

Fees & Funding Guidance

What support is available?

Your collaborative provision course, delivered by The Open University and the College of West Anglia has been classed as an 'in attendance' course, meaning that you may be eligible for the full student support package.

Full Time Tuition Fee Loan

For many people, a Tuition Fee Loan is the best way to fund study, regardless of age or income. Tuition Fee Loans are provided by Student Finance England and are the most popular payment method for undergraduate students.

Tuition Fee Loans in a nutshell

- Nothing at all to pay up front and nothing to pay for up to four years.
- Repayments are based on what you earn, not what you owe, and are deducted automatically by your employer through the UK tax system.
- You only start making repayments when your salary exceeds the income threshold, currently £25k.
- Interest is applied to your balance at the Retail Price Index (RPI), once the University confirms that you are participating on your qualification.
- You're not committed to borrowing the full cost of your course – you only borrow what you need to cover the upcoming academic year's fees.
- You can pay a Tuition Fee Loan off early if you want to.
- After 40 years, any remaining balance you owe is written off, no matter how much is left.

For further information on **Full Time Tuition Fee Loans** and to review the eligibility criteria please go to: [Student finance: how you're assessed and paid 2024 to 2025](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/student-finance-how-youre-assessed-and-paid-2024-to-2025) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Applying for your loan

You will need to apply for a Full-Time Loan of £7,272 per year, rather than the Part Time Tuition Fee Loan that Open University students usually use to fund their study.

Applications can take up to 8 weeks to process so it is essential that you apply as

early as possible. You will need to apply online through <https://www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance> and may need to have details at hand to help them verify your identity, such as your passport number. Your approved funding for the full cost of your course must be in place prior to being enrolled on the programme.

IMPORTANT: You will need to provide proof that your loan has been approved for the correct fee before we can enrol you by providing your 'Notification of Entitlement' letter received from Student Finance England detailing the funding that you have been awarded. This will need to be provided to CWA when you complete your registration documentation.

Selecting your course on the application portal

When you make your Full Time Tuition Fee Loan application on the Student Finance England website, you will be asked to select your qualification. It is crucial that you select the correct version of your course with the start date that applies to you. You can enter the relevant code for your course listed below into the search box, then choose the correct course from the drop-down list. If you apply for the wrong course, you may not be assessed for all funding that you may be entitled to, and approval of your funding may be delayed.

Your College of West Anglia course

Course Name	Start Date	Course Code
Diploma of Higher Education in Computing and IT W36	Oct 2024	Course Code: 112382
Diploma of Higher Education in Health Sciences W44	Oct 2024	Course Code: 112386

Full Time Undergraduate Tuition Fee Loan applications for the 2024/2025 academic year are now open.

Maintenance Loan for living costs

As your course has a compulsory 'in attendance' element (your weekly face-to-face attendance at the college), you may also request additional support towards your living costs through a maintenance loan from the Student Loans Company (SLC). You may be asked to submit details of your household income as part of your application and the amount you could receive will vary according to your personal circumstances. You will have to repay this loan.

Further information on the support that may be available to you from SLC can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/new-fulltime-students>

If you apply for, and are eligible to receive a maintenance loan, you should expect to receive your first maintenance loan instalment **approximately four weeks after the start of your course**. The OU must first confirm that students have a valid method of payment in place (typically your loan) and are actively participating in studies to trigger the release of maintenance funding. The earliest we can review this is two weeks after module start. This is the first point in the year that you become liable for your module fees. Once we have confirmed you are participating in study, we will send confirmation over to SFE (usually within 48 hours) so that they can release payment, which also takes a few days.

Provided that you are actively studying and attending the face-to-face element of your course as per the expectations set out in the CWA Attendance Policy and Collaborative Provision Admissions Policy, you will receive two further maintenance loan instalments in January and April. You will need to be aware that active study on this course will consider your online engagement with the study planner, module materials and assignment submissions, as well as your weekly face to face attendance at the college.