Blended Learning Nursing Degree Fees and Funding

The Open University BSc (Hons) Nursing (Adult) Blended Learning degree, offered in partnership with Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (OUH) has been confirmed by the Department for Education, Health Education England as an ‘in attendance’ course, meaning that it attracts the full student support package.

What support is available?

Tuition Fee Loans

For many people, a Tuition Fee Loan is the best way to fund study, regardless of age or income. Tuition Fee Loans are provided by Student Finance England and are the most popular payment method for undergraduate students.

Tuition Fee Loans in a nutshell

- Nothing at all to pay up front and nothing to pay for up to four years.
- Repayments are based on what you earn, not what you owe, and are deducted automatically by your employer through the UK tax system.
- You only start making repayments when your salary exceeds the income threshold.
- Interest is applied to your balance at the Retail Price Index (RPI), once the University confirms that you are participating on your qualification.
- You’re not committed to borrowing the cost of a full degree – you only borrow what you need to cover the coming year’s fees.
- You can pay a Tuition Fee Loan off early if you want to.
- After 40 years, any remaining balance you owe is written off, no matter how much is left.
- If you already hold a degree, you are still able to access a tuition fee loan for a nursing qualification under a relaxation of rules for certain subject areas regarding previous study.
- Eligibility

For further information on Full Time Loans and to review the eligibility criteria please go to: Student finance:  https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/student-finance-how-youre-assessed-and-paid/student-finance-how-youre-assessed-and-paid-2023-to-2024

Our Student Recruitment Team can answer any queries you may have. They are available by phone on 0300 303 5303.

Applying for your loan

As a student on the BSc (Hons) Nursing Blended Learning degree, which is unlike other Open University qualifications, you will need to apply for a Full-Time Loan of £9,250 per year, rather than the Part Time Tuition Fee Loan that Open University students usually use to fund their study. Applications for Full-Time Loans usually open in February each year and can take up to 10 weeks to process so it is essential that you apply as early as possible. You will need to apply online through https://www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance and may need to have details at hand to help them verify your identity, such as your passport number. You will need to provide proof that your loan has been approved before we can register you, should you be accepted onto the programme.
Tuition Fee Loans are administered under ‘Seasonal Academic Years’ – where the standard academic year is adjusted depending on when your modules start in your first year. This means you will only be required to apply for a loan three times, for each of the three parts of the programme.

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**Selecting your course on the SLC database**

When you make your application on the Student Finance England website, you will be asked to select your qualification. It is crucial that you select the correct version of your course with the start date that applies to you. You can enter the relevant code for your course listed below into the search box, then choose the correct one from the drop-down list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SLC Course Name</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>SLC Course Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSc (Honours) Nursing (Adult) in partnership with Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (OUH)</td>
<td>Feb 2024</td>
<td>SLC course code: 981419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSc (Honours) Nursing (Children and Young People) in partnership with Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (OUH)</td>
<td>Feb 2024</td>
<td>SLC course code: 981415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Full Time UG Tuition Fee Loan applications for the 2023-24 academic year are now open.

**Maintenance Loan for living costs**

You may also request additional support towards your living costs through a maintenance loan from SLC. You may be asked to submit details of your household income as part of your application and awards will vary according to your personal circumstances. You will have to repay this loan.

Further information on the support that may be available to you from SLC can be found at [https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/new-fulltime-students](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/new-fulltime-students)

**NHS Learning Support Fund**

The NHS Learning Support fund provides additional funding for eligible healthcare students. The support available for eligible students includes Training Grant, Parental Support and Travel and Dual Accommodation Travel Expenses (TDAE).

For further information about the support and eligibility criteria for the different funds and to apply, please visit: [https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-learning-support-fund-lsf](https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-learning-support-fund-lsf)

You must apply for these funds within six months of the start of the academic year. Applications for the 2023/24 year are now open.
Payment for this support is made in three instalments over the academic year. You must be in attendance on your course to receive these payments and the OU must notify NHSBSA that you are in attendance before the payments can be released to you.

If you course starts in February 2024, you must be in attendance on your course on 1st March 2024 for us to notify NHSBSA that you are attending the course.

Payment dates for the Learning Support Fund differ depending on the date that your Academic Year commences.

For courses starting in February 2024, guide payment dates are as follows:

Payment 1 – Late March 2024

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Payment 2 – Late July 2024
Payment 3 – Late November 2024

If you withdraw from your course, you must inform SFE, NHSBSA and the Open University as soon as possible in order that any relevant / outstanding support payments are stopped to avoid you being in an overpayment position with SFE and/or NHSBSA.