

## **INTERNATIONAL HARDSHIP FUND INFORMATION**

The International Hardship Fund (IHF) can provide discretionary financial assistance to all full time non-UK students registered at the University of Kent and eligible to pay tuition fees at the 'overseas' rate.

The IHF fund can provide financial support to students experiencing emergency situations. The fund **cannot** be used to meet the cost of tuition fees.

**Please note that the fund is limited. Applications will be considered until all funds have been allocated or until 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024, whichever comes first.**

Applications from 1<sup>st</sup> year Tier 4 students will be considered but it is unlikely that they will be made an award. This is because they would have had to provide evidence that they have made adequate provision to pay their tuition fees and living costs before they started their course.

Applications are unlikely to be considered where students are in receipt of a government or US loan or where the reason for application to the fund is due to fluctuations in exchange rates.

### **HOW TO MAKE AN APPLICATION**

- To apply, first obtain and complete an **application form** <https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/emergency-funding/international-hardship-fund>
- Email your completed application form, together with all supporting documentation, to [FinancialAid@kent.ac.uk](mailto:FinancialAid@kent.ac.uk)
- You must supply continuous bank statements for a 3-month period on **ALL your bank and building society accounts** up to the date of your application. Where a gap occurs between the statement and the date of your application a mini-statement/balance must be supplied.
- You must provide evidence of your rent / mortgage payments such as a scanned copy of your tenancy agreement.
- You must fully complete the Income and Expenditure sections on the application form to allow the completion of your **Financial Shortfall Calculation** (FSC).
- Where an application is showing a financial 'shortfall' and the student has outstanding tuition fees. Further checks will be made to ascertain whether a payment plan has been agreed. If there is no payment plan in place, the student will be required to discuss their application via email with a senior member of the Finance Office. Students will receive an email request from the Financial Aid Office (FAO) asking them to email the relevant person.
- An application where the FSC is showing a financial 'surplus' may not be successful, and the FAO will email you if this is the outcome.
- Provided that an application form has been accurately completed, the appropriate documentary evidence supplied, and an email discussion with a senior member of the Finance Office has taken place, a decision will be made within 20 working days of submission.
- Awards will be paid directly into a student's UK bank account.
- Students requiring clarification before submitting their application form please email the Financial Aid Office (See 'Contact Information').
- Students who are unsuccessful in their application may appeal against the decision. Any appeal must be made in writing within 20 working days from the date of the original decision marked **CONFIDENTIAL** and sent by email to [FinancialAid@kent.ac.uk](mailto:FinancialAid@kent.ac.uk) All information held with your IHF application will be reviewed by the Head of Student Financial Services where an independent decision from the original assessment will be made.

**CONTACT INFORMATION****International Hardship Fund Appeals**

Student Financial Services Manager (IHF Appeals)  
The Registry  
University of Kent  
Canterbury Kent CT2 7NZ

**Financial Aid Office**

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