

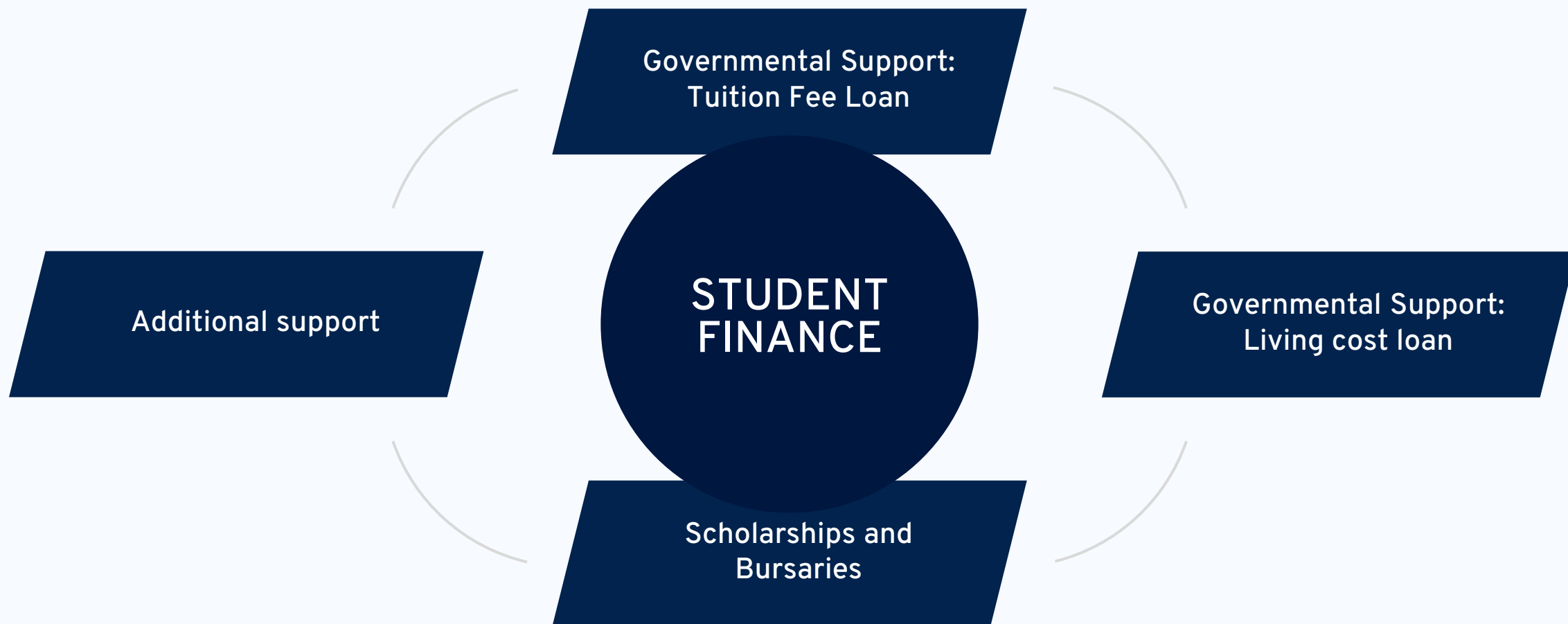
Guide to Student Finance



Contents

				
Tuition Fee Loan	Living Cost Loan	Other support	Applications	Repayments

What makes up your student finance?



Tuition Fee loan

Available from the UK government to cover the cost of fees

Not means tested- maximum amount is always available

The loan is paid directly to the university, not to you (Student)

Maximum UK Tuition Fee

£9,250

For full-time UK undergraduate students

Living cost loan

Available from the UK government to cover cost of living

Means tested based on 2 criteria:

- Household income
- Residence while studying

Paid directly to the student in termly instalments

What counts as household income?

Your household income includes any of the following that apply:

- Your parents'/guardians' income, if you're under 25 and live with them or depend on them financially.
- The combined income of one of your parents/guardians and their partner, if you're under 25 and live with them or depend on them financially.
- Your partner's income, if you're over 25 and live with them (even if they spend most of their time abroad).
- Income you get from your own savings, investments or property, for example dividends on rent.

