

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 up to £500 financial support per year to students experiencing emergency situations. Students can submit one application per academic year. **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 19th June 2026, whichever comes first.

Applications from 1st 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** [International Hardship Fund \(IHF\) - Student support - University of Kent](#)
- Email your completed application form, together with all supporting documentation, to financialhardship@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 screenshot of the most recent transactions and the current 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 expected to contact the Student Fee Collections Office to agree payment of their tuition fees before an application to IHF can be approved.
- An application where the FSC is showing a financial 'surplus' may not be successful, and the Financial Hardship Office will email you if this is the outcome.
- Provided that an application form has been accurately completed, and ALL of the required documentary evidence supplied, 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 Hardship Office](#).

Review

If your application is unsuccessful and you believe there is further evidence for us to consider then you can request a review of the outcome by the Financial Hardship Manager by emailing financialhardship@kent.ac.uk and you must submit evidence to support this. Review requests without further evidence will not be considered.

Change of Circumstances

If your circumstances change you can book an appointment with the Financial Hardship team to discuss further options of support and other applications.

Complaints

Any complaints regarding the management of the funds and procedures should be sent to the Assistant Director (Student Support) in the first instance who will try to resolve any issues informally. If you are not satisfied with this then you can make a complaint to the Appeals, Conduct and Complaints team.