students in attendance at the University for 10 weeks or more, or students on certain unpaid work placements in the public or voluntary sector can apply for full financial support rather than the reduced non-means tested rates mentioned above. The type of unpaid work is listed below:

- Service with a UK Local Authority which is related to the health, welfare or care of children/young persons, or similar activities in UK voluntary organisations.
- Service in a UK hospital/public health laboratory.
- Service in a UK prison, probation or aftercare service.
- Research in a UK/overseas institution.
- Service with a UK Health Authority or equivalent.
- Unpaid service in UK parliament.

Student Finance Application Tips/General Information

- As the University does not find out the outcome of its Turing Scheme application until after Student Finance deadlines, it is recommended that students answer 'No' to the question about Turing funding. The University will update Student Finance with details of Turing funded students later in the year.
- The University has systems in place to ensure that financial support is not delayed for students who are overseas *before the start of term (e.g. students undertaking a year abroad in Australia)*. You can ask for your Student Finance to be released up to 25 days before the start of term if your period overseas starts before your first instalment is due. "Term Dates" refer to Manchester term dates.
- Your Student Finance will be paid in 3 instalments as per previous years except for students studying in China, Japan or Russia (for the whole academic year) who can receive their student finance in one lump sum.
- Remember you will have to factor in the cost of moving and living costs before your placement starts – make sure that you have a plan in place to meet these costs! Please see our guide to making the most of your money for further information:
- <https://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/finances/financial-wellbeing/>
- Please note that any Childcare Grant may not be paid during this period.

What other funding is available?

Travel Grant

Depending on your household income, you may qualify for a Travel Grant. This is non-repayable and covers the cost of all necessary qualifying travel, less a disregard ("excess") of at least £303 for the first claim. This includes costs such as:

- Up to 3 return journeys between your home and overseas destination (including local transport to and from the airport) – all travel must be the cheapest available option.**
- Visas.*
- Vaccinations.*
- Medical insurance.*
- If you are a medical or dental student doing a clinical placement in the UK you can apply for travel costs between your home and the hospital or facility where you're doing your placement.*

*Up to 3 return journeys for a full year abroad, 1 return journey for a placement in semester 1 and up to 2 return journeys in semester 2.

Further information and eligibility criteria is available at:

www.gov.uk/travel-grants-students-england/overview

(please note that you should aim to submit your application within 9 months of the start of term – i.e. 1st September).

Long Course Loan

If your course duration is longer than 30 weeks and 3 days, Student Finance will assess you for the Long Courses Loan as long as you have had your household income assessed by Student Finance.

This is an additional loan for each extra week that you are away (this does not include voluntary time overseas). For 2025/26, eligible students will receive up to £157 per additional week – this is based on your household income and where you're living whilst studying.

Turing Scheme grant

The Turing Scheme is the UK's global programme for studying and working abroad. Under the Turing Scheme, eligible students can receive a Turing grant, provided by the Department for Education. This is in addition to standard grants or loans. As funding is not guaranteed, the availability of Turing funding is subject to change at short notice, you should not depend on this to cover your living costs when budgeting. Students from lower income backgrounds will be prioritised for funding. The Placements and International Programmes Office will contact you via email to inform you whether you are eligible and, if so, the amount you will receive. **You must have had your household income assessed through Student Finance and given permission or this to be shared with the University to be considered for Turing funding.**

Other University scholarships/bursaries

The Placements and International Programmes Office publishes further information relating to other University Scholarships and Bursaries that you may be able to apply to. Please see www.goabroad.manchester.ac.uk for further information.

External Scholarships/Bursaries

There are multiple UK and Overseas charities and educational trusts providing grants for overseas study/work. Please see the following for further information:

www.ukcisa.org.uk/

<http://en.unesco.org/>

Useful Links

Student Finance

www.gov.uk/contact-student-finance-england

Student Services Centre

www.manchester.ac.uk/studentservicescentre

Student Support Hubs

<https://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/support-hubs/>

Placements and International Programmes Office

www.goabroad.manchester.ac.uk/

If you have a query which is not answered here, please contact goabroad@manchester.ac.uk

Please note that the information in this guide is intended for Students applying for finance through the Student Finance England system, if you have applied for funding through the Welsh, Irish, Scottish, Isle of Man or Channel Island systems the regulations may differ.

We have made every effort to ensure that the information contained in this leaflet is accurate however, we cannot be held responsible for any omissions or errors.