

Financial Aid Office

Postgraduate Cost of Attendance 2024-25 for Nottingham based students

Version: 1.0

Date: April 19, 2024

This document is specifically for incoming students who are United States citizens or eligible non-citizens, due to receive funding either through the Direct Loan program offered by the US Department of Education, or an approved private educational loan provider. The same cost of attendance will be used for private loan applicants, (minus standard origination fees). Please be aware processing times will differ between providers.

Foreign Schools are only eligible to award funding through the Direct Loan program and therefore are unable to award grant funds or offer additional aid programs such as TEACH or work-study.

Upfront Costs

All new and returning students **will not** receive any loan funding until **after** arriving in the United Kingdom, and completing enrolment so they are Fully Enrolled at the University. This is in line with regulations to prevent loan funds being claimed fraudulently.

Therefore, most student's first payment will be shortly after October 2, 2024 (at the earliest).

Therefore, there are expenses we advise students will likely **have** to pay before receiving their financial aid, these include (although may not be limited to):

- Initial travel to the United Kingdom and University,
- Student visa and NHS (National Health Service) surcharge costs for the full length of course, (you will pay for all anticipated years of their course upfront),
- Deposits, or early instalments, for accommodation (where applicable),
- Funds for basic living costs on initial arrival and for a couple of weeks before loan funds can be paid.

The University **will not** be able to aid in these upfront costs.

Accommodation (& Guarantors)

Whether you are looking at on campus (University provided) or off-campus accommodation, you can find some really helpful information about finding and securing accommodation on the <u>Accommodation</u> webpages.

When securing accommodation, you may be asked to provide a UK based guarantor. This may not be possible if you do not have UK based family or friends in a position to do this and you may also not be in the position to pay a large portion of your rent upfront. If this is the case, our accommodation team do now have a partnership with YourGuarantor, who can act as your guarantor (although please be advised they do charge a fee and are not a direct part of Nottingham Trent University).

Advance Payment (£6,000.00)

The only upfront costs that the Financial Aid Office may be able to assist with, is the £6,000.00 Advance Payment required from international students. For students whose loan is due to **cover the full Tuition Fee**, we can look to defer this cost to be paid through the loan funding. This option is **only** available where the **full** Tuition is due to be covered – otherwise an applicant will be expected to make this payment upfront themselves.

You will have the opportunity to request a deferral of the advance payment once you have received your Financial Aid Offer.

Preparing for University

We highly encourage students to be financially prepared before undertaking a course. This will help to ensure you have the best student experience, without money worries during your studies. We also encourage students to only borrow funding that they feel they require for their course, to minimise the amount of loan you will begin repaying once you have completed your course. We can increase a loan (if you are under the maximum Cost of Attendance) if your circumstances changed during your studies.

You can do this in part by ensuring you maximise 'free money' by exploring all potential Scholarship options to help reduce your borrowing:

International Academic Scholarships

The University's International Development team offer several scholarships to Undergraduate and Postgraduate international students, to help reduce the cost of Tuition Fees. To find out further information regarding the scholarships on offer, application process, and deadlines, please refer to our <u>International Scholarships</u> webpages.

For any queries regarding application processes, please contact the International Development team directly either by calling +44 (0)115 848 8175 or by email.

Sports Scholarships

Nottingham Trent University also offers sport scholarships to high-performing student athletes who compete across various sports. For some students, this may include a Tuition Fee reduction as well as gym/sport facility access. More information regarding the application process and deadlines can be found on our Sport Scholarship webpages.

For any queries regarding application processes, please contact the NTU Sport team directly either by calling +44 (0)115 848 3467 or by email.

Music Scholarships

For students with a musical background (instrumental or vocally), the University offers scholarships to allow for continued musical development alongside studies. More information regarding application processes/deadlines are on the Music Scholarship webpages.

For any queries regarding application processes, please contact the NTU Music team directly either by calling +44 (0)115 848 4570 or by <u>email</u>.

External Scholarships

It is also worth exploring scholarships that may be available from outside of the University. You may find that some organisations or states may offer you a scholarship, even where you are due to study outside the US.

You may also wish to review the British Council scholarship webpages:

https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships-funding

Please be aware, you are expected to notify the Financial Aid Office of all scholarships you receive, although ordinarily the Financial Aid Office will be advised internally of any University awards granted.