Income assessment is based on the previous full tax year- i.e. 2022/23 if applying for the 2024/25 academic year

Living cost loan

Maximum amounts for 2024-25



Parent/guardian home
Live at home while you study

UP TO
£8,610



Elsewhere
Live away from home and study outside London

UP TO
£10,227



London
Live away from home and study in London

UP TO
£13,348

Living cost loan

Household income for 2024-25

HOUSEHOLD INCOME	LIVING AWAY FROM HOME	LIVING AT HOME	STUDYING IN LONDON AND LIVING AWAY FROM HOME
£0 - £25,000	£10,227	£8,610	£13,348
£30,000	£9,496	£7,886	£12,583
£35,000	£8,765	£7,162	£11,839
£40,000	£8,034	£6,439	£11,095
£42,875	£7,614	£6,022	£10,668
£45,000	£7,303	£5,715	£10,352
£50,000	£6,572	£4,990	£9,608
£55,000	£5,841	£4,267	£8,864
£58,200	£5,373	£3,803	£8,388
£60,000	£5,110	£4,067	£8,121
£62,286	£4,776	£4,067	£7,780
£65,000	£4,767	£4,067	£7,376
£70,000	£4,767	£4,067	£6,647

Please note: students who qualify for benefits, or who are aged 60 or over on the first day of the first academic year of their programme, may qualify for different amounts

Living cost loan

Parent/guardian contribution

- The amount you receive for your Living Cost Loan is directly connected to your **household income** unless you hold Independent Student Status.
- **Student Loan Contribution Tool:**
www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-loan-parental-contribution-tool



“Depending on their income, parents may have to contribute towards your living costs while you’re studying.”

From ‘Student finance: how you're assessed and paid 2023 to 2024’
www.gov.uk/studentfinance

Eligibility

Tuition Fee Loan

Full-time and some Part-time students

You are one of the following:

UK or Irish citizen

Pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme and you're an EU national or the family of an EU national

Have lived in the UK, EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland for 3 years prior to the start of your course.

Living Cost Loan

Full-time and some Part-time students

Have indefinite leave to remain in UK as:

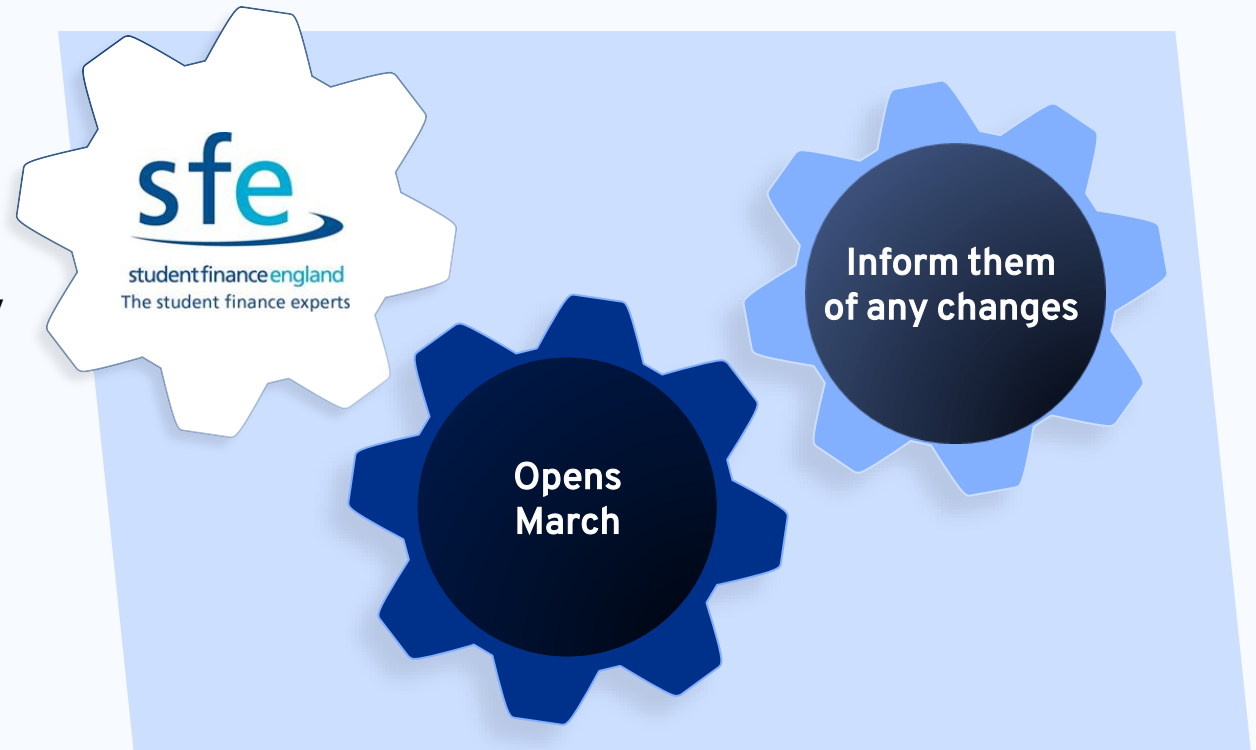
- UK or Irish citizen
- Settled under the EU Settlement Scheme
- Granted indefinite leave to remain for other reasons

