

Data Protection Statement

Important: Please read the following before providing information/evidence in support of an application

This statement sets out who will use the information you have provided in connection with the applicant's application for student finance and what they will use it for.

The information which you give will be used to process student finance applications for persons dependent on you. The Department for the Economy has made arrangements for certain functions relating to student finance applications to be exercised by the Education Authority (EA). Student Loans Company (SLC) also carries out certain functions on its behalf.

The applicant's EA will need the information provided in connection with the application to determine whether applicants dependent on you are eligible for student finance and to assess the maximum amount of financial support they are entitled to. The EA is the data controller for this information. The EA will need to keep personal information about you, your partner and your relatives so that it can audit its assessment of financial support. If you would like to see your information please contact the applicant's EA.

The applicant's EA and SLC will have shared access to account information to provide customer services to you and to respond to your questions and update information on your account.

SLC will need information provided in connection with the applicant's application to handle payments, as appropriate and is the data controller for this information. SLC will have to keep personal information about you for this purpose. The Department for the Economy is also a data controller for this information as it is responsible for it by law. However, if you want to see this information please contact SLC.

SLC may also use your information to maintain or develop its systems.

The applicant's university or college may ask for financial information that you provide in connection with the applicant's application for student finance for bursary administration purposes from SLC, the applicant's EA or the Department for the Economy. This information will only be shared where you have consented for the information being shared for bursary administration purposes.

In this instance, the university or college will be the data controller of the information and will use it to assess eligibility and make payment of any bursary or scholarship to which the applicant may be entitled. If you would like to see this information please contact the applicant's university or college.

The Department for the Economy may use the information you have provided to monitor the performance of the student finance system and to develop future policy. Any published output from this statistical work will be anonymous and will not identify individuals.

The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) which carries out certain functions on behalf of HEFCE may, in carrying out HEFCE's statutory functions relating to the funding of education, use the information provided for statistical analysis. HESA and HEFCE will not identify individuals in any published results.

By law, the EA, SLC and your university or college must protect the public funds they handle and may use the information you have provided to detect and prevent fraud. They may also share the information, for the same purposes, with other organisations which handle public funds.