Eligibility criteria for OUSET funding

March 2017

The Trust will consider applications:-

- from students who have already successfully completed 30 credits of study with the Open University
- from Open University Research Degree Students in their write up period (fourth year for full-time students and seventh year for part-time students) who are still eligible for a proportion of their tuition fee
- from students who have already commenced their OU studies but through financial hardship now find it difficult to complete their study for the chosen qualification
- normally grants up to 90% of the applicable rate
- from post-graduate students who are graduates of The Open University and who will normally have completed their first (Bachelors) degree within the last 5 years
- in respect of modules which form a component of a specific qualification which the student is intending to achieve
- for assistance with costs which relate directly to OU study e.g. module fees, travel and child or dependent care costs associated with tutorials/residential schools, set books, toward the purchase, repair or maintenance of essential IT equipment

The Trust will not consider applications:-

- from students new to the Open University
- for individual modules and modules which form a component of a specific qualification which the student is intending to achieve that is not valid in the country where the qualification will be used
- from any undergraduate or postgraduate student who is eligible for a loan from the Student Loan Company, or any National funding sources outside of England and has chosen not to take this option, or is currently in receipt of a student loan
- from any student who has not first checked whether or not they have an entitlement to financial assistance from the University (including OUSBA and Study Support Fund)
- for grants in respect of completed modules and never to clear a debt when the student has finished the modules concerned
- for general cost of living expenses e.g. heating, lighting, rent, council tax, landline, internet connection
- for purchase of a PC or similar equipment by students in their first or final year of study for a qualification unless there are exceptional circumstances
- for purchase of a replacement PC or similar equipment that was lost, stolen or broken without the details of a crime reference number/police report or a letter from the insurance provider stating that the claim had been declined.
- from students who already have a first (Bachelors) degree and wish to continue studying at undergraduate level other than those continuing for honours or whose degree is more than 10 years old unless under exceptional circumstances.
- from post-graduate students who already have a higher degree
- from students already studying at higher education level with another institution.
- from students who are in full time education below their statutory school leaving age
- from students who have failed two consecutive modules
- from students who have withdrawn on two consecutive occasions after OUSET has committed money for these modules
- from students learning with external institutions affiliated to or validated by the Open University