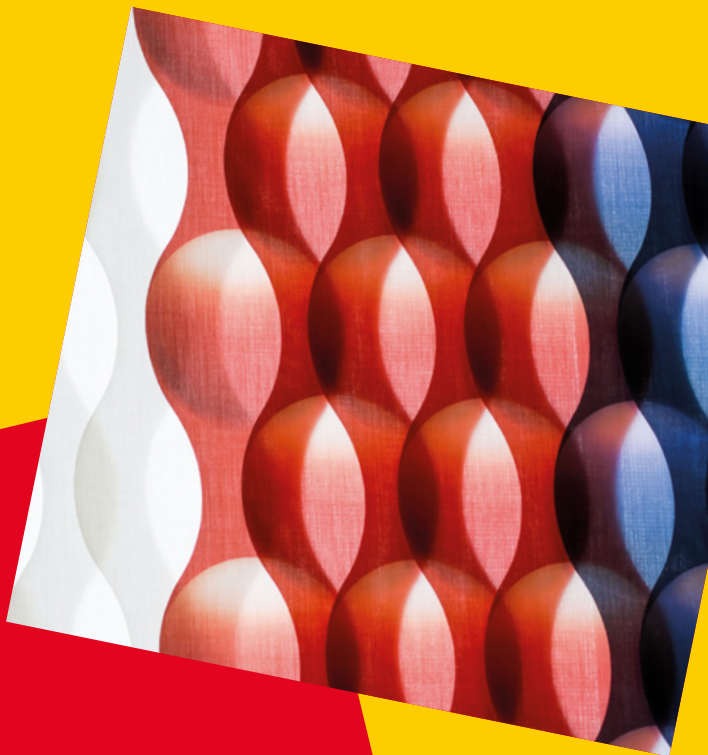




THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■



# US Federal loans guide

**2026/27 Award Year**

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# Introduction

The London School of Economics and Political Science is eligible to participate in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, commonly referred to as "Title IV", "Financial Aid" or Federal Aid.

The LSE's School code or OPEID is **00669300**, we are registered with the US Department of Education ("USDE") as The **University of London – London School of Economics and Political Science**.

You can access the Schools Federal Aid webpage by visiting [info.lse.ac.uk/federalaid](https://info.lse.ac.uk/federalaid)

The Fees, Income and Credit Control Office oversee all administration for Federal Aid at the School.

Only Fees, Income and Credit Control (hereinafter FICC) staff are authorised to provide a definitive statement on Federal Aid at the School.





# Purpose

This guide outlines the requirements and responsibilities of the London School of Economics and Political Science ("LSE") and the student ("student" or "borrower") in receipt of Federal Aid.

All decisions with respect to Federal Aid are made using USDE regulations.

Loans in Scope:

- Federal Direct Subsidised Loan
- Federal Direct Unsubsidised Loan
- Federal Direct PLUS (Parent/Graduate) Loans. Following the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act in July 2025, significant reforms to Federal Student Aid will come into effect for students beginning their studies after 1 July 2026. Further information about the nature and impact of these changes can be found on the [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) website

Students who are already enrolled and receiving federal loans during the 2025/26 academic year may continue to access funding under the previous regulations for up to three years, or for the remainder of their programme, provided they maintain uninterrupted enrolment.

The Graduate PLUS loan programme will be removed for all new borrowers beginning 1 July 2026.

Please consult the [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) website for the most up-to-date information and continue to monitor this webpage for LSE specific updates.

**Note:** A useful appendix with abbreviations and acronyms can be found on [page 25](#).

## Consumer Information

The US government requires institutions that offer federal student loans to disclose Consumer Information, we strongly encourage students to read the schools Consumer Information page

[Info.lse.ac.uk/consumer](https://info.lse.ac.uk/consumer) as this includes information about topics such as:

- Code of Conduct
- Default Management Plan
- Academic discipline and academic misconduct
- Eligibility by Program type
- Refund Policy
- Satisfactory Academic Progress
- Withdrawing
- Veterans' affairs benefits and Private loans
- Entrance and Exit Counselling.



# Privacy notice

We will process your financial information to:

- Determine eligibility
- Package and originate your loans
- Ensure the School are complying with all regulations set by the USDE, including but not limited to:
  - Pre and post disbursement eligibility checks
  - Audit requirements
  - Enrolment reporting
  - Reconciliation of Federal loan funds
- Receive and process your loan funds with Convera.