UK resident for **three continuous years** prior to the start of the course

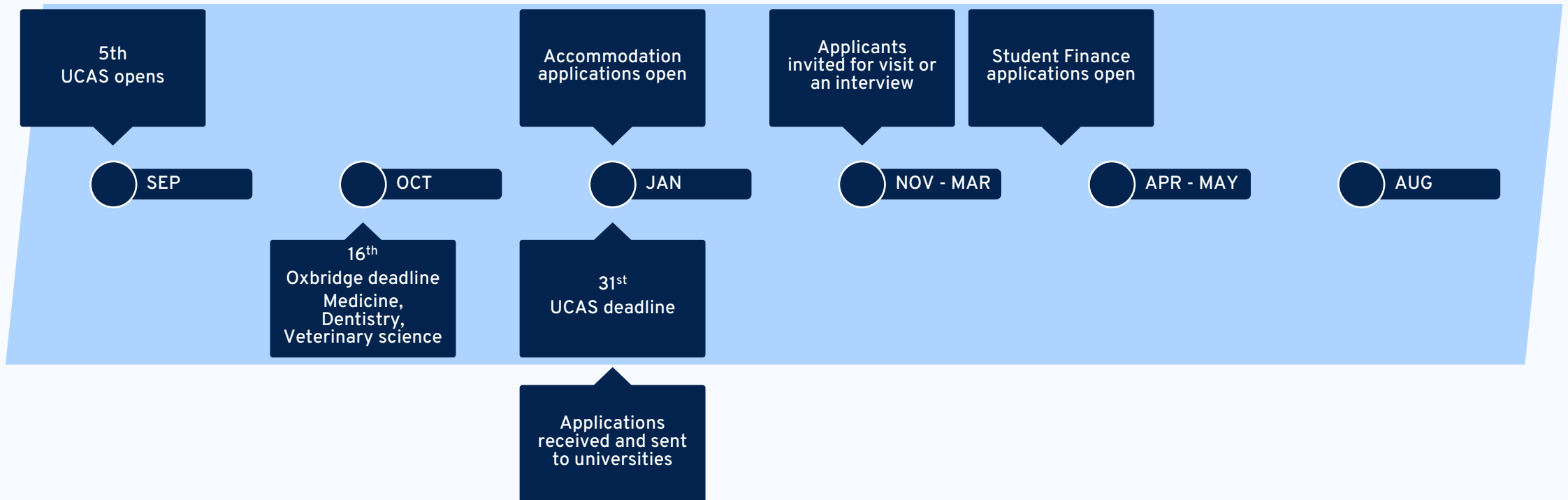
How to apply for student loans

- Apply online at Student Finance England
- You will need your passport, National Insurance (NI) number and bank details
- You DO NOT need a confirmed place at university to apply
- It can take up to six weeks to process so apply as early as you can
- Parents / Supporters only need to provide their National Insurance number.

