

COST OF LIVING – INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Preparing your budget for the whole duration of your studies is probably the most important thing you can do before leaving home. It is vital that you make realistic financial provision as there is little chance that you will get financial support from the University or from any other source in the UK if you get into difficulty. Please do not expect to supplement your income by working part-time.

Many students receive scholarships which may seem very generous when compared to the cost of living in their own country. However, scholarships are usually calculated to assist only a single person (the student). The cost of living in Glasgow is surprisingly high. You should not rely on finding ways to supplement your income while in the UK, e.g. working.

The [International Student Calculator](#) helps international students plan and manage their money for studies in the UK.

Budget/Cost of Living

Although Glasgow is one of the least expensive cities in the UK, you may find that living here is more expensive than in your home country. It is important that you plan your budget in advance and take into consideration all expenses you may have whilst you are here as there is little financial support available if you run into difficulties. Work out your finances for the entire duration of your studies as underestimating the cost of living will cause you a great deal of stress.

If you are bringing your spouse or any dependants with you, you have to provide £680 per month living costs for each person who accompanies you. (This statutory figure, set by our Government, applies to students who study outside of London).

Whilst most international students are entitled to work part-time, do not expect to rely on these earnings to support you during your studies.

Cost of Living 2017 -2018

This estimate is based on the cost of a single room (heating and lighting included) in self-catering University accommodation.

Nine months /37 weeks
Undergraduate academic year, Postgraduate Diploma

Twelve months /50 weeks
Postgraduate academic year, taught Masters Degree, PhD

Essential Costs	per week	per 37 week session	per 50 week session
Accommodation*	£100-142	£3700-5354	£5000-7100
Food, local travel, laundry, entertainment etc.	£100	£3700	£5000
Bed sheets, towels, plates, cutlery, books and stationery, warm clothing, graduation fee etc.	-	£600	£600
TOTAL	-	£8000-9554	£10600-12700

*One or two University residences do not include the cost of heating in the cost of rent so keep this in mind.

These figures are basic averages based on costs current students have given us. When working out your budget you may need to adjust these figures - especially if you wish a more expensive lifestyle. We have not made any allowance in this estimate of costs for any travel you might undertake, or for the cost of shipping your belongings back to your own country at the end of your period of study. Further information on this can be viewed at <http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Living-in-the-UK/Going-home>

If your studies will last for more than one year you should take into account the annual increase in the UK cost of living – usually between 2-3%. Tuition fees also increase each year by a similar amount.

Note: The UK Government's statutory level of maintenance for Tier 4 students living outside of London is a minimum of £1015 per month and £680 per month for every dependant who accompanies the student.

Private rented sector accommodation

A room in a shared flat can vary between £100 and £125 per week plus your share of bills. For example it may cost £400 per year for heating.

You may also have to pay for broadband services, see Cable.co.uk for free and impartial advice, this price comparison calculator is approved and accredited by Ofcom which means when you compare prices on the site, you are always receiving impartial, up-to-date and comprehensive information.

Work during Studies

International students coming to the UK to study on a Tier 4 visa are entitled to work part-time for up to 20 hours* per week during term time, and full time during vacations. If you are a research student, you are not permitted to work full time during university vacations as you will be expected to continue with your research during vacation periods. You can work full time for the four month 'extra' period on your visa as long as you finish your study on time.

*Tier 4 students on pre-sessional courses will be limited to 10 hours per week.

Student visitors are not permitted to undertake paid or unpaid work or participate in a work placement.

EEA students have no restrictions on their work conditions.

Council Tax

The Council Tax is set by local authorities to help pay for certain services they provide. Please [click here](#) for up to date information and exemption eligibility.

Personal Finances

You should think about how you are going to get your money to the UK – having a member of your family transfer your funds to your UK bank account once it is opened is probably the safest method.