## Contacting us

For information on how to contact us please refer to Section 2 of our [Customer Charter](#) or visit [info.lse.ac.uk/ficccontactus](http://info.lse.ac.uk/ficccontactus)





# Section 1 – Eligibility

The LSE is required to make sure that all students receiving Federal aid are enrolled on an eligible programme of study.

Please always refer to our Consumer information page as this will include updated information about the eligibility of programmes.

For further details see [Info.lse.ac.uk/consumer](https://info.lse.ac.uk/consumer)

## Eligibility by Programme type

| Programme type                                             | Eligible for Title IV Aid   |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>Diplomas</u>                                            | Ineligible                  |
| <u>Undergraduate degree programmes</u>                     | <b>Eligible<sup>^</sup></b> |
| <u>Taught graduate degree programmes</u>                   | <b>Eligible<sup>^</sup></b> |
| <u>Executive Masters degree programmes</u>                 | <b>Eligible<sup>^</sup></b> |
| <u>Online Executive certificate programmes</u>             | Ineligible                  |
| <u>On campus open programmes</u>                           | Ineligible                  |
| <u>Online Certificate programmes</u>                       | Ineligible                  |
| <u>Summer Schools</u>                                      | Ineligible                  |
| <u>Study Abroad - General Course</u>                       | Ineligible                  |
| <u>Inbound GO LSE students</u>                             | Ineligible                  |
| <u>Outbound GO LSE students</u>                            | Ineligible                  |
| <u>Outbound GO LSE PhD Exchange programme (2-3 months)</u> | <b>Eligible<sup>^</sup></b> |

<sup>^</sup> **Written arrangements: 34 CFR 600.52 and 600.54**

An ineligible foreign institution may offer no more than 25 per cent of the home (LSE) institutions programme.

An eligible host institution in the United States may offer up to 25 per cent of the home institutions (LSE) programme. Note: An individual student is permitted to perform independent research in the United States for not more than one academic year, is permitted if that research is conducted during the dissertation phase of a doctoral programme under the guidance of faculty and the research performed only in a facility in the United States. The home institution is not required to establish a written arrangement with the host institution in this circumstance.



**Internships/Externships: 34 CFR 668.5(h)(2):**

The internship or externship portion of a program if the internship or externship is governed by accrediting agency standards, or, in the case of an eligible foreign institution, the standards of an outside oversight entity, such as an accrediting agency or government entity, that require the oversight and supervision of the institution, where the institution is responsible for the internship or externship and students are monitored by qualified institutional personnel.

The host institution may offer up to 25 per cent of the home institutions (LSE) programme.

**Double Degrees:**

| Double Degrees                                                                          | Eligible for Title IV Aid                               | Title IV School code for partner Institution |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| MSc in Global Media and Communications (with University of Southern California)         | Not eligible                                            |                                              |
| MSc in Global Media and Communications (with Fudan)                                     | Not eligible                                            |                                              |
| MSc in Global Media and Communications with University of Cape Town                     | <b>Eligible</b>                                         | G10084                                       |
| LSE-Fudan Double Masters in the Global Political Economy of China and Europe            | Not eligible                                            |                                              |
| LSE-Fudan Double Masters in International Social and Public Policy                      | Not eligible                                            |                                              |
| MPA (with Columbia and Toronto)                                                         | <b>Only the University of Toronto track is eligible</b> | G06688                                       |
| LSE-Leipzig Double Degree in Global Studies and Economic History (2nd year at LSE)      | <b>Eligible</b>                                         | G38183                                       |
| LSE/Columbia Double Degree in European Politics, Conflict and Culture (2nd year at LSE) | Not eligible                                            |                                              |
| MPA with Sciences Po (2nd Year At LSE) (with Inst D'Etudes Politiques De Paris)         | <b>Eligible</b>                                         | G10599                                       |
| LSE/LSHTM joint Health Policy                                                           | Not eligible                                            |                                              |



### Double Degrees:

| Double Degrees                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Eligible for Title IV Aid | Title IV School code for partner Institution |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Sciences Po-LSE Double Degree in Affaires Internationales and International Relations MSc<br>International Political Economy MSc in International Political Economy<br>MSc in International Relations (with Inst D'Etudes Politiques De Paris) | <b>Eligible</b>           | G10599                                       |
| LSE-NUS Double MSc in Asian and International History                                                                                                                                                                                          | Not eligible              |                                              |
| LSE-PKU Double MSc in Environmental Policy, Technology and Health<br>MSc in Environment and Development<br>MSc in Environmental Economics and Climate Change<br>MSc in Environmental Policy and Regulation                                     | Not eligible              |                                              |
| LSE-Bocconi Double Masters in European and International Public Policy and Politics (with Universita Commerciale L Bocconi)                                                                                                                    | <b>Eligible</b>           | G30787                                       |



