



ST PETER'S
COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Financial Guide for Graduates 2023-24

PLEASE NOTE:

The information in this guide is correct as at July 2023. For the latest information, for both new and returning students, please visit

www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding



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1. WHAT DOES IT COST AND HOW DO I PAY?

1.1 COURSE FEES

Your Postgraduate Course fees are determined according to the subject studied, the type of programme of study (taught course or research) and the fee status (Home or Overseas) of the student. For full details see <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/fees>. Your length of fee liability is the length of time that you have to pay tuition fees to the University. Your normal period of fee liability will usually be the same as the standard length of your course. For full details see <http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/fees/liability>.

Course fees will usually increase annually. In deciding the annual level of increase, the University and colleges will take into account a range of factors, including rises in the costs of delivering the programme and changes in government funding. You can read further information on these annual increases on the University website at www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/fees/changes-fees-and-charges.

1.1.1 Continuation charges

Once you have reached the end of the standard period of tuition fee liability you may be required to pay a termly University and / or College continuation charge.

The University continuation charge becomes payable in the term following completion of your standard period of fee liability. You can read further information on these charges on the University website here <http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/fees/liability/graduate-continuation-charge>.

The College continuation charge becomes due if your studies extend beyond four years (12 terms); for the 2023/24 academic year the continuation charge is £143 per term.

1.2 HOW DO I PAY?

As part of your offer to study at St Peter's College you will have been asked to complete a graduate financial declaration for in order to meet your financial condition of admission. The college will rely on the information in this guarantee in order to raise your invoice addressed to the correct funding body; if your funding body does not pay the invoice the College will contact you to organise or obtain payment. Your fee liability remains your responsibility until the debt has been paid.

If you are receiving the funding directly or you do not have any funding the College will raise a battels invoice for your Course fees. You will need to make arrangements to pay this fee in accordance with the payment deadlines detailed in section 1.3.

1.2.1 Payment methods

If you are liable for your Course fees the fee will appear on your battels invoice at the start of Michaelmas Term. Please see section 1.3.1 for further detail.

1.2.2 When do I need to pay by?

Course fees are payable no later than Friday of 2nd Week in Michaelmas term. For the upcoming academic year this is Friday 20th October 2023.

1.2.3 What happens if I don't pay?

If you have not paid your fees in full by **Friday 20th October 2023** and you have not made an agreement with the College to pay in instalments, you are liable for suspension from access to the premises and facilities of the University. You will be notified of your liability for suspension and from the notification date you have a further four weeks in which to pay your fees. If within that time period you do not make arrangements to pay your fees in full or in instalments, you will be suspended until such a time as your fees have been paid.

1.3 BATTELS

Battels are bills sent to college members at the start of each term, listing the charges payable to the college. Depending on your circumstances, your battels can cover accommodation and catering charges for the coming term. They can also include charges or credits for other services from the previous term and vacation, such as vacation residence, college meals, college printing charges (the MCR will cover the first £50 of charges incurred during the academic year) and other small charges. The first battels of the academic year is sent in Michaelmas Term and may also include course fees if you are liable to pay these.

1.3.1 How am I invoiced and how do I pay?

You will receive your battels invoice in your college email account by the Friday of 0th week of each term and you will have two weeks from the invoice date to pay, so the deadline for payment is usually Friday of 2nd week, 20th October 2023.

Payments to the College should preferably be made by bank transfer. All payments made should include your 5 letter account code which is shown on your invoice.

College Bank Account Details for Bank Transfers

Bank:	HSBC
Branch:	65 Cornmarket Street, Oxford OX1 3HY
Account Number:	50724823
Sort code:	40-35-34
Account name:	St Peter's College
<i>Additional information that may be needed for international payments:</i>	
IBAN number:	GB18HBUK40353450724823
BIC number :	HBUKGB4108P

Cheque payments

The College's preferred method of payment is by bank transfer. In exceptional circumstances we will accept cheques. Cheques should be made payable to "St Peter's College" and forwarded to the Finance Office.

