



Isle of Man
Government

Reiltys Ellan Vannin

Department of Education, Sport and Culture

Rheynn Ynsee, Spoyrt as Cultoor

Student Awards



What Support Do We Offer?

Tuition Fees Grant

- We can offer you a Tuition Fees Grant of up to £6,750.
- Students are required to pay the first £2,500 of their tuition fees, which can be paid as a loan provided by Student Awards.

Tuition Fees Loan

- All students are entitled to apply for a Tuition Fees Loan of £2,500.
- This is a life-long loan that will not start gaining interest until the July after you graduate.

Maintenance Grant

- We can offer you a means-tested Maintenance Grant of up to £8,100.
- This is dependent on your contributors income.

Please note, as an Isle of Man student you will not be entitled to a UK student loan

Eligibility Criteria

For DESC to provide financial support for your further studies, you must meet the following criteria.

- Academic Criteria
- Residency Criteria



Academic Criteria

Even if your offer is “Unconditional” you will still need to meet the Academic Criteria of a minimum of **80 UCAS points**.

These can be earned through:

- A-Levels
- BTEC Level 3
- Extended Projects
- Music/Dance Grades 6,7 and 8

Residency Criteria

To meet Residency Criteria, you will need to have:

- Lived on island for a minimum of 4 years immediately before the start of your course

Or

- Have been resident on island for 10 years, with 2 years being immediately before the start of your course

Paying your Tuition Fees

Majority of degree courses cost £9250 per year. The Department can contribute £6750 towards your studies, and the other £2500 can be taken as a loan from the Department or paid upfront to your university.



Some courses, such as medicine, dentistry and pharmacology have different funding criteria.

Please contact the team to discuss this.

Please note, if your contributor's earn more than £112,000 the Department's contribution will be reduced, and your contributors will be expected to pay a larger percentage of your fees.

Tuition Fees Loan

- If you choose to take the Tuition Fees Loan, you will be leaving university with £7500 debt to repay. (Based on a 3 year course)
- Your loan will remain interest-free until the July after your graduation. After this, it will gain interest annually – a maximum of 3.5% or the Bank of England base rate, whichever is lower.
- Once you are earning over £25,000 you will need to start making the minimum repayments on your loan.



Maintenance Grants



- Maintenance Grants are based on your contributors income, but can be affected by your own unearned income.
- Maximum allowances are dependent on the location of your university and the number of weeks your course is.
- If your course is longer than 30 weeks, you will need to complete a weeks verification form to receive funding for this.
- UCM students can also apply for a Maintenance Grant. Maximum maintenance for a degree-level course is £5,400, and for a non-degree course is £2,970.

Important Notes About Maintenance Grants

The Maintenance Grant is not enough to pay for everything you will need. It is advised to work and save over the summer before you go to university.



You can work part-time while you are away at university. This will not affect the amount of maintenance you are awarded.



Who Are My Contributors?

We would expect all students to have two contributors, generally your parents, but this can be any two people who have or have previously had parental responsibility for you.

We understand this is not always applicable, and if you are unsure of your contributor status please don't hesitate to ask the team.



Could I Be An Independent Student?

Although unlikely, it is not unheard of. To be an independent student under the age of 25, you will need to meet one of the following criteria.

- For the period of 12 months before the start of your course been irreconcilably estranged from both parents and neither of them financially supports you.
- Have been looked after by the Department of Social Care and have not lived with either parent for 12 months before the start of your course.
- Neither parent is living.

INDEPENDENT

Repayment of Grants

We can reclaim your grants in certain circumstances.

If you:

- Fail your course
- Decide to come home
- Have poor attendance
- Unsatisfactory conduct

We may invoice you for the full amount the department has contributed towards your studies, including maintenance grants.

FAIL



Studying at UCM

Should you decide to continue your studies on island at UCM, your tuition fees will be covered by the Student Awards Team.

You will not need to take the loan for this, but you will still need to make a Tuition Fees Grant application to Student Awards.



Foundation Year or Foundation Degree

The Student Awards Team can NOT support a foundation year. This is an equivalent study level to your A-Levels.

We can, however, support a foundation degree. This is Levels 4 & 5 on the RQF scale, following which you can complete a “top-up year” to achieve a full bachelor's degree.

For a foundation degree, you will need 32 UCAS points, instead of the otherwise required 80.

6	TOP-UP DEGREE		HONOUR'S DEGREE
5	HND	FOUNDATION DEGREE	
4	HNC		

Disabled Students Allowance

You may be entitled to Disabled Students Allowance if you have a recognised physical, learning or mental health condition.

The support that can be received through DSA is varied, so please talk to us if you feel this may apply to you, especially if you already have specific provisions in place for your education.



Scholarships

There are a number of scholarships available to Manx students, and you can earn a scholarship of up to £8,640 before it starts affecting your Student Award.

You will need to apply for bursaries and scholarships externally to your Student Awards application.





The Application Process

The Student Awards team will be available to help students make their first-year application when our applications open in April.

Your application must be submitted by 31st July for us to be able to process it in time for you to go away to university.

Once your application has been processed, you will receive a provisional award letter. This needs to be passed on to your university finance team, otherwise they will invoice you directly and we will not be able to pay your Tuition Fees.

Information We Need For Your Application

What we need from you:

- Your exam results
- Bank evidence (you must have your own bank account)
- Your unconditional offer from the university
- Your signed loan agreement (if you have taken one)
- Your email address/contact details (not your parents)



Your contributors will need to submit an income assessment form, and then when available from the Income Tax Office they will need to submit their Resident Assessment Notice (RAN).

Any Questions?

If you have a question you feel we haven't answered please don't be scared to ask.

If you think of a question at a later date, please contact us.

StudentAwards@gov.im

Alternatively, please speak to your Head of Sixth Form