**Double Degrees:**

| <b>Double Degrees</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Eligible for Title IV Aid</b> | <b>Title IV School code for partner Institution</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| LSE-Sciences Po Double Masters in European Studies<br>MSc in European and International Public Policy<br>MSc in Culture and Conflict in a Global Europe<br>MSc in International Migration and Public Policy<br>MSc in Political Economy of Europe (With Inst D'Etudes Politiques De Paris) | <b>Eligible</b>                  | G10599                                              |
| LSE-PKU Double MSc in International Affairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Not eligible                     |                                                     |
| LSE-Columbia Double MSc in International and World History (2nd year at LSE)                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Not eligible                     |                                                     |
| LSE-Sciences Po Double Degree in the Political Economy of Development (with Inst D'Etudes Politiques De Paris)                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Eligible</b>                  | G10599                                              |
| LSE-Sciences Po Double MSc in Urban Policy<br>MSc in Local Economic Development<br>MSc in Regional and Urban Planning Studies<br>MSc Urbanisation and Development (with Inst D'Etudes Politiques De Paris)                                                                                 | <b>Eligible</b>                  | G10599                                              |
| Dual Master of Public Administration (MPA)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Only LSE track eligible          |                                                     |



## Section 2 – Cost of attendance (COA)

The COA is the amount it will cost a student to go to school, if you are attending School at least half time, the COA is the estimate of tuition and fees, cost of food and housing (living expenses), cost of books, supplies, transportation, loan fees and miscellaneous expenses.

The COA is set by the school but may be adjusted downwards by the student to reflect your specific needs.

You may borrow up to the COA set by the School.

| Programme type | Maximum cost of attendance<br>(Government and Private Loans) |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Undergraduate  | \$110,439                                                    |
| Postgraduate   | \$115,569                                                    |

The LSE recognizes that a student's total expenses for the academic year may exceed the LSE cost of attendance. In such instances a student can submit an appeal form. Appeal forms will be reviewed by FICC to examine selected education-related expenses and evaluate your option for additional loan funding.

If you need to borrow more than the allowable cost of attendance you should submit a Cost of Attendance Budget Appeal Form 2026/27 (**Form COABA**).

Please refer to our Federal Aid webpage for further information [info.lse.ac.uk/federalaid](https://info.lse.ac.uk/federalaid)

### Please Note:

- You can borrow less than the maximum COA
- You can request more funds later in the year up to the maximum COA
- You should only borrow what you need.

Please refer to [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) and [Private Loans Guide](#) for further information.



# Section 3 –

## Allowable Federal Loan Limits per award year

The amount of money students can borrow depends on the loan type and the student status (undergraduate or graduate).

For Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans, there are limits on the amount you students can borrow each academic year (annual loan limits) and the total amounts students can borrow for undergraduate and graduate study (aggregate loan limits).

| Year                                                  | Dependent Students (except students whose parents are unable to obtain PLUS Loans)         | Allowable Federal Loan Limits per award year. Parent PLUS loans for Undergraduate Students will be limited to \$20,000 annually (per child). Parent PLUS borrowers are limited to a maximum of \$65,000 per dependent child across their whole course.                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| First-Year Undergraduate Annual Loan Limit            | \$5,500 – No more than \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.                  | \$9,500 – No more than \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Second-Year Undergraduate Annual Loan Limit           | \$6,500 – No more than \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.                  | \$10,500 – No more than \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Third Year and Beyond Undergraduate Annual Loan Limit | \$7,500 per year – No more than \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.         | \$12,500 – No more than \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Graduate or Professional Student Annual Loan Limit    | Not Applicable (all graduate and professional degree students are considered independent). | <p>\$100,000 lifetime federal borrowing limit (does not include undergraduate loans).</p> <p>\$20,500 annual limit (Unsubsidized)</p> <p>Maximum aggregate (include footnote) limits with undergraduate loans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; With dependent UG loans: \$131,000 of which \$31,000 from UG</li><li>&gt; With independent UG loans: \$157,500</li></ul> |



# Section 4 – How to Apply

The loan application process normally opens in June each year, the exact date will be advertised on our webpage.

Please refer to our Federal Aid webpage for further information [info.lse.ac.uk/federalaid](http://info.lse.ac.uk/federalaid)

Applicants may borrow up to the Cost of Attendance (COA) which is set by the school, the maximum loans you can receive cannot exceed the yearly cost of attendance less any financial aid you may be receiving.

