

# Repeat Study and Student Finance Funding – Full time students

UWE Bristol Student Money Service

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## Full-time Undergraduates funded by Student Finance England or Student Finance Wales

If you have failed part of your course and need to retake modules, it is important to check out your funding entitlement before you register on your next year of study and incur fee liability. This is vital if the repeat study extends your course by an academic year.

If you are funded from elsewhere in the UK i.e. Student Awards Agency Scotland or SF Northern Ireland the rules could differ.

This is a complex area, and the information below is only an overview. If you are not sure of your entitlement to funding for your new course please [contact a UWE Student Money Adviser](#).

## Living cost funding

The funding affected by repeating a year of study is the tuition fee loan, and the maintenance (or special support) grant if you receive it. You will usually remain entitled to your maintenance loan (and supplementary funding such as Grants for dependents and DSA's if applicable) for each year until you achieve an honours degree.

## Standard entitlement calculation for fee loans

The Student Finance standard entitlement rules are that a student is entitled to receive tuition fee loans for the standard length of a degree course plus one extra year. If you are on a 3-year degree course, you will be entitled to 3+1=4 tuition fee loans. This '+1' is sometimes called a 'gift year'.

## +1 (Gift year) of funding

The gift year of funding is often applied to a year of repeat study or to a year of previous study or to a transfer from one course to another without academic progression.

If this is your first HE (Higher Education) course and you have never undertaken any previous HE study, transferred from a different course or repeated a year before, then it is likely you will have your 'gift year' funding available to use for your repeat year. However, if you have been affected by personal circumstances such as ill health/bereavement, see compelling personal reasons (CPR) section overleaf.

## Repeat study and the gift year

If you have already repeated a year of your current course you may have already used your 'gift year.' This will mean that you will have to pay the tuition fees yourself for the year of repeat study.

## Previous study and the gift year

Previous study is deducted from your fee loan entitlement. So for example, if you started a full-time course in the past, even if only for a week and even if you self-funded, this will count as a year of study. So if you are on a 3-year degree, the calculation is as follows: 4 tuition fee loans (3+1) minus 1 year previous study = 3 tuition fee loans for your current course.

Whether you received funding for the previous course does not affect the above calculation nor does the location of your old university.

If you extend your current course beyond the ordinary duration, you will have to pay the tuition fees for the year of repeat study. However, if you have been affected by personal circumstances such as ill health/bereavement, see CPR section overleaf.

## Level transfers and the gift year

If after you have completed a year of study you transfer to a new course without academic progression (e.g. from level one to level one). If you still have your 'gift year' of funding you will receive a tuition fee loan for year 1 of the new course. If you no longer have the 'gift year' you will have to pay the tuition fees yourself for year 1 of the new course.

## I have CPR (compelling personal reasons) for failing my modules

Student Finance has the discretion to consider additional years of fee support if you have failed part of your course due to CPR (compelling personal reasons). If you have been ill during the year or there have been significant personal problems that have caused you to fail, you must provide evidence of this to Student Finance .

Even if you still have your gift year available, it is important to apply for CPR in order to protect your gift year of funding.

To request CPR, you need to provide full information about your circumstances, specifically request an additional year of funding and provide documentary evidence. See our information sheet 'Compelling Personal Reasons'.

## I only need to repeat/retake one module to complete my course

You are not a part-time student! You are a full-time student on a part-time mode of attendance. This is an important status as you will continue to be eligible for full-time funding from Student Finance such as the maintenance loan. Your entitlement to a tuition fee loan will be subject to the fee loan limits described above.

As you remain registered on your full-time course you will remain exempt from council tax.

## I am taking some of my next year's modules in addition to some failed modules, won't I progress/'tip' onto the next level?

If you are taking a combination of failed and next year's modules, don't assume that you will automatically progress onto the next level. If you are unsure whether you will be recorded as repeating a year or progressing into your next year, contact a [UWE Student Support Adviser](#) as soon as possible.

If you are permitted to take some of your next year modules along with your repeat modules you will likely have some trailing modules at some stage as you will still be extending the length of your degree. You may find that should you progress, this only delays the issue onto a different academic year which lessens the opportunity to apply for CPR. This is a complex area. If you are not sure of your entitlement to funding for your new course please [contact a UWE Student Money Adviser](#).

## I have used my gift year, I do not have CPR and I have to self-fund next year

If you are intending to pay your own tuition fees next year, it is important that you have the money in place before you register on your course. If you register and then have to leave due to lack of funds, it will count as a further year of study in the Student Finance calculation.

If you do have the money in place to cover the fees for your repeat year, you do not have to pay it all upfront. You can spread the cost over 6 monthly instalments.

## I can't work out whether I will get a fee loan

If you are not sure of your entitlement to funding for your new course please [contact a UWE Student Money Adviser](#).

**Disclaimer:** Every effort has been made to ensure that this fact sheet is as accurate as possible. The University cannot accept responsibility for errors or for changes affecting the contents that arise after August 2022