

Eligibility criteria for OUSET funding October 2021

The Trust WILL consider applications: -

- 1. from students who have already commenced their OU studies but through financial hardship now find it difficult to complete their study for the chosen qualification
- 2. from postgraduate students who have already successfully completed 60 credits at the postgraduate level (at least at Level 1) of study with the Open University
- 3. for a maximum of 60 credits in any academic year (Except where a student is applying for a module fee for a 90 or 120-credit postgraduate module)
- 4. for a total of 60 credits from an individual student towards their module fees at the postgraduate level (Except where a student is applying for a module fee for a 90 or 120-credit postgraduate module)
- 5. from students who have applied for a student Postgraduate Master's Loan from Student Finance England (or any other National funding source) and provide the evidence of their application being refused, or else set out the exceptional circumstances
- 6. normally for grants from 50% to 90% of the applicable module fee
- 7. in respect of modules which are part of a qualification which the student is registered for
- 8. assistance with costs which relate directly to OU study e.g., module fees, travel and child or dependent care costs associated with tutorials/residential schools, set books, toward the purchase, repair, or maintenance of essential IT equipment. For these costs students can apply outside of the application window.

The Trust WILL NOT consider applications: -

- 1. from students who have yet to successfully complete 60 credits with the Open University
- 2. from students who have no module reservation in place before making an application
- 3. from students who transferred their first 60 credits to the Open University from another institution
- 4. from students applying for additional credits over the limit of 60 credits (Except where a student is applying for a module fee for a 90 or 120-credit postgraduate module)
- 5. for individual modules, access modules, MOOCs and modules which form a component of a specific qualification which the student is intending to achieve that is not valid in the country where the qualification will be used
- 6. from any postgraduate student who is eligible for a loan from the Student Finance England, or any National funding sources outside of England and has chosen not to take this option, or is currently in receipt of a student loan
- 7. from any student who has not first checked whether or not they have an entitlement to financial assistance from the University (this may include but is not limited to DSA, SRF, Student Assistance Fund, alternative loan facilities including linked loans, Study Support Fund, study aids, study equipment, core study materials or extracurricular material)
- 8. for grants in respect of completed modules and never to clear a debt when the student has finished the modules concerned
- 9. for general cost of living expenses e.g., heating, lighting, rent, council tax, landline, internet connection
- 10. for travel and residential school costs where an online alternative is available
- 11. for purchase of a PC or similar equipment by students in their first or final year of study for a qualification unless there are exceptional circumstances



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- 12. for purchase of a replacement PC or similar equipment that was lost, stolen, or broken without the details of a crime reference number/police report or a letter from the insurance provider stating that the claim had been declined.
- 13. from students who already have a postgraduate degree unless under exceptional circumstances (please contact the OUSET Team prior to submitting an application)
- 14. from students already studying at higher education level with another institution.
- 15. from students who are in full time education below their statutory school leaving age
- from students who have failed their previously OUSET funded module, unless under exceptional circumstances (please contact the OUSET Team prior to submitting an application)
- 17. irrespective of exceptional circumstances from students who have failed two consecutive modules within three academic years
- 18. from students who have withdrawn on two consecutive occasions after OUSET has committed money for module fees within three academic years
- 19. from students who have cancelled, withdrawn or deferred their modules and as a result their module fees are not eligible for a Fee Refund or Credit (please visit OU's Changing Your Study Plans Policy)
- 20. from students learning with external institutions affiliated to or validated by the Open University (please contact the OUSET Team prior to submitting an application)
- 21. from students who receive an unsatisfactory Letter of Support from their Student Support Team based on their previous academic records (this may include but is not limited to their likelihood of successfully completing their module, where there is a concern about their prospects of success due to their previous module pass marks or their personal circumstances)
- 22. from students whose pervious academic records or study engagement may indicate a likelihood of them not being able to successfully complete their future modules.