There is no transaction charge for processing UK cheques. However, if a cheque payment bounces the charge for this will be passed on to you, this is usually around £4.

Card payments

We accept most major types of credit or debit cards, except American Express. To pay by card you can visit the Finance Office during our opening hours.

The Finance Office opening hours are Monday to Friday 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm (closed on bank holidays).

Cash

We do not accept payment of Battels by cash.

International Bank Transfer

We have partnered with foreign exchange company *Transfer mate* to allow international students to make payments by sending secure bank transfers in their own local currency. Please use your student account number, which can be found on your college invoice, as the reference for your payment.

Transferrate Process

The portal for St Peter's College can be found here <https://spc.paytostudy.com/>

1. Complete the Payment Registration process.
2. *Transferrate* will provide you with an instant quotation for your payment in your local currency. This quotation is guaranteed for 48 hours only.
3. Enter your personal details under the Student Details section and complete the payer details.
4. Once you agree to the offer, you should then instruct your bank to transfer funds in your local currency to *Transferrate* This bank instruction can be done electronically, while you are on the *Transferrate* site.
5. *Transfer mate* will then forward a payment in UK Sterling to College and send you a receipt as proof of payment.

1.3.2 What happens if I don't pay?

Students are responsible for ensuring they pay their bills on or before the due date. If for any reason you are unable to pay your battels in full on time you must contact the Student Finance Officer **in advance of the deadline**. More often than not the College can be understanding in such cases and arrangements can usually be made to accommodate delayed payments

Cases of non-payment resulting from genuine hardship or welfare matters will be dealt with on an individual basis and may be referred on to the Tutor/Dean for Welfare.

If payment or explanation is not received by the due date a reminder statement will be sent to the student.

If you are in College-provided accommodation, the College will charge interest on the amount outstanding if the rent has not been paid within 14 days of the payment date. Interest will be charged at 3% per annum above the base rate of the Bank of England in line with clause 1.11 in the tenancy agreement. Once the debt is overdue by 21 days or more the College may terminate the tenancy in line with clause 4.2 of the tenancy agreement.

Students with outstanding debts owed to the College cannot expect assistance from the College in dealing with third parties (e.g. providing references for landlords and banks etc).

The College advises finalists to pay their battels promptly in their final term as debts of over £100 will continue to be chased throughout the term.

The College may pursue any outstanding debts through our debt collection agency and the Small Claims court.

If a student has to intermit or temporarily withdraw from their course they must clear all debts to the College before they leave. No student will be allowed to return to their course after intermitting if they have outstanding debts to the College.

If continuing students are in credit on their battels, College policy is that this will be used against the following term's battels. On leaving the College if you are still in credit and are due a refund, please ensure that you have provided the College with your bank account details to enable the College to make this payment, otherwise the credit will expire 6 months after leaving the College.

If a student undertakes work for the College (see section 5.3) and they have outstanding battels, this payment may be allocated against the debt to the College.

2. WHAT FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE TO HELP FUND MY STUDIES?

2.1 GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Masters Loans

The UK government launched a new loans scheme for full-time and part-time master's courses from 2016/17 entry. Further information can be found at <http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/loans/masters-loans>.

Doctoral Loans

The English and Welsh governments have introduced a new loans scheme for doctoral courses from 2018/19 entry. Further information can be found at <http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/loans/doctoral-loans>.

US loans

If you are a US citizen, you may be able to take out a loan to meet your costs of study. US loans are administered centrally by the US Loans team. The University of Oxford is eligible to certify loan applications for the Direct Loan Program.

Further information for graduates:

US loans - www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/usloans

If you have further enquiries about the application process, the administration of loans, or any loan you have taken out, please contact us.loans@admin.ox.ac.uk

Other loans

Information on other education-specific loan schemes available to graduate students at Oxford can be found at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/loans/other-loans?wssl=1>.

2.2 UNIVERSITY FUNDS

Across the University there are scholarships and other funding available both on application and after you start your course; further detail can be found in the University's Graduate fees, funding & scholarship search which is available here <http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/search/graduate>.

