

Withdrawing from your course

UWE Bristol Student Money Service

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This information is for full-time UK and EU* undergraduates funded through [Student Finance England](#) or [Student Finance Wales](#)

If you are funded by [Student Finance Northern Ireland](#) or [Student Awards Agency for Scotland](#) please contact your funding provider as rules can differ.

Considering withdrawing from your studies?

Withdrawing from your studies may sometimes seem like a quick and easy solution to your problems, but it may not be the only option. Before making any decisions seek advice first. There are a wide range of support services here to help.

If you are considering withdrawing from your studies due to financial reasons you may wish to explore the options below.

- [UWE Bristol funds](#) during your studies
- Contact your funding provider
- Review the [blackbullion online resources](#)
- If securing employment is proving difficult [UWE Careers](#) are here to help.
- For information about local work opportunities [UWE Jobshop](#) provide regular updates on local vacancies.

Getting advice about withdrawing from your studies – who can I talk to?

- [UWE Student Support advisers](#) for advice on the academic implications of withdrawing from your course including fee liability.
- [UWE Student Money Advisers](#) for advice on the funding and financial implications of withdrawing from your studies.
- [Accommodation Services](#) for advice on your tenancy and rent obligations
- [UWE Wellbeing](#) if you are experiencing mental ill health or personal difficult circumstances.
- [Disability Service](#) if you have queries about your DSA support and/or any other disability related issues.

I have decided to withdraw from my studies – what do I do?

If you wish to withdraw your studies you will need to book an appointment with a [Student Support Adviser](#) and contact [Information point](#) to request a form. Withdrawing from your studies needs to be done formally. UWE will be unable to action your withdrawal until your form has been received.

It is crucial to let UWE know as failure to inform could see your fee liability continue. The date of withdrawal UWE record will be the date we receive the form.

In addition to informing UWE the responsibility is also on you to inform Student Finance. It is recommended that notification is made in writing.

How will withdrawing from my studies affect me financially?

It is important that you understand the impact on your finances before you make your decision. You need to consider how you will support yourself when you are no longer a student.

Withdrawing can affect your current funding – you may need to repay some of your loans and grants received this year.

You may need to pay for your student accommodation for a period after the date of withdrawal.

It can affect your entitlement to funding if you return to studies – see below.

Will I have to repay some of my student funding if I withdraw?

Withdrawing can result in an overpayment of living cost funding. If you withdraw at the end of the calendar year (i.e. 31 August if you start your studies in September), you are unlikely to be overpaid funding.

If you withdraw partway through the academic year, SF will reassess your entitlement. If you have received funding intended to cover the weeks after the date of your withdrawal, SF will ask you to repay that amount.

I don't have the money to repay the funding

If repayment of the funding will cause you financial hardship, it is vital that you contact SF to discuss this (and provide evidence if you have it). They may consider an agreed repayment plan, but this is not guaranteed and would be at SF's discretion.

If you do not contact SF and do not pay the overpaid amount when requested, SF could seek to recover the overpayment through other means for example by initiating debt recovery processes.

If you are considering further study in the future SF have the authority to collect any outstanding overpayment when you return to your studies. They reduce the instalments by the overpaid amount. Depending on how much you have been overpaid, this could cause severe financial hardship when you return to your studies.

If you fall into repayment arrears with your overpayment and are deemed in breach of support, SF may provide no further funding.

Can I apply for benefits?

Universal Credit – you may be eligible for Universal Credit once you have withdrawn from your course if you are not working or on a low income.

Information on eligibility can be found on [the Government's universal credit guidance](#).

Understanding entitlement to benefits can be complicated so please contact one of the following specialist advice agency for further guidance.

[Citizens Advice](#)

[Talking Money](#)

[North Bristol Advice](#)

What will happen to my UWE accommodation?

You are likely to have to pay for your accommodation for a period after the date that you withdraw from UWE. It is important to complete the notice letter as soon as possible to inform Accommodation Services/Accommodation Provider that you are no longer a student.

If you reside in UWE managed accommodation - [Information on the notice period required can be found in the residents guide Terms and Conditions](#)

If you reside in City centre accommodation - this is managed by Unite Students, Host Students and Collegiate. Details of their terms and conditions will be available from the provider.

What will happen to my privately rented accommodation?

You will be liable to pay rent up to the end of the tenancy period specified on your tenancy agreement. e.g. to the end of June. If you can find a suitable replacement, with the agreement of your housing provider, you may be able to end your liability to pay earlier.

Will withdrawing affect my funding if I return to University?

UK students

It can reduce your entitlement to funding if you return to studies – you may not have fee support in place for all years of your new course. Your attendance this academic year will reduce your entitlement to future funding for tuition fees even if you only attend for one day and even if you did not apply for or receive any funding.

Your funding for living costs may be reduced by any living costs funding overpayment.

If you are withdrawing because of compelling personal reasons such as illness, you must send evidence of this to SF and (we would recommend) again when you apply for your funding for your new course: see information sheets on 'Compelling Personal Reasons' and 'Previous Study'

EU Students

*EU students – following Brexit your eligibility for funding for a new course will be reassessed under the new residency rules. Therefore if you are hoping to return to studies at a later date please [check your eligibility](#) before withdrawing. For advice please [contact a UWE Student Money Adviser](#).

More information

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