Tuition Fees

Full details of the tuition fees charged for the year to international students for September 2024 can be found on the below University webpages:

Postgraduate Masters (Taught and Research) Tuition

https://www.ntu.ac.uk/international/scholarships-and-fees/tuition-fees

Postgraduate PhD and Professional Doctorate Tuition

https://www.ntu.ac.uk/study-and-courses/postgraduate/phd/fees-and-funding

All Tuition Fees listed are **only** for the 2024-25 academic year. If the course you are studying is longer than a year, your Tuition Fee for subsequent years will be confirmed once announced centrally by the University. We use your actual Tuition Fee in the Cost of Attendance calculation.

Postgraduate Fees

Fees for Postgraduate courses are not universal across schools or courses, as such, please refer to the above weblink to confirm the tuition being charged for your specific course of study.

Dual Citizens

Some UK and US dual citizens who meet specific residency criteria, prior to the start of their course, may be charged a lower 'home' Tuition fee. In this case for Postgraduate assessments, we will include the home rate (where lower than the International rate). For some specialist courses the rate for home and international students may be the same.

Tuition Fee assessment decisions are made by our <u>Admissions</u> team at the point of entry, and such decisions cannot be made or appealed by the Financial Aid Office. Ordinarily your Tuition Fee status will not change mid-way through the course, even if your residency changes. Where you have any queries, please contact +44 (0)115 848 4200 or <u>email</u> the admissions team or your country representative in the International Development Office.

If you are eligible to receive funding from a UK Student Finance provider as well as applying for US Financial Aid, you will be asked to provide evidence of this funding to the Financial Aid Office, as it will count as financial aid that we must include when assessing your loan eligibility.

Living Allowances

In line with the US Department of Education regulations, a standard Cost of Attendance will be offered to all eligible student when calculating loans. The Cost of Attendance offered will be the **maximum** allowance we can offer without professional judgement, based on an average student's costs to undertake a course with us.

Postgraduate courses are typically assessed over 52 weeks (excluding some Art and Design Postgraduate courses which are only 45 weeks). Your actual course length will be used in our assessment.

In line with the requirements from the US Department of Education, Nottingham Trent University is required to offer two cost of attendance models for on and off campus housing. Having reviewed the average weekly price for on and off campus accommodation, this would round to the same weekly figure, as such our on and off campus figures are identical.

Living Expenses

We are unaware of any University owned accommodation or private accommodations that are catered, as such all accommodation will be offered as self-catered.

On and Off Campus

We allow £195 per week for room, utilities and insurance, plus £60 for food and meals. Meaning a total weekly allowance of £255. Over 52 weeks, this would be £13,260.00.

Transportation

Transportation includes an allowance of £2,500.00 for two return trips from the USA to the UK. Additionally, we include an allowance for travel between your residence, campus and (if applicable) your place of work at £15.00 per week. (This should cover an annual NCT Bus pass or Robin Hood travel card). This would be an allowance of £3,280.00 over 52 weeks.

Books, Course Materials, Supplies

Where no additional costs are advised on the course materials or by the course team, an allowance of £10 per week will be included. For an Undergraduate student, this would be £390.00.

If the course information or academic team advises higher annual costs for books, printing, materials, student society membership or trips, these will be included on a course-by-course basis.

Miscellaneous Personal Expenses

For this section we would potentially include the following allowances:

General Allowance	For all students, at a rate of £45.00 per week. To cover other potential costs, e.g. clothing, homeware, bedding, entertainment, mobile phone contract, etc.
Visa Costs	Included for those joining NTU for their first year of study or anyone renewing due to change of studies. £490.00 included (the rate for applying outside the UK as of April 2024)
NHS Surcharge	Included for those joining NTU for their first year of study or anyone renewing due to change of studies. £776.00 per year, plus an additional 6-month allowance. (E.g., £1,164.00 for a 1-year Postgraduate course)
Computer Allowance	A once per course allowance of £1,000.00 (ordinarily in the first year) for laptop hardware/software costs.

Other Allowances

There are occasions in which the University **may** be able to include specific additional costs, however a student will need to notify us to allow a review of the applicable costs a student would like us to include. Potential examples of such costs are:

- Childcare costs (during contact hours), for students with dependents,
- Costs relating to a disability or ongoing long term medical/health condition.

For children, we are only allowed to include childcare costs in your Cost of Attendance (not living expenses). We ask students to provide a copy of their child's birth certificate to confirm their age (this may impact the prices being charged and the level of childcare required).

Standard Origination Fees

A percentage origination fee is charged for all loan types by the US Department of Education and the fee taken from the gross total loan, so the University can only release a net amount of loan. (The gross and net loan amounts will be advised to you once your loan has been originated).