Students must re-apply for each successive year of student finance around the same time each year.



Application Timeline



Other Governmental Support

Disabled Students' Allowance

Childcare Grant

Parents' Learning Allowance

Adult Dependents' Grant



Disabled students' allowance (DSA)

- Funding for additional support for students with specific learning difficulties, mental health conditions, physical disabilities and long-term health conditions
- Money is paid either into your bank account or directly to the organisation providing the service
- Apply through Student Finance England
- 'Needs assessment' carried out
- Support may include
 - **Specialist equipment, for example a computer if you need one because of your disability**
 - **Non-medical helpers, for example a British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter or specialist note taker**
 - **Extra travel to attend your course or placement because of your disability**
 - **Other disability-related study support, for example having to print additional copies of documents for proof-reading**

2024/2025

Up to £26,948

**For undergraduate
and postgraduate
students**

Scan here to
find out more:



Other financial support



Scholarships
Rewards outstanding
academic/sporting/musical
achievement



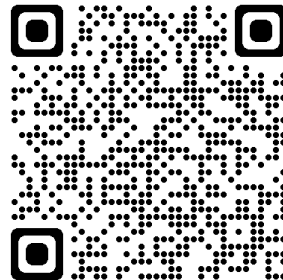
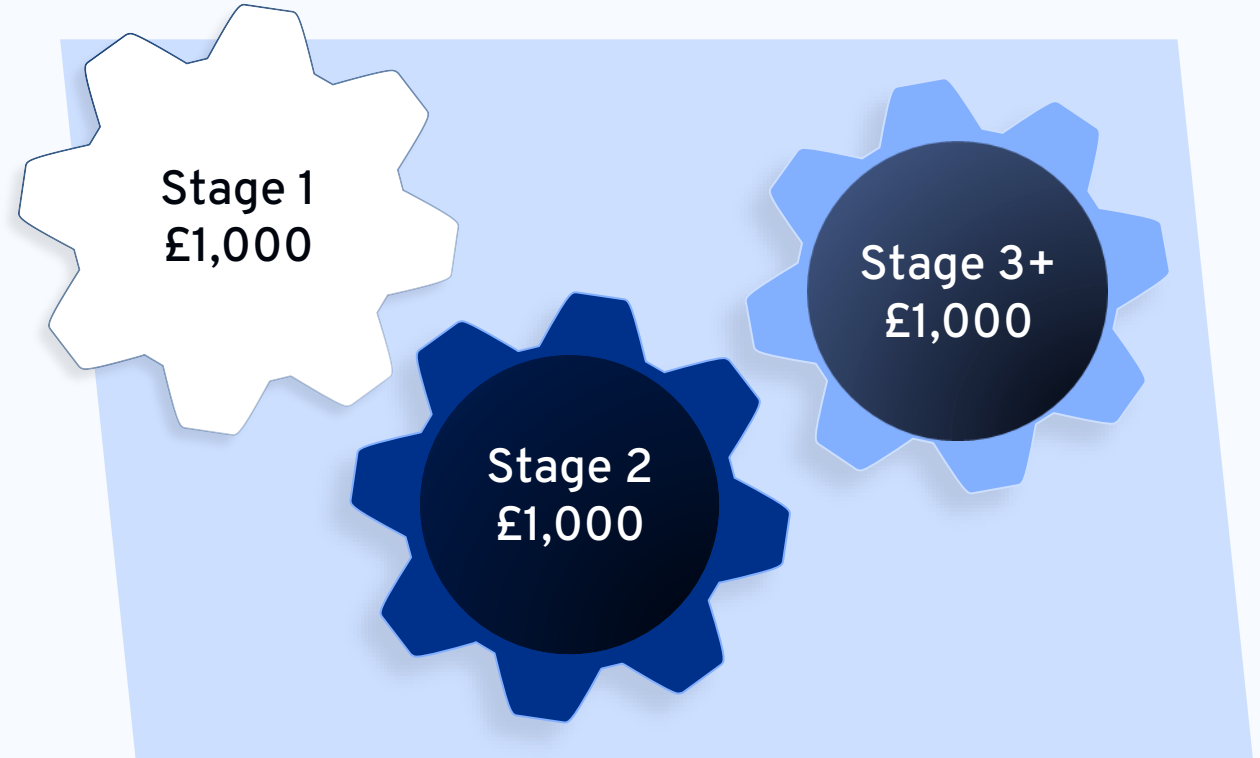
Bursary
Awards are dependent on your personal
circumstances

