

# Undergraduate student finance

## FEES, LOANS AND IMPERIAL FUNDING

### 2020 ENTRY

## WHAT COSTS ARE INVOLVED

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### TUITION FEES

(Not payable upfront with a Tuition Fee Loan)

**£9,250/  
YEAR**

(Home and EU  
students in  
2019–2020)

Tuition fees are payable every year but Home students do not need to pay this cost upfront as they can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan covering the full cost of tuition for every year of undergraduate study. The maximum fee that universities are permitted to charge Home students is set by the UK government – it was £9,250 for 2019 entry. This fee cap may change for 2020–21 and in subsequent years in line with government regulations. The UK government has confirmed that eligible EU students starting university in 2020 will continue to have access to Tuition Fee Loans.

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### EXTRA COURSE COSTS

**VARIES**

by course

Some of our courses involve extra costs that are not covered by your tuition fee, such as protective clothing for lab work, field trips or books.

For details of additional costs for courses that you are interested in see: [www.imperial.ac.uk/study/ug/courses](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/ug/courses)

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### LIVING COSTS

**£298/  
WEEK**

(approximately)

This is the approximate amount that you should budget for as an Imperial student. For more information on living costs, see page 2.

For detailed advice on living costs and managing your money: [www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/living-costs](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/living-costs)

# LIVING IN LONDON

Life in the capital can be more expensive than other UK cities. But with sensible budgeting, and making the most out of the hundreds of student discounts available to you, it is possible to enjoy much of what London has to offer.

Below is a rough guide to the costs involved in student life at Imperial. It does not include your tuition fees or any additional course costs.

In reality, how much you spend will depend on your lifestyle, whether you're living at home or away (which also affects how much UK government funding you may be eligible for – see page 3) and how good you are at sticking to a budget.

Don't forget that 52-week contracts are standard in private accommodation so you will need to budget for the entire year (not just 39 weeks) if you're not staying in College accommodation or you're not planning to leave London during the summer vacation between academic years.

## Approximate living costs

	WEEKLY	39 WEEKS
Accommodation and utilities:		
College halls of residence <sup>†</sup>	£178.47 <sup>‡</sup>	£6,960.33
or private-sector housing <sup>§</sup>	£179.78	£7,011.42*
Food <sup>§</sup>	£50	£1,950
Travel	£28.80	£995.40 <sup>¶</sup>
Personal and leisure <sup>§</sup>	£40.35	£1,573.65
Total	<b>£297.62</b>	<b>£11,479.38</b>
	or	or
	<b>£298.93</b>	<b>£11,530.47</b>

<sup>†</sup> Based on prices for 2019–20. Once confirmed, costs for 2020–21 will be displayed at:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/accommodation](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/accommodation)

<sup>‡</sup> This £178.47 average cost includes a £2 weekly contribution to the Hall's Activities Fund. 65% of rooms in College accommodation cost less than the weekly average of £178.47.

<sup>§</sup> Figures taken from a Student Experience Survey 2019 of Imperial students.

\* Students choosing to live in private accommodation may be required to commit to a 52-week contract and therefore may need to budget for 52 weeks of accommodation costs.

<sup>¶</sup> Based on buying a monthly zones 1–3 travelcard with a 18+ Student Oyster photocard for nine months (2019 prices) from: [tfl.gov.uk](http://tfl.gov.uk).



# MONEY THAT YOU HAVE TO PAY BACK

Home students can access a range of **funding from the UK government** towards the cost of university study. **Tuition Fee Loans**, covering the full cost of tuition for every year of your undergraduate course, mean you **do not need to pay this cost upfront**. Means-tested **Maintenance Loans** are also available for Home students **towards their living costs** – students studying in London are entitled to higher Maintenance Loans than students studying at a university outside of London.

## TUITION FEE LOAN

**£9,250/  
YEAR**

(based on 2019–20  
Home rate of tuition)

Home students can apply for a non-means-tested Tuition Fee Loan from the UK government to **cover the full cost of tuition** for every year of their course. If the fee increases, so does the loan, and it's paid directly to the university by the Student Loans Company. The UK government has confirmed that eligible EU students starting university in 2020 will continue to have access to Tuition Fee Loans for the duration of their course.