As such, we include an estimate of the standard origination fee a student will be charged to ensure they are still eligible to receive their full Cost of Attendance.

Worked Examples

Example: One Year Postgraduate Cost of Attendance

In 2024/25, the Cost of Attendance used is £1 = \$1.35. This example is assessed over 52 weeks.

In our example, for a Postgraduate student:

- they are on a one-year course studying Digital Marketing,
- they have been awarded £3,000 in Financial Aid (scholarships),
- they require a visa and will need to pay the NHS surcharge.
- £ 20,250 Tuition Fees
- £ 13,260 Living Expenses (Housing & Food)
- £ 3,280 Transportation
- £ 520 Books, Course Materials, Supplies, etc.
- £ 4,994 Miscellaneous Personal Expenses
- £ 0 Other Allowances

- £ 42,304 Total (GBP)
- \$ 57,110 Total (\$), rounded

- \$ 1,808 Standardised Origination Fee
- \$ 58,918 Total COA, USD

Declared Financial Aid (Scholarships)

- £ 3,000 Scholarship received, GBP
- \$ 4,050 Scholarship received, USD

\$ 54,868 Total Cost of Attendance Offered

The student could borrow up to \$20,500.00 in Unsubsidized Direct Loans. Up to the remaining \$34,368.00 could be borrowed through a Graduate PLUS Loan (credit dependent) or a private loan provider.

Students may not require their full Cost of Attendance.

Example: One Year Postgraduate Cost of Attendance

In 2024/25, the Cost of Attendance used is £1 = \$1.35. This example is assessed over 52 weeks.

In our example, for a Postgraduate student:

- they are on a one-year course studying Cyberpsychology,
- they have been awarded £1,000 in Financial Aid (scholarships),
- they require a visa and will need to pay the NHS surcharge.

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£
    17,500 Tuition Fees
£
    13,260 Living Expenses (Housing & Food)
£
     3,280 Transportation
£
       520 Books, Course Materials, Supplies, etc.
£
     4,994 Miscellaneous Personal Expenses
£
         0 Other Allowances
    39,554 Total (GBP)
£
    53,398 Total ($), rounded
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1,808 Standardised Origination Fee \$

55,206 Total COA, USD

Declared Financial Aid (Scholarships)

- £ 1,000 Scholarship received, GBP
- \$ 1,350 Scholarship received, USD

53,856 Total Cost of Attendance Offered \$

The student could borrow up to \$20,500.00 in Unsubsidized Direct Loans. Up to the remaining \$33,356.00 could be borrowed through a Graduate PLUS Loan (credit dependent) or a private loan provider.

Students may not require their full Cost of Attendance.

Additional Information

- Private Loan applications will need to be completed with your preferred private loan provider (often directly through their webpages). Nottingham Trent University does not have a preferred private loan provider and will work with any lender who is willing to work with Foreign Schools. We are aware that there are limited providers who do work with Foreign Schools, so can support any student who is have difficulties identifying a provider. We have previously worked with Sallie Mae, Earnest and Juno.
- Graduate PLUS Loans are an additional application process through the Federal Student Aid website, which typically will not open until May 1, 2024.
- A Financial Aid Offer is liable to change if there is any change to a student, their course's eligibility, or the cost of attendance (such as additional scholarship awards).
 Students would be contacted in this case to notify of any such amended.

Financial Aid Office Contact Details

The Financial Aid Office can be emailed at <u>usloans@ntu.ac.uk</u>.

This email can also be used to request an appointment for a video call (we use Microsoft Teams for these calls) or telephone call. Please be aware during it can take up to 5 working days for us to respond to enquiries.

Alternatively, please telephone on +44 115 848 2521 or +44 115 848 2494. The Financial Aid Office is open during the following hours (daylights saving may affect the time in your time zone) in some cases, with prior arrangement, we may be able to offer later times, especially for those on the Pacific Coast:

United Kingdom	Mondays to Thursdays:	9.00 am – 5.00 pm.
(GMT BST)	Fridays:	9.00 am – 4.30 pm.
Eastern Coast	Mondays to Thursdays:	4.00 am – 12.00 pm.
(EST EDT)	Fridays:	4.00 am – 11.30 am.
Central Zone	Mondays to Thursdays:	3.00 am – 11.00 am.
(CST CDT)	Fridays:	3.00 am – 10.30 am.
Pacific Coast	Mondays to Thursdays:	1.00 am – 9.00 am.
(PST PDT)	Fridays:	1.00 am – 8.30 am.