

Cost of Living Support Fund 2022/23

In light of the current Cost of Living Crisis, the Office for Students (OfS) has provided the University of Bolton with a limited budget to be distributed to students suffering financial hardship. The University of Bolton has allocated these monies to support students who have been affected by the cost of living crisis. This is for those who have had their expenditure increase due to the cost of living.

This scheme is available to all Full Time and Part Time, UK/EU and International students who are fully enrolled and are actively engaging with their course.

Amount

The University has made the decision to attempt to help as many of the most disadvantaged students as possible, meaning successful students will receive a one off non-repayable award of **£500**. The budget for this fund is limited and therefore all eligible students' applications will be assessed in strict date receipt order. Once this fund is exhausted no further awards will be made and any applications received will be automatically rejected by default. Please be aware that submission of an application does not guarantee an award will be made. Where applications are submitted without the supporting evidence, they will be rejected.

Awards are not limited to households, this means students living together are able to apply separately, providing they are current University of Bolton students that meet the criteria. Students who are in receipt of Benefits are strongly encouraged to liaise with the Department of Work and Pensions or The Citizens Advice Bureau to discuss any impact receiving this award will have on their benefit entitlement. Please be aware, any information submitted as part of your application may be cross referenced against records already held by the University of Bolton.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Employability Bursary you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a Full Time or Part Time, UK/EU or International University of Bolton student, studying at the University of Bolton campus.
- Be fully enrolled, attending your classes and actively engaging with your course of study.
- Be able to provide evidence of the impact the current cost of living crisis has on your finances.

Awards will **only** be made to students who meet all of the relevant criteria.

Applications will be assessed on an individual basis and **must** be supported with evidence when requested. This scheme is available to new and continuing students on a first come, first served basis depending on budget limitations. Students who are ineligible for the scheme are able to discuss other support available with the Student Advisors. Please be aware, the fund is limited which means when the fund is exhausted no further awards will be made.

Required Documentation

When you submit your application, please ensure you provide one of the following relevant pieces of evidence:

- A current mortgage/rent statement or utility bill (gas, water or electricity).

AND

- A historic mortgage/rent statement or utility bill (gas, water or electricity) from the last academic year for comparison.
- The student must be named on the bill or a named tenant/mortgage holder.

Students who apply without any of the documentation listed above will not be considered for the scheme until they have provided the information requested. Applications will not be held for students, meaning if an application is received without evidence and the fund is exhausted before the evidence is provided, the application will be rejected.

Applying

We aim to assess all applications within 10 working days. For successful applicants we aim to pay this award into a student's nominated UK bank account before the **31st May 2023**.

Applications should be submitted via the Blackbullion Portal: www.blackbullion.com/funding

Payment

Payments will be made in one instalment via BACs to the nominated UK Bank Account. For further information please contact:

Student Advisors
 Student Centre
 Chancellor's Mall
 University of Bolton
 Deane Road
 Bolton
 BL3 5AB
 Tel: 01204 903733
 E: studentadvisors@bolton.ac.uk

Student Funding Team
 Student Centre
 Chancellor's Mall
 University of Bolton
 Deane Road
 Bolton
 BL3 5AB
 Tel: 01204 903497 or 01204 903499
 E: studentfunding@bolton.ac.uk

Please be aware, the availability of this award during this current pandemic does not guarantee that this award will be available in any potential future cost of living situations.

Additional Support

Students who do not feel that £500 will be enough to assist them are welcome to apply for the University of Bolton Student Support Fund (UOBSSF) as well, providing they meet the eligibility criteria, please email uobssf@bolton.ac.uk for more information.

Please note, there are extra eligibility criteria students will need to satisfy in order to qualify for an award from the University of Bolton Student Support Fund, please visit: <https://www.bolton.ac.uk/student-life/fees-and-funding/scholarships-and-bursaries/student-support-fund-page/>.

Any student who receives a payment from the award and then applies for the University of Bolton Student Support Fund should be aware that this award will be included as income on the Student Support Fund assessment. Please be aware, the timescale for a Student Support Fund application to be assessed is 28 calendar days.