## MAINTENANCE LOAN TOWARDS LIVING COSTS

**UP TO  
£11,672/  
YEAR<sup>†</sup>**

Home students can apply for a Maintenance Loan from the UK government towards their living costs. Different maintenance funding arrangements apply for students living in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Eligible EU students who have lived in the UK for over five years and who will be starting university in 2020 can also apply for a Maintenance Loan for the duration of their course.

### CHECK YOUR FEE STATUS

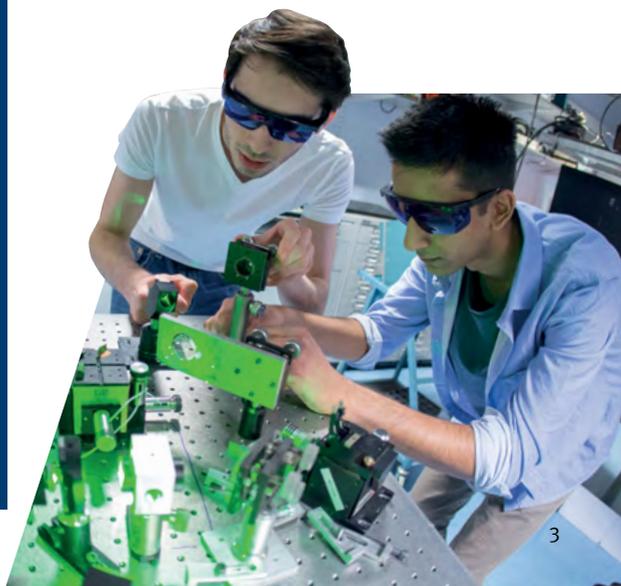
There are currently two rates of tuition fees: the Home rate (for UK students and EU students) and the Overseas rate (for international students). The UK government has confirmed that eligible EU students starting university in 2020 will continue to pay the Home rate of tuition for the duration of their course.

Your fee status affects which rate of tuition you pay and what financial support you may be entitled to. We assess this after you apply in accordance with regulations provided by the UK government.

Find out more at:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/study/ug/apply/fee-status](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/ug/apply/fee-status)

<sup>†</sup> Maximum amount available to full-time students from England, living away from home in London for the 2019–20 academic year, loan amounts for 2020–21 have not yet been confirmed by the UK government. The amount you may be eligible for varies according to your household income and whether you're living at home or away from home.



# MONEY THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY BACK

Universities vary widely in the financial support they offer – this is where choosing the right university can really make a difference. Below is a guide to the financial support available through Imperial College London, which is **paid on top of any government funding that you may also be eligible for** – see page 3.

## IMPERIAL BURSARY

UP TO  
**£5,000/  
YEAR**

Home students  
only

If your annual household income is below £60,000, you automatically qualify for an Imperial Bursary for every year that your course lasts – provided that your household income remains below this level.

See page 5 for more information on the bursary.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/imperial-bursary](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/imperial-bursary)

## SUBJECT SCHOLARSHIP

**VARIES**  
per award

The availability of these and how much they are worth varies by academic department. The majority also have a fixed deadline so it's worth searching early to see what you may be eligible for (eligibility criteria apply to all awards) to make sure you don't miss out.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/scholarships-search](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/scholarships-search)

## ASH MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

**VARIES**  
per award

Exceptional musicians (with Grade 8 Distinction), starting their first undergraduate course at Imperial, may be eligible for one of five music scholarships. The scholarships give you the chance to have instrumental or vocal lessons for up to three years at the Royal College of Music.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/music-and-arts/music/awards/scholarships](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/music-and-arts/music/awards/scholarships)

## SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP

UP TO  
**£3,000/  
YEAR**

Students who compete at national or international level in their chosen sport may qualify for a sports scholarship – consisting of a mixture of practical and financial support to help your athletic development.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/sport/performance-sport/sport-scholarships](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/sport/performance-sport/sport-scholarships)

## EXTRA HELP

**VARIES**

Extra help may be available for students with special circumstances such as those with children, adult dependants or a disability. Eligibility criteria apply.