2.3 COLLEGE FUNDS

College funds range from scholarships through to travel awards. Information about the range of support available can be found on the College's website.

3. TARGETED FUNDING AND EXTRA SUPPORT

3.1 STUDENTS WITH CHILDREN OR DEPENDANTS

If you have dependants (a partner or child) or live with other family members, you will need to take into consideration the increased costs of childcare provision, food, clothing etc. More information and advice is available from the living costs page at www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding/living-costs. A number of additional sources of childcare funding are available, for further details visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare/feesandfunding.

3.2 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities should contact the University's Disability Advisory Service for information on any funding available. Contact details and more information about the provisions and facilities for students with disabilities can be found on the University website at www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/disability/needs.

New students with disabilities are urged to contact the Disability Advisory Service as soon as possible (and can do this before arriving in Oxford).

4. WHAT HAPPENS IF...

4.1 ...I EXPERIENCE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES?

There are resources available to help students who experience financial difficulties, and the colleges and the University are sympathetic to the increasing costs that everyone faces. However, there are some basic rules that apply to all students:

UK	If you are a UK student, are you in receipt of everything that is available to you through your funding body?
OVERSEAS	If you are an Overseas student, did you ensure that you would have sufficient funds to cover all costs before you came to Oxford?

These sorts of questions will be asked before you can apply for further assistance from the College or the University.

If you would like to discuss your application for any of these funds, or you wish to discuss your financial situation in general, you can contact the Student Finance Officer, Katie Pullen-Rowland (Katie.pullen-rowland@spc.ox.ac.uk).

The hardship funding available from the University is dependent on fee status (including residency) and additional eligibility criteria.

There is an online application form and accompanying guidance notes which can be obtained from the Student Finance Officer. You will need to submit your application online and provide various supporting documentation. You will then be assessed as set out in 4.1.2 below.

Please note that there is no longer a dedicated hardship fund to assist students whose finances have been impacted by the pandemic. Students should therefore apply to the main central hardship funds via their college hardship officer and their application will be assessed for central support, according to their fee status as described below.

If you have enquiries about central hardship funds please contact student.funding@admin.ox.ac.uk.

4.1.2 FOR STUDENTS OF HOME AND OVERSEAS STATUS

Enrolled students who are experiencing **unforeseen financial difficulties** due to circumstances which could not have been predicted at the start of their course, or whose financial situation continues to be exceptionally impacted by the pandemic are eligible to be assessed for support by the University Hardship Committee. The maximum award is £8,000 and awards of this level are usually a combination of a grant and a loan.

How is my application assessed?

Applications for 2023/24 will be accepted from **Monday 2nd October 2023 (MT0)** until **Friday 26th April 2024 (TT1)** for **Overseas student applications** and **14th June 2024**

(TT8) for Home student applications and will be referred to the relevant University Hardship Committee termly meeting accordingly. The committee considers a gathered field of applications once a term.

It is possible, in urgent cases, for the Chair to consider applications between meetings. This must be requested when the application is submitted and is subject to the availability of staff and the Chair.

4.1.3 Other University funding schemes

Details of other University funding schemes may be found on the University's student website at www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding.

4.1.4 College Hardship Funds

Information and advice on all hardship funds available from the College and elsewhere is available from the Student Finance Officer, Mrs Katie Pullen-Rowland (tel. (2)78936), email katie.pullen-rowland@spc.ox.ac.uk.

Her office is located in the Finance Office on Staircase 3 and she is available Monday to Thursday 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm. Appointments outside of these times can be arranged in exceptional circumstances.

4.2 ...SUSPEND MY STUDIES OR WITHDRAW?

If you are in receipt of a US Federal loan you must inform the funding team as soon as you know you are leaving us.loans@admin.ox.ac.uk.

If you are in receipt of a Masters or Doctorate loan from Student Finance England, you must inform them as soon as you are leaving by calling or updating your account online.

4.3 ...LIVE OUT IN PRIVATELY RENTED ACCOMMODATION?

