

Edge Hill University

Social Work Bursary 2025/26

The University has a limited (or capped) number of Social Work Bursaries paid by NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). The number of bursaries varies from year to year and differs for undergraduate and postgraduate study. Being offered a place on or registered on an eligible programme does not guarantee that you will receive a bursary.

Bursaries are non-repayable and awarded as a contribution towards your living expenses whilst on course. They are paid in three instalments, one each term to your nominated bank/building society account. Information, eligibility criteria, financial value and application process for the bursaries is available on the [NHSBSA website](#).

The University nominates students for an undergraduate or postgraduate bursary in line with the criteria outlined below. Students who are sponsored by their employer or other organisation, or who do not meet other external criteria will not be considered for a bursary.

All students **must** apply for the bursary to receive any funding. Application through MyFunding is available from the [NHSBSA website](#), normally from May onwards. Please look out for social media messages to let you know when you may start your application and remember, you will need to reapply for your bursary each academic year.

After you have completed the enrolment process in full to have a 'registered' status, the University will confirm your attendance to the NHSBSA, when requested to do so, which will trigger payment of your bursary.

Placement Travel Allowance (PTA)

PTA is a fixed contribution towards placement costs. The current rate is £862.50 for each academic year of study. Eligible students who do not receive a bursary can still apply for a PTA. NHSBSA will pay your PTA in one single payment once you have completed the enrolment process in full and the University has confirmed your attendance. For students who are in receipt of a Social Work Bursary, PTA is automatically included.

BA (Hons) Social Work

The undergraduate social work bursary may be awarded to students during the second and third year of their course only. It is not available for first year study.

Tuition Fee

The tuition fee for 2025/26 is £9,535. Your fee may increase each year of study in line with Government announcements.

Student Finance

Subject to previous study, undergraduate social work students may apply to [Student Finance](#) for a maintenance loan and tuition fee loan. Current guidance from SLC stipulates that the course is not recognised as an 'exception'. This means that students who already hold a degree may access an additional maintenance loan, but not a tuition fee loan and must make personal arrangement for payment of the fee. Students are strongly advised to contact Student Finance to clarify their eligibility under this arrangement.

Nomination Criteria

The department considers a range of criteria when nominating students for one of the bursaries:

1. first-time pass grade in all elements of all year 1 modules;
2. first-time completion of Assessed Readiness for Direct Practice (ARDP);
3. completion and submission of year 1 Personal and Professional Development Plan (PPDP);
4. adherence to all aspects of British Association of Social Workers (BASW) Professional Capabilities Framework and Social Work England guidance in respect of professional standards for social workers in England (2019).

In addition to the above criteria, the following is also applied, where relevant and necessary, in order to ensure fair allocation:

5. highest ranked average grades across all year 1 modules (up to the number of available bursaries);
6. evidence of a clear commitment to social work values and professional conduct as evidenced by, for example: excellent attendance and timekeeping, effective contributions to class-based and other work and positive engagement with all aspects of the programme;
7. current/ongoing/recent experience of the sector e.g. work related, or user/carer experience/have other work/life experience related to the sector or likely to be of value to the sector.

In August 2025, following the Progression Board, the Faculty of Health, Social Care and Medicine consider end of year results for first year students and propose nominations for the bursary based upon the number of capped places available. If you are nominated for a bursary, you will receive email confirmation from the University.

The bursary is made available for your second and third year of study, subject to progressing without interruption/additional registration for reassessment purposes and also meeting the eligibility criteria.

MA Social Work

The postgraduate social work bursary is available to nominated students starting their course in September 2025.

All students **must** apply for the bursary to receive any funding. If you have been nominated by the University for a postgraduate social work bursary, and choose not to accept, you will not qualify for a Postgraduate Master's Loan. If an application for Student Finance is made, the University will not be able to confirm your registration in accordance with their guidance.

To meet with capped numbers, the University follows DHSC guidance to allocate the postgraduate bursary on a first come first served basis, based upon the date of acceptance of our offer of a place.

Students will be nominated by the University in August 2025. If you are nominated, once the application has been approved you will receive email communication from the University and invited to accept the bursary. The University will not contact those who haven't been nominated.

The bursary is payable from your first year of study onwards.

Tuition Fee

The tuition fee for students commencing study in 2025/26 is £9,250 in year 1 and £9,250 in year 2.

What is the Postgraduate Tuition Fee Contribution?

In 2025/26 students in receipt of a postgraduate bursary will also receive a **£4,052** contribution towards their tuition fee, normally for each year of study. This is paid direct to the University.

There will be a shortfall of **£5,198 for both years** between the bursary contribution and the tuition fee. You will be expected to pay this at enrolment or set up a recurring card payment plan, please contact FHSCMfees@edgehill.ac.uk for further details.

Will I qualify for the Postgraduate Master's Loan?

Under Student Finance eligibility criteria, you will **not** qualify for the Postgraduate Master's Loan. The University will not confirm your registration following enrolment if an application has been made.

Will I qualify for the Progress to Postgraduate Award?

If you are in receipt of the postgraduate bursary, you will **not** qualify for the Progress to Postgraduate Award and will be required to pay the standard published fee for the

programme for each year. This also applies if you are successful in being awarded a bursary during a second allocation process which may occur in the Autumn term.

What happens if I am not allocated a Bursary?

The number of bursaries is limited. Postgraduate students who do not receive the Social Work Bursary may be entitled to apply for a [Postgraduate Master's Loan](#) via Student Finance.

The University will maintain a list of all eligible students who have not been nominated for a bursary (in date order of acceptance of the offer of a place). If the NHSBSA offers a second allocation process, and the University is successfully allocated additional bursaries, those students may be considered for an additional bursary. Please note there is no guarantee that additional bursaries will become available during this process, and you should not rely on this to fund your studies.

If you are allocated one of the additional bursaries:

- future payments of your Student Finance Postgraduate Master's Loan will be cancelled by the University
- you will be required to repay all maintenance loan payments received under your existing repayment arrangements
- your tuition fee payment plan will be adjusted.

Further information

Please email as follows:

Course related questions – AskAHSC@edgehill.ac.uk

Tuition fee and Bursaries queries – FHSCMfees@edgehill.ac.uk

Money Advice (financial advice) - moneyadvice@edgehill.ac.uk .

Social Work Department, Faculty of Health, Social Care & Medicine and Academic Registry

June 2025