[www.gov.uk/student-finance/extra-help](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance/extra-help)

# HOW MUCH IS THE IMPERIAL BURSARY WORTH?

The Imperial Bursary is **one of the most generous schemes** of its kind of all UK universities. It is designed to help with the cost of studying in London for Home students (exclusions apply<sup>‡</sup>) by providing **up to £5,000<sup>†</sup>** for every year of your course.

Medical students on the A100 MBBS course have the option to spread their bursary funding over all six years of study<sup>§</sup>. The bursary is paid on top of any government funding that you may be entitled to and you don't have to pay it back.

## Imperial Bursary 2020–21

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME	IMPERIAL BURSARY*
	(per year)
£0–£16,000	£5,000
£16,001–£50,000	£4,000
£50,001–£55,000	£3,000
£55,001–£60,000	£2,000

*If you run into financial problems, support is available from our Student Financial Support team*

## £60,000

Home students whose household income remains below this level will automatically qualify for an Imperial Bursary for every year of their course

## 37%

of Home undergraduates received an Imperial Bursary in 2018–19

## 39%

of Imperial Bursary recipients received the maximum £5,000 bursary in 2018–19

- <sup>‡</sup> Exclusions apply to repeat years of study and NHS-funded years for MBBS/BSc Medicine students. Graduate Medicine students are not eligible for the bursary.
- <sup>†</sup> The bursary is paid directly into your bank account in instalments from 7 November until 7 June in year 1. In subsequent years, your bursary will be paid in equal instalments from 7 October to 7 June. Care leavers and estranged students who are in receipt of a bursary will be offered the chance to receive it two months earlier than the usual first payment date.
- <sup>§</sup> A100 MBBS students who are in receipt of an Imperial Bursary can choose to either receive their funding over the first four years of their study or to receive their four years of funding over six years.
- <sup>\*</sup> This bursary offer may need to be adjusted if the UK government changes the levels of fees or the associated arrangements for supporting students, for example, as a result of the outcome of the recent Higher Education Review. If this does prove necessary, we will publish any revisions clearly on our website.

# REPAYING YOUR LOANS

The only types of UK government funding that you need to pay back are the Tuition Fee Loan and Maintenance Loan (see page 3).

You don't have to start repayments to the Student Loans Company, which lends you the money on behalf of the government, until:

- ▶ the April after you have finished or left your course; and
- ▶ you are in employment and earning over the repayment threshold (varies depending on where you're from)

## WHAT YOU EARN, NOT WHAT YOU OWE

The amount you pay back each month is linked to how much you're earning above the repayment threshold.

This means **it does not matter how much you owe in total** as monthly repayments are linked to your income and not the amount you owe.



## HIGHEST IN THE UK

*\*The Times/Sunday Times  
Good University Guide 2019*

## INTEREST

You will be charged interest from the day you receive your first payment until your loan(s) is paid in full or cancelled. The rate is based on the UK Retail Price Index (RPI) + 3% while you're studying. From 6 April after leaving the course, the interest rate applied varies according to how much you earn:

[www.slc.co.uk/students-and-customers/loan-repayment/interest-rates.aspx](http://www.slc.co.uk/students-and-customers/loan-repayment/interest-rates.aspx)

## Student loans repayment

### Repayment thresholds (2019–20)

- ▶ £25,000 for English and Welsh students
- ▶ £18,330 for Northern Irish and Scottish students ‡

‡ This figure is for 2019–20; it normally increases every year with inflation

## Repayments

These are currently calculated at 9% of how much you're earning over the relevant repayment threshold and not on how much you owe in total. This means...