Kent's Financial Support Package 2024

- The University offers a generous financial support package for the duration of your degree.
- Kent has a minimum £3,000 financial support package for 2024 across three stages of full-time study, or more for course over 3 years.

Who is eligible?

- Those whose household incomes fall below £30,000 per year and who satisfy one additional eligibility criteria (e.g DSA recipients).
- Full information on the 2024 package is published on our website:
<https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/kfsp>



University of Kent Support

Care Leaver Funding

Young Independent Student
Funding

Estranged Student Funding

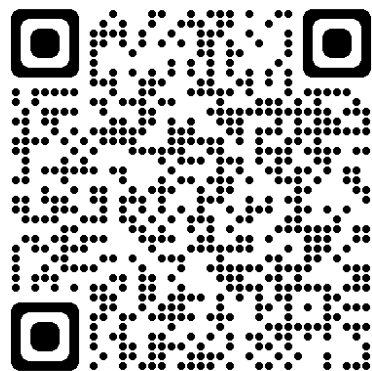
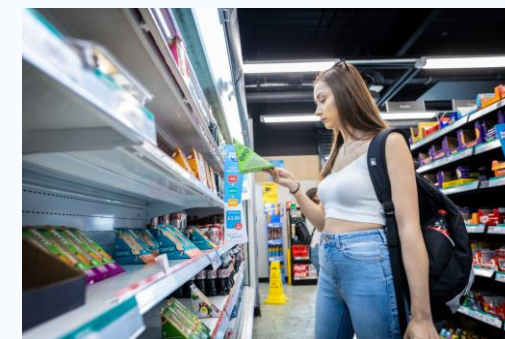
Homeless Student Funding

Student Carer Funding



Cost of Living Support

- Kent is here to support you with managing the cost of living.
- **£3.00 meal deals** at Canterbury and Medway
- Short-term support on offer to students in need of **supplemental food**
- **New monthly gym membership** payment option
- Free software and library resources
- Travel discounts and increased hardship funding