**See section 2** for further information on the COA.

## The stages for applying for Federal Aid:

- 1** You must confirm that you have submitted your [Financial Undertaking Form](#), indicating that you will be partly or fully funded by a US Federal Loan.
- 2** You must first complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA® form) Please visit [studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa](http://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa)
- 3** Complete Entrance Counselling ([see section 10](#)).
- 4** Sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN) agreeing to the terms of the Loan. Please visit [studentaid.gov/mpn](http://studentaid.gov/mpn)
- 5** Complete the LSE COA Spreadsheet.
- 6** If you have a Parent PLUS loan we will provide the Parent PLUS authorisation form, in order for the loan to be accepted, the Parent borrower must sign, date and return this form to the School.
- 7** Submit your application form via the [US Loans Application form](#) together with a fully completed Cost of Attendance spreadsheet.

All applications for Federal Aid must be submitted via our secure platform. If you have an offer to study at the LSE, you can access our secure application form using your public account prior to enrollment and your network account(@lse.ac.uk) after enrollment.



The secure **US Federal Loan Application form** asks a series of questions, which you are required to confirm before you can progress. If you cannot answer yes to the Questions 1-5 below, you will be unable to submit your application.

1. I confirm that I have completed my FAFSA application for Federal Student Aid and that the LSE is listed as a School.
2. I confirm that I have completed my entrance counselling.
3. I confirm that I have signed a Master Promissory Note for Stafford Loans (MPN) agreeing to the terms of the loan.
4. I confirm that I have filled in the LSE's Cost of Attendance spreadsheet.
5. I confirm that I have submitted my financial Undertaking Form indicating that I will be partly or fully funded by a US Federal Loan.

In order to prepare your application for submission you will need to store your cost of attendance spreadsheet so that you can upload this directly into the US Loans Application portal.

Once you have successfully submitted your application you will receive 2 emails.

The first automatic email will confirm that your application has been successfully submitted.

The second automatic email will provide you with a Case number for your application.

Your application will be allocated to a member of the Customer Support team, they will review your submission and contact you if there are any issues with your submission.





Loan packaging and origination normally takes **10-14 working days**. If you need to contact us please respond to the second automatic email that contains your case number. Please do not contact us within the **10-14 day period** unless absolutely necessary. We will contact you with a decision.

For loan processing times please refer to the [FICC Customer Charter](#).

## Eligibility checks

The LSE are required to undertake regulatory checks as part of the loan packaging and origination process. If we are unable to confirm compliance, we will contact you.

As part of the eligibility checks and origination process the LSE will:

- Create a secure loan file for each borrower.
- Access COD (Common Origination and Disbursement) to download the borrowers:
  - Master Promissory Note Stafford
  - Master Promissory Note PLUS (where applicable). For continuing students that have taken out Federal loans prior to 30th June 2026, they will continue under the current regulations for the remainder of their course, or for a further 3 academic years up until 2028/29 (whichever is shorter).
  - Entrance Counselling
  - Credit Check confirmation. For continuing students that have taken out Federal loans prior to 30th June 2026, they will continue under the current regulations for the remainder of their course, or for a further 3 academic years up until 2028/29 (whichever is shorter).

If the School are unable to access the required documentation, we will contact you.

Further information on the checks the School are required to undertake when reviewing your application are as follows:

## Entrance Counselling

Federal Regulations require you to complete Entrance Counselling, [see section 6](#) for further information.

Students returning to the LSE for a second year of study who have completed counselling in their first year are not required to complete it again.

## Proof of citizenship

Students are required to provide proof of citizenship or eligible non-citizenship; the LSE will review your Student Aid Report and contact you should there be any queries.



## **“C” Flags on FAFSA Submission Summary**

Any “C” flag comments on the FAFSA Submission Summary will be reviewed by the School, we will be unable to progress the loan application through to origination and disbursement until the flag issue is resolved. We will contact student borrowers where required. We are required to document the successful resolution on your loan file.