### A STUDENT FROM ENGLAND

MEDIAN SALARY FOR IMPERIAL GRADUATES £30,000/year

AMOUNT YOU'RE EARNING OVER THE THRESHOLD (£30,000–£25,000) £5,000/year

AMOUNT YOU REPAY (9% OF £5,000) **£37.50/month**  
**£450/year**

### A STUDENT FROM SCOTLAND

MEDIAN SALARY FOR IMPERIAL GRADUATES £30,000/year

AMOUNT YOU'RE EARNING OVER THE THRESHOLD (£30,000–£18,330) £11,670/year

AMOUNT YOU REPAY (9% OF £11,670) **£87.52/month**  
**£1,050.30/year**

Repayment of your loan is taken directly from your salary. Repayments stop if your income falls below the threshold, you've cleared the debt, or when a certain number of years have passed after you became eligible to repay:

- ▶ 30 years for English and Welsh students
- ▶ 30 years for Scottish students
- ▶ 25 years for Northern Irish students

# APPLYING FOR FUNDING

You don't need a confirmed place at university to apply for student finance – simply create an account with your regional funding body (see details below) using your preferred choice of course. You can change these details once you've accepted an offer.

Your parents/guardians may need to provide information about their earned (wages) and unearned (interest, investments, pension) income for a certain tax year to support your application. For 2020 entry, it will be the 2018–19 tax year.

Use our student finance calculator\* to estimate what support you may be able to access through Student Finance England:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/calculator](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/calculator)

There is no application process for the Imperial Bursary (see page 5). We award bursaries automatically based on household income information we receive from regional funding bodies. To be considered you must apply for the government's means-tested Maintenance Loan and consent to share the information you provide as part of the process with the College.

\*Based on 2019–20 figures. 2020–21 figures will be displayed once confirmed.



COUNTRY	FUNDING BODY	CONTACT DETAILS
England	Student Finance England	T 0300 100 0607 <a href="http://www.gov.uk/student-finance">www.gov.uk/student-finance</a>
Scotland	Student Awards Agency for Scotland	T 0300 555 0505 <a href="http://www.saas.gov.uk">www.saas.gov.uk</a>
Wales	Student Finance Wales	T 0300 200 4050 <a href="http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk">www.studentfinancewales.co.uk</a>
Northern Ireland	Student Finance Northern Ireland	T 0300 100 0077 <a href="http://www.studentfinanceneni.co.uk">www.studentfinanceneni.co.uk</a>
EU students	Student Finance Services Non UK Team	T +44 (0)141 243 3570 <a href="http://www.gov.uk/student-finance/loans-and-grants">www.gov.uk/student-finance/loans-and-grants</a>





## MEDICAL STUDENTS

For the first four years of their six-year medicine course, eligible A100 medical students can access funding from the UK government and from Imperial in the same way as other Home undergraduate students (see page 3).

In the clinical years (years 5 and 6), different funding arrangements apply, which will vary depending on where you are from.

While the tuition fees for all Home medical students for years 5 and 6 will be paid in full (money which does not have to be repaid)\*, access to maintenance funding towards your living costs may be at a reduced rate.

For more information, including information on the six-year payment option for Imperial Bursary recipients (see page 5), visit:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/nhs-funding](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/nhs-funding)

\* Year five and six tuition fees for EU students have previously been covered by the National Health Service (NHS). It has not yet been confirmed whether this arrangement will continue from 2020 entry.

The information in this guide is current at the time of going to press (June 2019). The figures provided are for guidance purposes only – the latest information is available at:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/ug](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/ug)

## OVERSEAS STUDENTS

Tuition fees for overseas students are set by the College and vary per course – see the course pages on our Undergraduate Study website for details:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/study/ug/courses](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/ug/courses)

You should expect, and budget for, increases to your tuition fees for every year that your course lasts. These fee increases are set by the College and are expected to rise each year by an amount linked to inflation.

If you're paying your own fees, find out more about the fee payment process at Imperial:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding/tuition-fees/payment-terms/undergraduates](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/ug/fees-and-funding/tuition-fees/payment-terms/undergraduates)