Repaying loans

Tuition fee loan + Living cost loan = Student loan

9% of earnings after £25,000

No payments until the April
after you graduate

Scholarships and bursaries do
not need to be repaid

Written off after 40 years

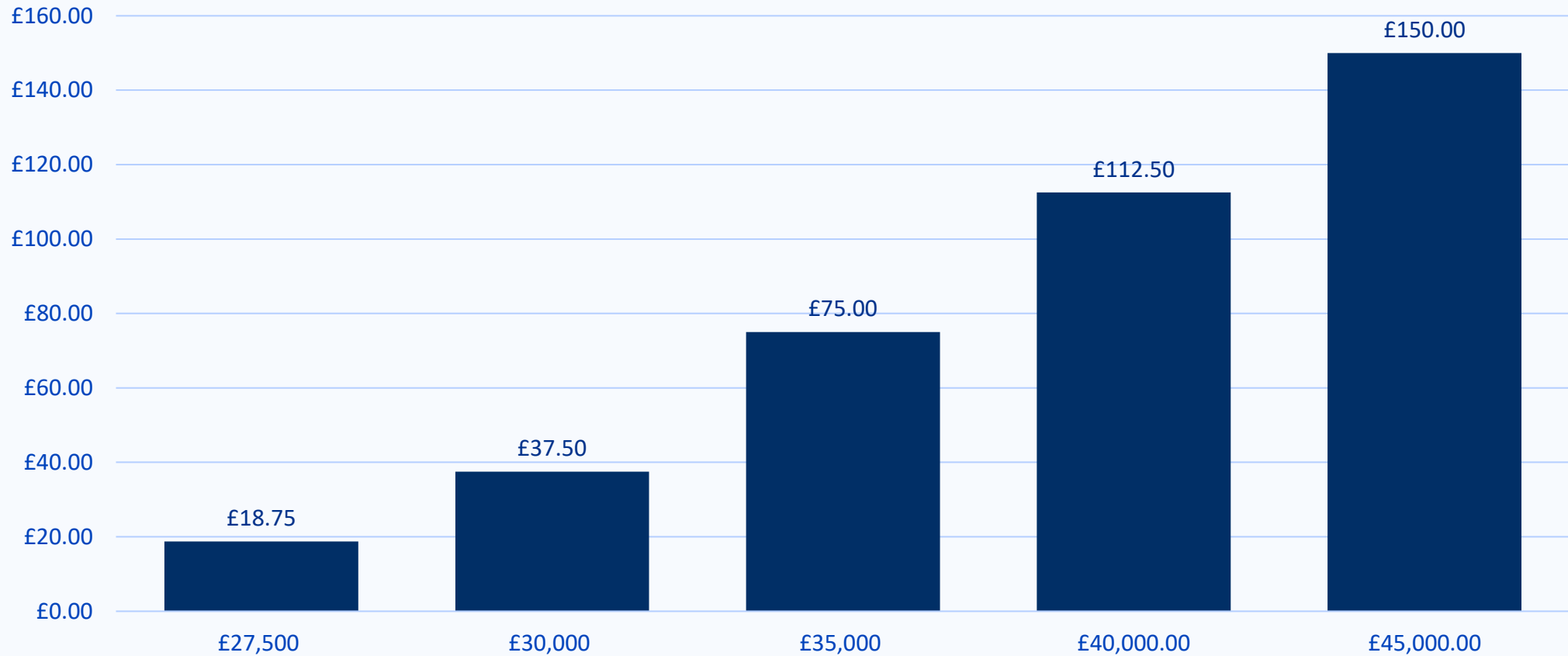
Monthly repayments

$$\begin{aligned} \text{£}30,000 - \text{£}25,000 &= \\ &\text{£}5,000 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 9\% \text{ of } \text{£}5,000 &= \\ \text{£}450.00 \text{ per year} \\ \text{£}37.50 \text{ per month} \end{aligned}$$

Monthly repayments:

Monthly Repayments Based on Salary



Repaying loans: Interest rates

In the new system, interest is
fixed at RPI + 0%

This is intended to ensure that amounts repayed
over the life of the loan are equal to the original
amount borrowed in real terms

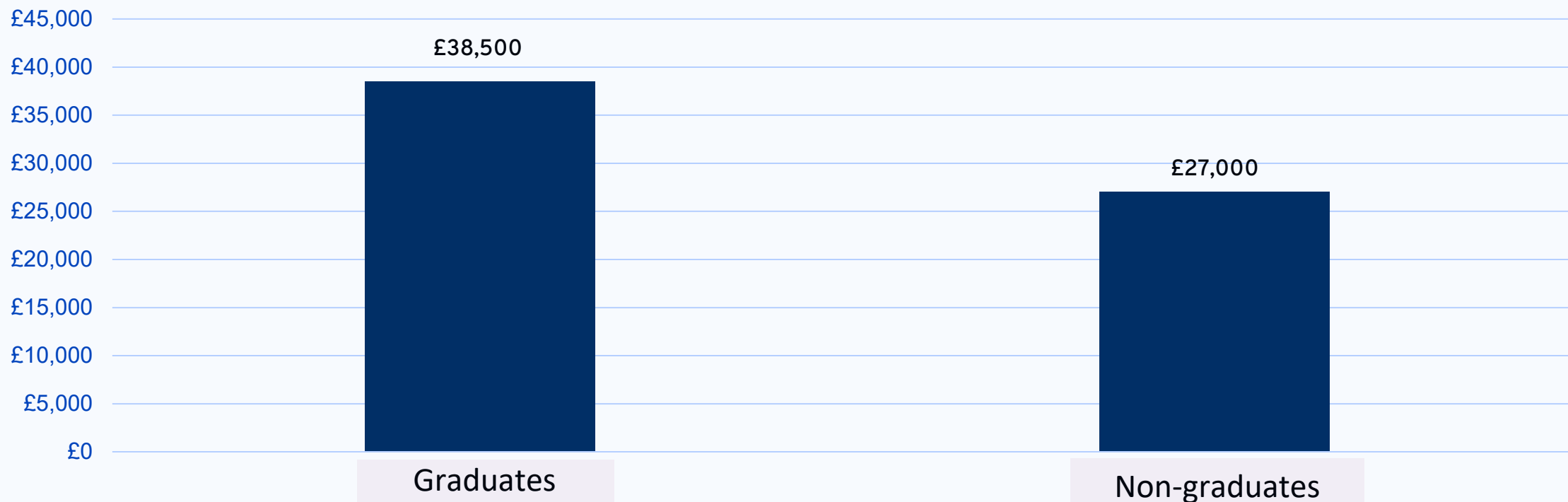
According to a report by the Institute of Fiscal Studies in 2020
'Going to university is a very good investment for most students'