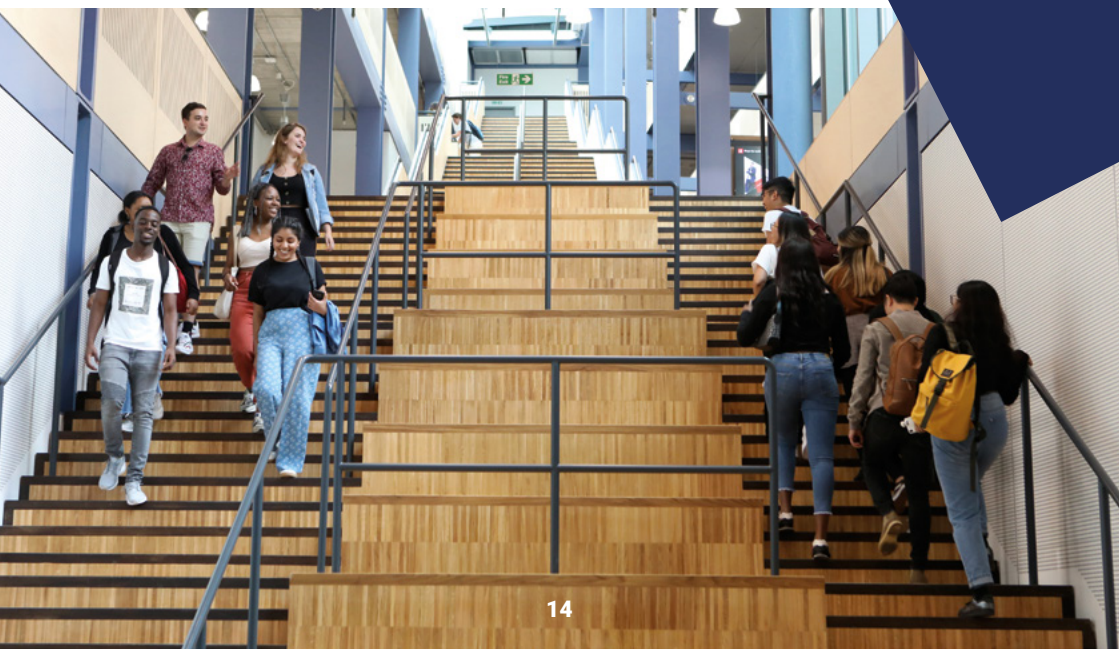
## **Subsequent changes to your FAFSA Submission Summary**

If a change is made to your FAFSA Submission Summary an ISIR (Institutional Student Information Record) will be issued to the School. The School are required to review each ISIR, ensuring your loan eligibility is not impacted. If the review does impact your eligibility, we will contact you. The checks are required prior to packaging aid, originating a loan and at each disbursement.

## **Other checks**

We are also required to undertake the following checks against your FAFSA Submission Summary

- Any Loan outstanding – Any outstanding loan payments will be highlighted in the FAFSA Submission Summary and this may impact your right to borrow Federal Aid.
- Aggregate loan limits: Borrower should not have exceeded aggregate loan limits.
- Dependency Status: Your FAFSA Submission Summary should match the details provided in your COA submission.
- SAI - Student Aid Index: The SAI should match the value entered on your COA.





# Section 5 – Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

The LSE is required to make sure that all students receiving Federal Student Aid are enrolled on an eligible programme of study and maintaining a minimum level of academic progress.

US Federal regulations (34CFR 668.16, 668.32, 668.34, 446.42) require that all students, who are in receipt of US Federal Student Aid, must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Failure to do so can result in the loss of eligibility to receive further funding.

It is highly recommended that you read the LSE's Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy for Federal Aid Recipients, the Policy can be accessed via the following webpage [info.lse.ac.uk/SAP](https://info.lse.ac.uk/SAP)





# Section 6 –

## Disbursements<sup>1</sup>

Federal loans originated by the LSE will be disbursed in the three equal instalments, normally this coincides with the first week of each term.

For each disbursement the LSE is required to make sure that:

- You are making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
- Are enrolled at least half time on an eligible programme
- Not studying in the United States
- Have not violated any Federal compliance regulations
- Parent Plus loan borrowers are contacted (where applicable) offering the option to cancel or reduce the funds (form LCF) The Parent borrower must also give permission for the loan funds to be disbursed directly the student. In such instances The School will issue a Parent Plus Loan Authorisation form (PPLA) to parent borrowers as part of the origination and application process, the parent “borrower” will have the option to authorise the School to credit the surplus loan to the students’ bank account.

The actual GBP (Sterling) you receive will vary as it is dependent on the exchange rate from USD to GBP at the time of the disbursement. The rate applied will be a retail rate and not the interbank rate.

Disbursements will be posted to your **Student Finance Hub Account**, you should navigate to My Finance > US Loans. You will see a full summary of Loans disbursed to date in USD and what the conversion values are in GBP.

The LSE will issue you with a **Notice Prior to disbursement** (for each disbursement), this notice will:

- Advise how much loan you are *expected* to receive in USD \$
- An **estimate** GBP conversion (using a retail rate on the date the notice was issued)
- How and when the disbursements will be made
- Include advice and procedures on the borrower’s right to cancel all or a portion of the loan, including the deadlines.

