



Student Finance England is a Student Loans Company service, providing financial support to students on behalf of the UK Government.

For more information and to apply, visit www.gov.uk/studentfinance

For a range of helpful tools and guidance, visit www.thestudentroom.co.uk/studentfinance

DEPENDANTS' GRANTS 2013/14

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studentfinanceengland
the student finance experts

Thinking about what you're going to study, the support you'll need and how you're going to pay for it?

Dependants' Grants

There are Dependants' Grants available if you're a full-time student who has children or adults dependent on you. You don't normally have to pay this money back, but this depends on you giving accurate information.

This leaflet gives you some facts about these grants and includes a handy flow chart explaining how to apply for them. More information is available at www.gov.uk/studentfinance

TOP TIPS

- If you don't provide details of your childcare provider on your CCG1 form your first instalment of Childcare Grant will be capped at £115 per week or 85% of your estimate (whichever is less).
- If you don't provide details of your childcare provider on your CCG2 form your second instalment of Childcare Grant will be stopped and your first instalment will have to be repaid.

- i** Students who are eligible to apply for an NHS student bursary aren't eligible to get Dependants' Grants and should visit www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/Students or phone **0845 358 6655** for more information.
- i** HM Revenue & Customs won't count any Childcare Grant or Parents' Learning Allowance you get when working out your entitlement to tax credits and other income-related benefits but they'll take the Adult Dependants' Grant into account.

KEY FACTS ON DEPENDANTS' GRANTS FOR STUDENTS STARTING HIGHER EDUCATION IN SEPTEMBER 2013

Childcare Grant (CCG)

- You can apply for CCG if you're a full-time student and have at least one dependent child under 15 at the beginning of the academic year (or under 17 if they have special educational needs) and in registered or approved childcare. You can apply before you know who your childcare provider will be.
- Depending on your household income you can apply for 85% of your actual childcare costs during term-time and holidays. You can get up to £255 a week, depending on the number of children you have.
- If you or your husband, wife or partner get the childcare element of Working Tax Credit, you won't be able to get CCG as well. But you can choose to get CCG instead of Working Tax Credit.
- You may also qualify for CCG if you normally live in England and are studying abroad as part of your UK course.

Parents' Learning Allowance (PLA)

- If you're a full-time student with dependent children you can apply for PLA. This helps with the extra costs associated with being a student parent.
- You can get up to £1,508 a year depending on your income and the income of your husband, wife or partner and any dependants.
- You can apply for PLA even if you don't get the Childcare Grant.

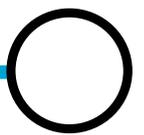
Adult Dependants' Grant (ADG)

- If you're a full-time student and you have a partner or another adult who depends on you financially, you may be entitled to ADG (grown-up children don't count as adult dependants).
- You can get up to £2,642 a year depending on your income and the income of your dependants (including your husband, wife or partner).

For more information visit www.gov.uk/studentfinance

APPLYING FOR DEPENDANTS' GRANTS

WHAT TO DO AND WHEN TO DO IT



You MUST fill in the main student finance application

To apply for Childcare Grant (CCG), Parents' Learning Allowance (PLA) or Adult Dependants' Grant (ADG) you **firstly** need to fill in the relevant section of the main application. The quickest way to do this is online at www.gov.uk/studentfinance.



CCG only

We'll send you a Childcare Grant Application Form (CCG1) to tell us about your child's needs, your estimated childcare costs and your childcare provider. You can also download this form at www.gov.uk/studentfinance



Complete and return your CCG1 form



We'll assess your application

We'll assess your application based on the information you've given and send you a letter telling you how much student finance you're entitled to including any CCG.



We'll pay any CCG you're entitled to direct to your bank account, in three instalments, at the same time as any Maintenance Loan and Grant you get.



End of Childcare Period 1

We'll send you a Childcare Costs Confirmation Form (CCG2)

At 3 points during the academic year, usually near the end of each term, we'll send you a CCG2 form for you and your childcare provider to fill in. Your childcare provider will need to confirm the actual childcare costs they charged you. If the actual amount is different from the amount you estimated in your initial application, we'll reduce or increase your next instalment of Childcare Grant accordingly. To avoid having to repay anything it's important to give a realistic childcare cost estimate.

We'll send you a CCG2 form at the end of periods **1, 2 and 3**.



You'll complete and return a CCG2 form at the end of periods 1, 2 and 3.



End of the academic year

If your circumstances change or your childcare estimates were different from your actual costs you may have been underpaid or overpaid. If you've been underpaid, we will send you the rest of the money you're entitled to. However if you've been overpaid, we'll reduce your next academic year's grant entitlement by the amount we've overpaid you if possible or make arrangements with you to repay us the amount you weren't entitled to.

This means it is important to make realistic childcare cost estimates and let us know if your circumstances change, so that you don't owe us any money after your final year.



PLA and ADG

If you've applied for either of these grants on your main application we'll use your information to work out if you can get it. We may ask you for more evidence to support your application.



We'll assess your application

We'll assess your application based on the information you've given and send you a letter telling you how much student finance you're entitled to including any PLA or ADG.



We'll pay any PLA or ADG you're entitled to direct to your bank account, in three instalments, at the same time as any Maintenance Loan and Grant you get.

You

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