Over their working lives, graduates will be £100,000 - £130,000 better off on average by going to university, even after taking taxes, student loan repayments and foregone earnings into account.

In percentage terms, this represents a gain in average net lifetime earnings of around 20% for all.

Do graduates earn more money?

A graduate earns an **average** salary of £38,500 compared to an average of £27,000 for non-graduates.



Investment into your future

Total repayments over 40 years



University is a long-term investment into your future

- Greater salary potential
- Wider range of career opportunities
- Faster progression
- Social benefits

Remember the cost is in the repayment, not the fees or the total amount borrowed. Whether you borrow £50,000 or £500,000, your repayments are based on earnings

The problem for most students is not being able to borrow enough- can you cover the cost of living at university if your Living Cost Loan is below the expected cost?

Conclusion

- **Submit your application in good time to avoid any delays**
- **Remember to look into additional forms of support such as Disabled Students Allowance**
- **The financial costs look imposing, but the true cost depends on your earnings and is spread over a long time**
- **Don't focus on the 'debt' but rather consider the cost of living while at university**
- **University is an investment in your future- it costs time, effort and money, but it has considerable long-term benefits**



Visit Our Campus



CAMPUS TOURS

Medway
Tuesdays
Canterbury
Thursday

OPEN DAYS

Canterbury

Saturday 20 April 2024

Saturday 6 July 2024

Medway

Saturday 22nd June 2024



FIND OUT MORE:
www.kent.ac.uk



Frequently Asked Questions

- **Will student loans affect my credit score?** - No. Having a student loan does not appear on your credit record, however, student loan repayments are likely to be part of affordability calculations.
- **What happens if I don't finish my course for some reason?** The loan you have taken until that point still stands and repayments will start from the following April, assuming you earn more than the repayment threshold of £25,000 per year. However, no-one will start repaying their Plan 5 loan until April 2026. You can make voluntary repayments at any time if you wish.
- **Does the household income assessment take into account other children, pension payments, rent and other expenses?** - Certain allowances are made for things like additional children and private pensions as well as students entitled to benefits, but many expenses are not accounted for. We would recommend consulting GOV.UK for detailed criteria.
- **Can I pay back my loan early?** Yes. However, we recommend that you take advice before doing this as working out whether this is the best decision for you can be complicated. There is no penalty for making extra repayments, but once made they are not refundable.
- **How do repayments work if I'm not paid an annual salary?** - Repayments will only start if you earn more than the repayment threshold of £25,000 a year, which is £2,083 if paid monthly or £480 if paid weekly.
- **At what point are repayments deducted from my salary?** - Repayments are automatically deducted by your employer whenever you get paid and at the same time as tax and National Insurance. If you are self-employed, your repayment is calculated from your annual tax return and paid at the same time as any tax you owe.

Helpful resources

Kent Student Finance FAQ's:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/fees-faqs>

Money Saving Expert:

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/news/tag/student-finance/>

Government Student Finance Calculator:

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>

Student Finance Application Page:

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

**Thank
You.**



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