

Accommodation provided by an educational establishment

Previously, students who lived in accommodation owned by their university or college were not able to claim Housing Benefit. This has now changed and such students are able to make a claim if they fall within one of the eligible categories of students outlined earlier in this leaflet.

Part-time students renting accommodation from their educational establishment may also benefit from this change but only if they would be eligible for Housing Benefit if they were a full-time student.

You may also be able to claim if the university or college you attend rents accommodation and then sublets it to you and you are in one of the categories of eligible students who can claim.



Can student nurses claim benefit?

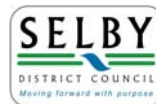
The following count as students and can apply for benefit under the same rules that apply to other students.

- Students undertaking nursing and midwifery diploma courses;
- NHS funded students undertaking degree programmes.

Students who get a bursary for nursing or midwifery diploma courses cannot get a student loan but we do take the bursary into account.

For non-diploma nursing students we count any grant and the full amount of loan income in the same way that we do for other students.

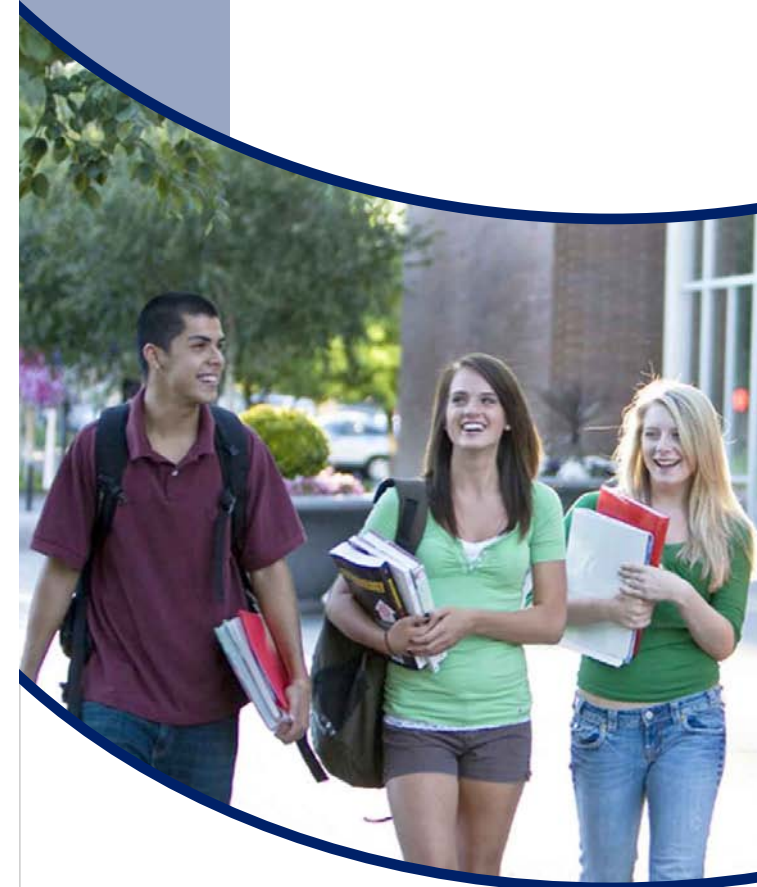
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Housing & Council Tax Benefit



Students

Leaflet also available in large print

Introduction

This guide is one of a number produced with the aim of helping customers understand Housing and Council Tax Benefit.

It is intended as a general guide. People have different circumstances so for more detailed individual advice please contact your local Council's Benefits Service.

Can you claim?

You may be entitled to help with your rent and/or Council Tax if :

- You are a part-time student
- You receive Income Support, income based Jobseeker's Allowance or income related Employment and Support Allowance
- You qualify for a disability premium
- You are registered/certified blind
- You are responsible for a child or young person (as part of a couple or on your own)
- You are aged 60 years or over
- You are aged under 19 years and undertaking a course in further education
- You are aged under 20 years and not in higher education

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- You are single and responsible for a foster child
- You receive disabled students allowance due to deafness
- You have interrupted your studies due to illness or caring responsibilities
- You have been incapable of work for 28 weeks or more

If you do not fall into one of these groups and you are the only liable person for Council Tax you may be entitled to Second Adult Rebate if there are other adults living with you. Please see our separate leaflet (No. 15) "Second Adult Rebate".

Who must make the claim?

Part-time students can claim in their own right.

If you and your partner are both eligible students either of you can claim.

If you and your partner are students but not in the eligible categories neither of you can claim.

If you are an eligible student but your partner is not a student, either of you can claim.

There are other scenarios, please contact your local Council's Benefits Service for advice.

The income we use to work out your benefit

Student grants and loans are taken into account as income.

Student loans are taken fully into account for any student who is eligible to receive one, even if they choose not to take out the loan.

There may be several other types of income to be used in the calculation, for example, child benefit, part-time earnings.

Student income disregards

A weekly income disregard of £10.00 applies to loan income.

Certain elements of grant/loan income can be disregarded.

These include :

- An amount for books/equipment
- An amount for travel
- The Childcare Package
- Hardship Fund payments
- Education Maintenance Allowance