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<sup>1</sup> 34 C.F.R. § 668.165(a)



Once your loan has been fully disbursed the LSE will issue you with a **Detailed Notice of Disbursement** (for each disbursement). **Note:** We are required to deduct institutional charges from each of your loan disbursements, where your loan does not cover your termly instalment, you will be required to settle the balance via the [Student Payment Portal](#).

We will in each disbursement stage:

- 1 Deduct a third of your Tuition fees (where fees are due). we may retain more than a third of your loans if you have outstanding tuition still outstanding from your Autumn and Winter instalments.
- 2 Deduct a third of your Residential fees (If in an LSE Halls of Residence). we may retain more than a third of your loans if you have outstanding accommodation fees still outstanding from your Autumn and Winter installments.
- 3 Arrange settlement into your bank account if there is a surplus credit.

**Calculation:** Loan **less** Tuition **less** Residential fees = Surplus value paid to you.<sup>2</sup>

The disbursement notice issued from the LSE will detail:<sup>3</sup>

- How much loan has been disbursed in USD \$
- The converted value in GBP £
- The exchange rate
- The total deducted for Institutional charges (Tuition Fees and Residential Fees, where applicable)
- The surplus payment (if applicable) which has been made to you for cost-of-living expenses
- The method used for the surplus payment, this will be EFT/Wire or USD Draft.

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<sup>2</sup> If you have an LSE Fee Scholarship award or have paid your fees directly to the School, we will include this in our calculations.

<sup>3</sup> Our Partners [Convera](#) will issue a standard notice of disbursement from their platform, the notice referred to in this guide is a more detailed notice – the notice will be issued from [fees@lse.ac.uk](mailto:fees@lse.ac.uk)



# Section 7 – Right to cancel or adjust your loans

As a student or parent borrower, you have the right to cancel the entire loan or any portion (a specific disbursement) of your loan. Requests to cancel a specific loan disbursement may be submitted prior to the date of crediting to your account or within **14 days** of the notice prior to disbursement notification.

If a disbursement has already credited your LSE account, then you may only request to cancel that disbursement if a surplus payment has not been generated. Please note that you can request to cancel future disbursements.

If a surplus payment has not been generated, you must request to cancel the disbursements within **14 days** of notification that the funds disbursed to your account.

If a surplus payment has been generated, you will be required to repay the funds to the Department of Education directly, please contact your loan servicer for further information.

- If you wish to increase or decrease your loan, you must submit your request via the [US Loans Application Portal](#)





# for surplus loan payments

The school has partnered with Convera to process your loan surplus payments in a secure and compliant way. At the start of the Autumn term (Term 1) students will be invited to submit their bank details via a secure platform so that we can settle their loan surplus payment by EFT/wire transfer.

Students have the option of receiving surplus loan funds in GBP or USD as a wire transfer. We **strongly encourage** students to open a UK bank account to receive their loan surplus funds.

Students who opt to provide their US bank details should be aware that their loan will first be converted into GBP and the surplus funds will need to be converted back to USD at the live interbank rate in order to settle the funds in a US bank account, no margin will be applied by Convera.

If a student does not enter GBP or USD bank account details, then Convera will produce a USD draft made payable to the student. It is the responsibility of the student to advise the school where the USD draft should be posted to.

You should only enter your personal bank account details and not that of a third party or family member. We will audit the bank details submitted and may contact you to confirm that the bank details provided are correct.

## **Note:**

- 1** We **can pay** Federal loans to an international bank account, but we will need to reconvert your surplus loan funds at the interbank rate. The LSE is not liable for any exchange losses.
- 2** If you are unable to collect a USD draft after it has been issued, we can at your request cancel the draft and settle the funds via EFT/wire transfer as soon as you have provided UK or US bank account details. Students wishing to cancel drafts must email [fees@lse.ac.uk](mailto:fees@lse.ac.uk) with email subject reference: Surplus Loans Draft cancellation request. You should include the draft value and date of issue.

Please refer to [\*\*Convera's Loans Portal Guide\*\*](#) for further instruction on how to submit your bank details.



# Section 9 – Change of circumstances: Interrupting and withdrawing

If you withdraw from your Programme, suspend status, drop below half-time enrolment, or otherwise become ineligible for Title IV Aid, you must email the Fees, Income and Credit Control team immediately. [fees@lse.ac.uk](mailto:fees@lse.ac.uk)

Provisions within (34 CFR 668.22- USDE regulations) require the School to return unearned funds to the US Department of Education.