If you live out of college in privately rented accommodation for any period of time during your course, there are a number of financial points that you need to budget for.

4.3.1 Securing a house for the year

There are often costs associated with living out. These usually include application fees, a deposit and some agencies will require that the first month's rent is paid before you receive keys to the property. Make sure you check these costs with the agency or landlord before committing to anything.

If you have friends who have lived out they may be able to recommend agencies. For more advice about living out you can contact the Oxford SU Student Advice Service, who publish a *Living Out* Guide alongside giving advice. You can email advice@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk or visit www.oxfordsu.org/get-involved/resources/living-out/.

4.3.2 Budgeting for extra costs

When you live in college accommodation the cost usually covers necessities such as water, gas and electricity. When you live out you will need to make sure you have budgeted for these extra costs as the rent won't usually include bills.

There are a number of bill sharing websites and apps that can be helpful in making sure bills are split equally amongst your housemates. If you can talk to the previous tenants they may be able to give you a more accurate idea of how much bills tend to cost per month.

4.3.4 Council Tax

Full-time students are exempt from paying Council Tax and must apply for an exemption on the Oxford City Council webpage:

[Apply for a student Council Tax exemption | Student Council Tax exemption | Oxford City Council](#)

If you live with non-students or part-time students then the household will be liable for Council Tax but this may be at a reduced rate.

5. MONEY MANAGEMENT

5.1 BUDGETING

You should have your basic funding in place at the beginning of each term and the income you receive usually remains the same throughout your time at Oxford.

Planning a realistic budget, and sticking to it, will usually ensure your incoming funding can cover your essential outgoings. The following pages offer some suggestions for keeping your finances under control.

Students who would like to discuss budgeting and debt management can make an appointment with the Student Finance Officer.

5.1.1 Ways to manage your money

- Pay all bills at the start of term, then work out how much money is remaining and divide it between the weeks until your next payment. If you can afford to set some aside you should.
- If you receive funds monthly, set up all your bills to be paid by standing order or direct debit. This should include your credit card if you have one, your mobile phone, and any other regular outgoings. Calculate how much remains for each month.
- If you live out, work out how much you will need for essential bills until your next loan instalment and put that much aside, ideally in a separate account, to avoid spending it.
- A lot of banking apps now offer the option to put your money into different 'pots', which can be a helpful way to define how much you have available to spend on different costs, or to keep some money back for future use.
- Once you have worked out your budget, find a method that suits you best to ensure you do not overspend:
 - Downloading a banking app or checking your bank balance online are good ways to regularly keep check of your finances.
 - Get into the habit of checking your balance if you withdraw money from an ATM or make an online purchase, so you know how much you have left to spend.
 - Saving your debit or credit card information on your web browser can make it very easy to spend money online, so you could consider not auto-saving these details when the option is given. Having to pause to input your card information each time you spend will give you extra time to consider whether a purchase is really necessary.
 - Try not to make impulsive purchases based on targeted adverts online or on social media. Wait until the next day and see if the item still seems essential before buying.
 - Oxford has some great charity shops and markets, where you can often find second-hand clothes and other items for much lower prices than if they were brand new. As a bonus, buying used items is also more sustainable.
- Do not use a credit card if you can't pay it back at the end of each month. Failure to pay card bills of this sort will impact your credit rating and may affect you in the future. Don't get cash out on a credit card as this is one of the most expensive forms of credit and you will be charged interest from the point of withdrawal.

- Use buy-now-pay-later credit options with caution. If you can't afford to pay for something now, will you really be able to afford it next month?
- If you do not have a regular income, think about switching your mobile phone to a pay-as-you-go contract. If you pay monthly, check you have the best contract for your needs; it's worth phoning your provider to discuss this as they sometimes offer better deals if you're thinking of cancelling your contract.
- Don't eat out if you cannot afford it; suggest a meal with friends at home or in college instead.
- Avoid lending or borrowing money from friends.
- Get a vacation job - visit the Careers Service; www.careers.ox.ac.uk and find paid employment in the Long Vacation.

