

SUPPORT & FINANCE

STUDENT SUPPORT

Studying for a university level or professional course can, at times, be tough. At The Sheffield College we have a dedicated Student Support Team on hand to make your time with us as easy, stress-free and enjoyable as possible.

Our Student Support Team are committed to doing everything they can to help ease your problems, stresses and concerns, and are on hand with advice and guidance on a number of issues, including:

accommodation during your study

personal issues

disabled access and support

travel to and from The Sheffield College

childcare

tuition fees and personal finances



LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRES

Our Learning Resource Centres are open for loaning an ever growing collection of books, DVDs, journals, audio, visual and electronic resources (including laptops) to support you with your study. You can also access materials from home and borrow specialist equipment from your department.

UNIHEADS

Also new for 2020/21, UNIHEADS provides all students at The Sheffield College with access to proactive online mental health & well-being training.

By accessing the platform, you will develop your understanding, skills and coping mechanisms to help you to:

understand mental health and key influences for students

learn strategies to maintain good mental health

build resilience and develop emotional fitness

identify the warning signs of poor mental health

look out for and support for your friends identify and access support from college student services and our wider welfare partners

We've also teamed up with UNIHEADS to launch a Mental Health and Well-being Employer Skills Academy, to offer students experience within the health technology industry and opportunities to contribute to regional and national projects in this field.

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP FUND

Should you find yourself struggling for money during your university level course, you may be entitled to support from our Financial Hardship Fund. You can use the fund to ease any financial concerns allowing you to concentrate on your course.

Please don't think that anything is too little or too much, each application we receive will be assessed on an individual basis. During the assessment process we will require a copy of your Student Finance England entitlement, and other supporting evidence such as bank statements or details of your rent.

You are not able to use this fund to cover tuition fees but you may be eligible if you are:

a student with children, especially single parents

a mature student with existing financial commitments

from a low-income family

living with a disability

a student that was previously in care (a 'care leaver')

homeless or living in a foyer

If your application is unsuccessful, we will endeavour to point you in the direction of alternative support.

Please speak to our Admissions and Funding Team to find out more information or to submit an application by emailing admissions@sheffcol.ac.uk.

DISABLED STUDENTS' ALLOWANCES

If you have a disability that affects your ability to study, you could be eligible for Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs) to help overcome cost barriers to your education.

These disabilities could be things like a:

learning difficulty (for example dyslexia, dyspraxia or ADHD)

mental health condition (like anxiety or depression)

physical disability

long-term health condition

DSAs are awarded subject to eligibility and in addition to other student finance. You do not have to repay DSAs and how much you receive depends on your individual (not household) needs.

You will be able to use DSAs to help cover costs such as:

specialist software (for example an adapted computer or specialist software)

non-medical helpers

extra travel

other disability-related costs of studying

If you think you are eligible, it's recommended that you submit an application as soon as possible to ensure financial support is in place.

For more information and to access to the above support, please visit www.sheffcol.ac.uk/student-support/disabled-students-allowance or email admissions@sheffcol.ac.uk

FINANCING YOUR COURSE

Our tuition fees are less than traditional universities but that doesn't mean that you're not entitled to financial support. Support can be easily accessed from The Student Loans Company for any of our university level courses.



Support can be accessed for tuition fees and personal maintenance. If you apply for tuition fee support, The Student Loans Company will pay your course tuition fees directly to us removing the hassle of you having to deal with any payments.

Year:	2020/21
Course type:	Full-time
Cost:	TBC
Notes:	Please note part-time study fees are calculated individually. Please get in touch for more information.

You can also apply for a maintenance loan to help cover your living costs whilst studying, whether you stay at home or move out. How much you receive will be dependent on your household income/income of your parents.

You may also be eligible to apply for a support grant. Please see the Student Finance website for more details.

Take a look at the next page for repayment information.

Part-time courses differ slightly but for more information about all things Student Finance, eligibility and how much you may be entitled to, please visit www.gov.uk/student-finance or contact us on info@sheffcol.ac.uk

PAYING IT BACK

Paying back your tuition fees and loan might sound a bit scary, but it really isn't. Repayments work like this; you only start paying your loan back when you earn more than £25,000 a year – and that's not until the April after you finish.

Once you go over the threshold, you will pay back 9% of your income over £25,000 – not 9% of your total income.



The repayments will automatically be deducted from your wages before you'll have chance to notice, or spend it!

Oh and one last thing; if you have previously taken out a 19+ Advanced Learner Loan for a recognised Access to HE course, the balance will be written off upon completion of a full degree!

If you want to discuss your financial options with us further, please give us a call on **0114 260 2600** for more information. You can also go to **www.gov.uk/student-finance** for independent financial advice.

For more information about support at The Sheffield College, please visit **www.sheffcol.ac.uk/student-support**

You can find out more about the loans and financial options available to you by visiting the Student Finance website at **www.gov.uk/student-finance**