The LSE will calculate the amount of Federal Aid that has been earned, using a formula provided by the US Department of Education, if you have received more aid than was earned, the excess funds must be returned to the US Department of Education by you and/or the School.

It is highly recommended that you read the LSE's *US Student Loans and Federal Aid Return of Title IV Funds Policy*, the Policy can be accessed via the following webpage [info.lse.ac.uk/staff/return-of-funds-policy.pdf](https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/return-of-funds-policy.pdf)





# Section 10 – Entrance and Exit Counselling

Federal Regulations require you to complete Entrance and Exit Counselling.

The school is required to ensure that you have completed Exit Counselling, this is audited, the findings are reviewed by the USDE as part of our annual compliance audit.

**Note:** Parent Plus loan borrowers **are not** required to complete Exit Counselling.

**Entrance Counselling:** All students wishing to borrow Federal Aid are required to undergo Entrance Counselling, this process will assist your understanding of the loan programme and underline your rights and responsibilities. See regulations 34 C.F.R. § 685.304(a)(6) and (7).

**Undergraduate student:** Entrance Counselling for undergraduate students is required if you have not previously received a Direct Subsidized Loan or a Direct Unsubsidized Loan.

**Graduate or Professional student:** Entrance Counselling for graduate or professional students is required if you have not previously received a Direct Unsubsidized Loan or Direct PLUS Loan.

You can complete Entrance Counselling via the [Student Aid website](#), the session will normally take 30 minutes and must be completed in one sitting.

To complete your Entrance Counselling you will need:

- Verified StudentAid.gov account
- School name and School Code
- Financial Aid letter
- Breakdown of your tuition and fees.

You will need the pin you used to access FAFSA. Please be aware the LSE will not process your loans if you have not successfully completed Entrance Counselling.



**Exit Counselling:** All students are required to complete Exit Counselling if they withdraw, graduate, or drop below half-time attendance (even if you plan to transfer to another school). See regulations: 34 C.F.R. §§ 685.304(b)(1)(3)(6) and (7).

You can complete your Exit Counselling by visiting the [Student Aid website](#). The session will normally take 30 minutes and must be completed in one sitting.

To complete your Entrance Counselling you will need:

- Verified StudentAid.gov account
- School name and School Code
- Updated contact information.

Any questions about the counselling should be submitted to [fees@lse.ac.uk](mailto:fees@lse.ac.uk)





# Section 11 – Repaying or deferring your loan

## Repayment

All questions relating to repayment should be discussed with your loan servicer(s). You should contact your servicer(s) to ensure your loan repayment information is accurate and up to date.

The USDE Federal Aid website offers extensive guidance on repayment and default, they have published a helpful checklist which can be [accessed here](#).

## Loan history

You can access your full loan history via [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)

You will see:

- The current loan balance and interest rate for each loan
- The loan type
- The name of the servicer for each loan.

## When will repayment start?

| Loan type                    | Repayments                                                                                                                              | Repayment start dates                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Direct Subsidized            | No interest or payments required as long as you are enrolled on an eligible programme at least half-time.                               | Usually six months (known as the “grace period”) after your course finishes or you become less than half-time.                                                                             |
| Direct Unsubsidized          | No payments required as long as you are enrolled on an eligible programme at least half-time. Interest accrues whilst you are studying. | Usually six months (known as the “grace period”) after your programme finishes or you become less than half-time.                                                                          |
| Graduate PLUS or Parent PLUS | No payments required as long as the student is enrolled on an eligible course at least half-time. Interest accrues whilst studying.     | Repayment period begins on the date of the final disbursement. Unless you receive a deferment or forbearance, the first payment will be due within 60 days of the final disbursement date. |



# Section 12 – Deferring your loan

## Deferments for student borrowers

The LSE are required to confirm your attendance every 60 days with National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), enrolment updates are submitted electronically, and the information will be available to your loan servicers immediately.

You do not need to contact us unless there is a discrepancy with your enrolment data in NSLDS. If there is a discrepancy, please email [fees@lse.ac.uk](mailto:fees@lse.ac.uk)

## Deferments for Parent Plus Loan borrowers

If you request a deferment, you will not need to make payments while your child is enrolled at least half-time and for an additional six months after your child graduates, leaves school, or drops below half-time enrolment.

You will have the option of requesting a deferment as part of the loan request process. You can also contact your loan servicer to request a deferment.





