

Help for students with children or adult dependants

Student Finance Fact Sheet (FS06)



If you have children or adult dependants you can get help with any extra costs you might have for childcare etc. this fact sheet explains what's available. For more detailed information download the guide '**Childcare Grant and other support for full-time student parents in higher education**' available from our www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance.

Childcare Grant

This will help with childcare costs if you have dependent children aged under 15 at the beginning of the academic year – or under 17 if they have special educational needs – and in registered or approved childcare. For more details on what childcare qualifies visit www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance.

Depending on your household income, you can apply for 85% of your actual childcare costs during term times and holidays. You can get up to £148.75 a week for one child or up to £255 a week for more than one child. You will not qualify for this grant if you, or your husband, wife or partner receives the childcare part of the Working Tax Credit from HM Revenue & Customs.

You will be asked to provide **estimated costs** which we will use to work out your Childcare Grant payments until you provide details of the actual payments. At the end of your first term you will be asked to provide **actual costs**. We will re-assess your entitlement based on these costs and, if you have been overpaid or underpaid, we will adjust your entitlement accordingly.

Parents' Learning Allowance

This allowance can help with course-related costs if you have dependent children.

The amount you receive depends on your household income; that is the income of your husband, wife or partner (if you have one) and that of your dependants. You could get up to £1,508 a year if you qualify.

Adult Dependants' Grant

The grant should help if you have an adult who depends on you financially. The adult cannot be any of your children.

The amount of Adult Dependants' Grant you can receive depends on your income and your dependants (including your husband, wife or partner). You can get up to £2,642 a year.

Jobcentre Plus will not count Childcare Grant or Parents' Learning Allowance when working out your other benefits. Any Adult Dependants' Grant you get will be taken into account.

How do I apply?

Step 1 – Fill in the main student finance application

To apply for a Childcare Grant, Parents' Learning Allowance or Adult Dependants' Grant you should fill in the relevant section of the main application form for student finance. The quickest way to do this is online at www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance. If you want to apply for a Childcare Grant we will then send you a separate **Childcare Grant Application Form (CCG1)** for you to provide information about your child's needs, your estimated childcare costs and details of your childcare provider.

Step 2 – Receive a letter

We will assess your application based on the information you have provided and send you a letter telling you how much Childcare Grant, Parents' Learning Allowance or Adult Dependants' Grant you are entitled to. This letter also sets out any other student finance you may be entitled to.

Step 3 (CCG only) – Fill in the CCG2 form

At the end of each term or childcare period we will send you a **Childcare Costs Confirmation Form (CCG2)** for you and your childcare provider to fill in. This asks your childcare provider to confirm the actual payments you have made to them. If the actual amount is more or less than you estimated in your application, we will reduce or increase your next instalment of Childcare Grant.

Step 4 – Fill in the Confirmation of Income form

At the end of the academic year we will send you a **Confirmation of Income** Form to check that you have been paid the correct amount of Childcare Grant, Parents' Learning Allowance or Adult Dependants' Grant.