

Kent Financial Support Package (KFSP) 2021/22

The Kent Financial Support Package 2021/22 has **now closed**.

At Kent, we believe that all students who have the academic potential to benefit from our courses should have the opportunity to come to the University and we have established one of the most generous financial support schemes in the UK.

Who can apply?

The Kent Financial Support Package (KFSP) is open to UK students who are new to higher education and have a household income of less than £42,875 as well as meeting other financial eligibility criteria. Please read the eligibility criteria carefully and ensure you meet them before making any application.

You can check your eligibility using the [Financial Support Calculator](#).

What is the financial support offered through KFSP?

Full-time students

For 2021, Kent has a £4,500 financial support package for eligible students across three stages of full-time study:

Stage 1: £1,500 (cash payment)

Stage 2: £1,500 (cash payment)

Stage 3: £1,500 (cash payment)

Students studying a full time four-year undergraduate programme with a sandwich year or an integrated Masters year will receive a further cash bursary of £1,500:

Stage 1: £1,500 (cash payment)

Stage 2: £1,500 (cash payment)

Stage 3: £1,500 (cash payment)

Stage 4: £1,500 (cash payment)

Part-time students

New part-time students starting in the academic year 2021/22 may be eligible for a pro rata cash bursary in each year of study as part of the Kent Financial Support Package. The value of the cash bursary available will depend on the student's level of study, i.e. if a student is studying 50% of a full-time course they would be eligible for a £750 bursary in each academic year.

All students

The KFSP was paid in two instalments throughout the year, the first on 6 December 2021 and the second on 11 March 2022, providing those students remain on course for the whole academic year.

The cash bursary does not have to be repaid.

The KFSP is awarded in addition to any funding you receive from Student Finance England, or any other support packages or scholarships you may be eligible for from Kent. Receipt of the KFSP will not affect your entitlement to these.

How do I apply for the KFSP?

Full-time students

Most full-time students will automatically be assessed for the Kent Financial Support Package (KFSP).

If you meet the postcode criterion or are in receipt of Disabled Student Allowance (DSA), there is no application form to complete. As long as you have made your application to Student Finance England, you have been income assessed by them, and you and your sponsor(s) (the person(s) income assessed by SFE, where relevant) have given your consent to share your financial details with the University, you will automatically be assessed for your entitlement.

In certain circumstances you will need to complete an application form. This will be for students who meet the social housing criteria or are eligible under the Care Leaver, Young Independent, Carer, Estranged or Foyer/Homeless categories.

Part-time students

Part-time students will need to make a separate application. The application form will be available from mid-September.

Applications can be submitted once students are registered on their course and have been in attendance for two weeks from 27 September 2021.

For any further information please contact the Financial Aid Office.

Are there any exemptions or things to be aware of when applying?

Please read the full list of eligibility criteria before applying.

Students studying a degree with an integrated foundation year will still be eligible for the package of support, but will have the award deferred until they start Stage 1 of their course in 2022/23.

Students can only receive the KFSP 2021 once for each stage of their course i.e. stage 1, stage 2, stage 3 (and stage 4 if applicable). If any stage is repeated, then the KFSP 2021 will not be paid for the repeat year.

If a student intermits or withdraws part way through an academic year, any unpaid bursary will be cancelled.

If a student returns from intermission, providing that they still meet the household income element of the eligibility criteria, they will be eligible to receive ONLY parts of the award that they did not receive in the year that they suspended their studies, regardless of whether they are starting the year from the beginning again, or returning at the point from which they left.

All KFSP Awards must have been approved by 8 July 2022 otherwise students will lose their KFSP entitlement.

When and how will I find out if my application has been successful?

Those students who have been automatically assessed should receive written confirmation of their entitlement by the beginning of November 2021.

Students who have submitted a paper application will be notified of a decision once all the relevant information has been received and assessed by the Financial Aid Office. This can take 20 working days from receipt of the complete application.

Can I appeal if my KFSP application is unsuccessful?

Students who have not been made an award from the Kent Financial Support Package (KFSP) can appeal against the decision. However, appeals where students do not meet the eligibility criteria will NOT be considered.

