

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 Secretary of State for Business, Innovation, and Skills has transferred certain functions relating to student finance applications to the Student Loans Company (SLC) and certain functions to Local Authorities (LA's).

This Data Protection Statement applies generally to all sponsors of applicants.

In the 2007/08 academic year changes were made to the processing of student finance applications. As a result of these changes functions formerly carried out by certain LA's were transferred to SLC. The following LA's were affected from the 2007/08 academic year onwards:-

- London Borough of Brent
- Darlington Borough Council
- London Borough of Hackney
- Hartlepool Borough Council
- North Yorkshire County Council
- Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
- Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
- South Tyneside Council
- London Borough of Southwark
- Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
- York City Council

If the applicant is a returning student in the third year of their course or later and their LA is not listed above their student finance application will continue to be dealt with by their LA. The LA 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 LA is the data controller for this information. The LA 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 your LA.

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

If the applicant is a new student from any LA area, a returning student in the second year of their course or is a returning student in the third year of their course or later whose LA is listed above then their application for student finance will be dealt with by SLC and not their LA. SLC will use the information provided in connection with the application to determine whether applicants dependent on you are eligible for student finance and assess the maximum amount of financial support they are entitled to. SLC is the data controller for this information. By law, SLC, the LA's and the applicant's university or college must protect the public funds they handle and may use the information you have provided to detect and prevent fraud. SLC may also share the information with other Government bodies such as HMRC, DWP and IPS and may contact your employer to verify its accuracy and to prevent and detect fraud. We may also share the information with other bodies, such as third parties with whom we have contracted to carry out ID and Income checks, for this purpose, and with HM Revenue & Customs to check declared income levels. If false or inaccurate information is provided and fraud is identified, details will be passed to fraud prevention and law enforcement agencies to prevent fraud and money laundering.

SLC will have access to your personal data in order to provide customer services to you and to respond to your questions.

SLC will need to keep personal information about you, your partner and your relatives so that it can audit its assessment of financial support.

In all cases, SLC will need information provided in connection with your 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. BIS 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.

The Secretary of State for Business, Innovation, and Skills is also a data controller for all of this information as he is responsible for it by law. However, if you would like to see your information please contact SLC or the LA as appropriate.

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

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 or the Secretary of State. ***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 Business, Innovation, and Skills (BIS) may use the information you have provided to monitor the performance of the student finance system and to develop future policies or initiatives. 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.