# Appendices

## Appendix 1: Abbreviations and acronyms

| Acronym                            | Description                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| COA                                | Cost of Attendance                       |
| COD                                | Common Origination and Disbursement      |
| Direct Loan, Title IV, Federal Aid | William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan      |
| USDE                               | U. S. Department of Education            |
| SAI                                | Student Aid Index                        |
| EFT                                | Electronic Funds Transfer                |
| ISIR                               | Institutional Student Information Record |
| NSLDS                              | National Student Loan Data System        |
| SSN                                | Social Security Number                   |
| FICC                               | Fees, Income and Credit Control (Office) |
| FAFSA                              | Free Application for Federal Student Aid |

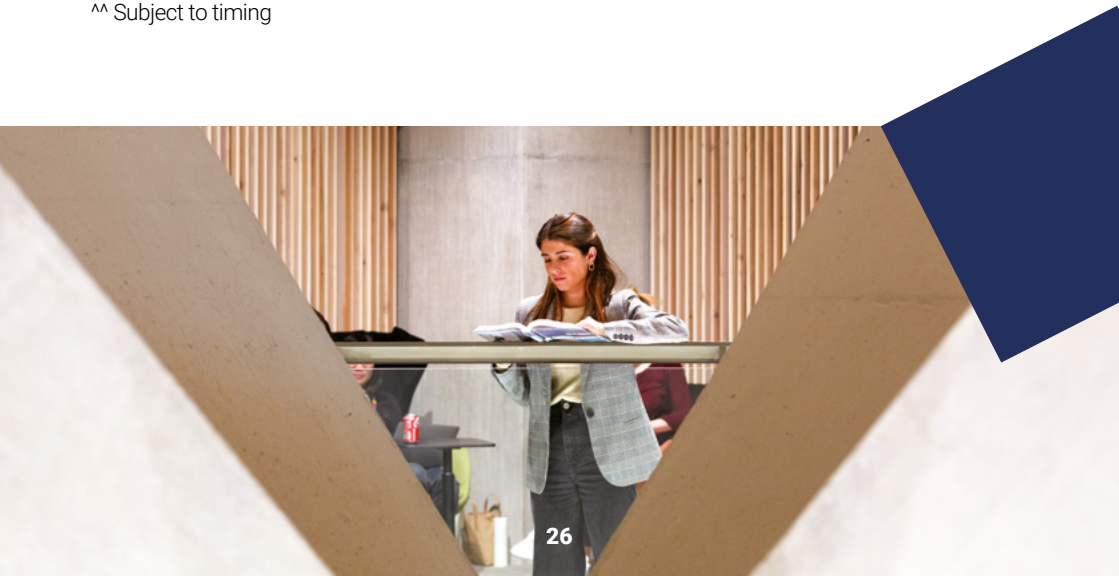


## Appendix 2: Direct Federal loan indicative timeline 2026/27 award year

| Stage/Action                                                                             | Autumn Term                                 | Winter Term                  | Spring Term                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Beneficiary email – collecting bank details for surplus loan payments                    | Monday<br>7 September 2026                  | N/A                          | N/A                          |
| Notice Prior to Disburse – Right to cancel or adjust loans incl Parent Plus notification | Tuesday<br>8 September 2026                 | Monday<br>7 December 2026    | Monday 5 April 2027          |
| Deadline date for adjustments from students                                              | Wednesday<br>23 September 2026 <sup>^</sup> | Monday<br>21 December 2026   | Tuesday<br>20 April 2027     |
| Deadline date for processing adjustments in COD                                          | Thursday<br>24 September 2026               | Monday<br>4 January 2027     | Friday<br>23 April 2027      |
| Pre disbursement checks                                                                  | Friday<br>25 September 2026                 | Monday<br>11 January 2027    | Monday<br>26 April 2027      |
| Disbursement date in COD                                                                 | Monday<br>28 September 2026                 | Monday<br>18 January 2027    | Tuesday 4 May 2027           |
| g5 funds arrive/g5 draw <sup>^^</sup>                                                    | Thursday<br>1 October 2026                  | Wednesday<br>20 January 2027 | Thursday<br>6 May 2027       |
| Notice of disbursement                                                                   | Friday<br>2 October 2026                    | Thursday<br>21 January 2027  | Friday 7 May 2027            |
| Second Call for Beneficiary bank details                                                 | Monday<br>5 December 2026                   | Upon request<br>from student | Upon request<br>from student |

<sup>^</sup> Midday

<sup>^^</sup> Subject to timing





**[lse.ac.uk/ficc](https://lse.ac.uk/ficc)**

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**Please contact [fees@lse.ac.uk](mailto:fees@lse.ac.uk)**

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