All information already held regarding a student's KFSP assessment, along with any additional information supplied with the appeal, will be reviewed by the Head of Student Financial Services, where an independent decision to the original assessment will be made. The Head of Student Financial Services' re-assessment will be communicated to the student by letter within 28 days of receiving the appeal.

Students must be fully registered in order to make an appeal.

Any appeal must be made in the form of an email to FinancialAid@kent.ac.uk with the subject line of 'KFSP Appeal'.

All appeals must have been received by 15 July 2022. Appeals received after this date will NOT be considered.

KFSP eligibility criteria 2021/22

Kent Financial Support Package (KFSP) for the academic year 2021/22 has **now closed**.

In order to be eligible for Kent's Financial Support Package (KFSP) for 2021/22, you must fulfil the eligibility criteria below:

Full-time students

- You must be a new student to Higher Education starting at the University of Kent in September 2021 in Stage 1.
- You must be registered on a full-time undergraduate degree programme at the University of Kent, paying the maximum tuition fee. Students on courses where the tuition fees are lower than the maximum tuition fee, including students from franchise or associate colleges, will not be considered for an award.
- You must be ordinarily resident in England (as determined by Student Finance England).
- You are from a household where the annual income is less than £42,875* per year.
- Your last place of learning must have been a UK state school or college.
- You made an application to the University of Kent by the UCAS deadline of 29 January 2021. Should sufficient funds be available, the University reserves the right to consider those who submitted an application after this date.

You must also meet **one** of the following criteria:

- your household is located in an area that traditionally has had low levels of participation in higher education as defined by the Office for Students. A list of postcodes and their classification by participation (POLAR4) can be found on the Office for Students website. Awards are made to students who fall into POLAR4 quintiles 1 and 2 and who are under 21 on 27 September 2021, who also meet other eligibility criteria, and students who fall into any POLAR4 quintile and who are over 21 on 27 September 2021, who also meet other eligibility criteria.
- you live in **social housing**. If you do not meet the postcode criteria but live in social housing, you need to submit a Kent Financial Support Package Social Housing 2021 application form to the Financial Aid Office with evidence that you are living in social housing. The Financial Aid Office will verify that the landlord is registered with the Homes and Communities Agency. Information sheets and application forms were provided by the Financial Aid Office.
- you are in receipt of the **Disabled Students' Allowance**
- you are a **Care Leaver** under 25. You will need to apply to, and be approved for, the care leavers package before you will be considered for the KFSP
- you are a **young independent** student under 20. You will need to apply to, and be approved for, the young independent student package before you will be considered for the KFSP.
- you are a **carer**. You will need to apply to, and be approved for, the young adult carers package before you will be considered for the KFSP.
- you are **estranged** from your parents. You will need to apply to, and be approved for, the estranged student package before you will be considered for the KFSP.
- you were in a **Foyer** or '**homeless**' before starting your course. You will need to apply provide evidence of this before you will be considered for the KFSP.
- Evidence of these criteria will be collected from the candidate's UCAS application and their student finance application to Student Finance England. Evidence should be maintained by the applicant to meet University audit requirements which may include in year spot checks. Successful applicants will be informed from September 2021 that they have met the University's criteria for the financial support package once the University is in receipt of all relevant information.

Candidates must demonstrate continued eligibility on the basis of household income as assessed by Student Finance England in order to receive the financial support package in subsequent years.

Part-time students

New part-time students starting in the academic year 2021 may be eligible for a pro rata financial support package. The value of the financial support available will depend on the student's level of study.

In order to qualify students must be studying a minimum intensity of 25% and meet the eligibility criteria as stated above.

Part-time students need to make an application to the Financial Aid Office if they believe they meet these eligibility criteria. Applications can be submitted once students are registered on their course and have been in attendance for two weeks. Application forms will be available from the Financial Aid Office.

Applicants will be informed whether they have met the University's criteria for the financial support package once the University is in receipt of all relevant information.

The information given on these web pages is correct at the time of publishing. The University reserves the right to modify or cancel any statements and accepts no responsibility for the consequences of any such changes.

* Students who meet the **care leaver, young independent, carer, estranged, Foyer** or **'homeless'** criteria do not need to meet the household income criteria to be eligible for the KFSP 2021, however, they do need to meet all of the main criteria and must be income assessed by Student Finance England.