Be realistic about your expenditure, and be honest with yourself about what you are spending and why.

5.2 STUDENT BANK ACCOUNTS

If you have not already done so, it is worth looking into opening a student bank account. Although many banks try to tempt students with special offers, these are not the only factors to consider when choosing an account. You may want to think about the following points:

- What is the overdraft facility? This should be interest and charge free. Consider how much is available in each year of your course and when you are expected to pay it back.
- Does it have a branch in Oxford? Bank branches in university cities tend to have Student Advisers with whom you can discuss budgeting and overdraft needs.
- What happens when you finish your course? Several banks provide a graduate account for a number of years after graduation, which allows you longer to pay back any overdraft you have incurred.

App-based accounts may offer faster account set-ups and cheaper international fund transfers, and often offer useful features such as the ability to transfer money between 'pots', or to transfer money to your friends using a phone number. However, not having a physical bank to visit can present other challenges, such as limits on the number of free ATM transactions that can be made in a month. Make sure you research these thoroughly before choosing one, and you may still find it useful to have a more traditional bank account in addition to an app.

5.3 EMPLOYMENT AND TAX

During term time you will have very little time for even a part-time job, although there may be opportunities for you to do a limited amount of paid work within the College.

These opportunities include but are not limited to

- working in the College bar throughout term
- being involved in the annual development telethon
- helping with the Library stock check

- undertaking the role of Chapel Clerk

As a graduate student there may also be the opportunity to undertake teaching.

If you wish to work for the College, before undertaking the work, you will need to provide evidence of your right to work in the UK to the Human Resources Manager; he will also ask you to complete a casual employee starter form and HMRC starter checklist. You will also need to provide a valid UK National Insurance number. If you do not have a National Insurance number details of how to apply and further information can be found at <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/ni/intro/number.htm>

The University Careers Service has plenty of information about available opportunities; visit www.careers.ox.ac.uk for further details.

For information about how students are taxed when working in the holidays, please visit www.gov.uk/student-jobs-paying-tax.

5.4 STUDENT DISCOUNTS

Many businesses offer discounts to students, so it's worth checking before paying for goods to make your money stretch a little further.

Many local stores will accept your University Card, however some high street chains might require an NUS Totum Card. These can be purchased via www.totum.com. There are also a number of websites you can register with for access to online student discounts such as www.myunidays.com and www.studentbeans.com.

5.5 PAPERWORK

It is important to keep hold of paperwork relating to your finances as you may need it later. You may prefer to keep digital copies as these can be easily accessed when you are at Oxford or at home. If you apply for hardship you will be required to provide copies of these documents.

We would particularly advise keeping records of the following:

- Loan confirmation paperwork
- Scholarship and award letters
- Notification of financial assistance payments
- Tenancy agreement and inventory (if you're living out)
- Battels statements and invoices

6. USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

There are many people throughout the University who are available to provide financial advice and guidance to students.

COLLEGE RESOURCES

Student Finance Officer (first point of contact for any Finance queries in the College): [Katie Pullen-Rowland
katie.pullen-rowland@spc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:katie.pullen-rowland@spc.ox.ac.uk)

Bursar: bursar@spc.ox.ac.uk
College Accountant: kathryn.marshall@spc.ox.ac.uk
Welfare Team: Please see the College website

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

Student Fees and Funding www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding
Fee enquiries: student.fees@admin.ox.ac.uk
US loan enquiries: us.loans@admin.ox.ac.uk

OXFORD UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION RESOURCES

Vice-President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) vpweo@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk
Vice-President (Access and Academic Affairs) vpaccaff@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk

USEFUL EXTERNAL WEBSITES

www.gov.uk/student-finance www.ucas.com/money
www.studentfinancenl.co.uk www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/
www.saas.gov.uk www.brightknowledge.org/money-housing
www.studentfinancewales.co.uk www.totum.com
www.hmrc.gov.uk/students

The information in this guide is intended for students commencing their studies in 2023/24 and is correct as at June 2023. For the latest information, for both new and returning students, please visit www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding.