

Your Responsibilities

Please remember your responsibilities are:

1. Use your loan for educational purposes
2. Inform your Department and Student Services if you withdraw or interrupt your studies
3. Tell your lender of address changes
4. Tell your lender about course changes
5. Tell your lender about any other changes
6. Open and read your student loan mail
7. Complete exit counselling at the end of your programme of study

As with Schools in the US, all loan disbursements must be in multiple equal disbursements based on the number of terms.

For an undergraduate student you will receive your loan funds in two instalments, one at the start of term i.e. October and once mid-point through the year i.e. mid-February.

If you are a postgraduate PhD student you would receive your first disbursement in October and your second disbursement in March.

As a Masters student you receive your disbursements in three equal payments, October, January and May.

You will be sent an e-mail once each of your disbursements has been received by the University.

Once a sterling balance appears on your University account the money will be posted against your tuition fees. Any credit will be refunded to you or alternatively, if you request in writing, can be applied to further reduce tuition fee costs.

It is up to you to determine how you wish to use any further loans you have applied for however please remember that in accordance with the terms and conditions of your loan the money must be used to fund your education.

The University has a responsibility to report to the US Department of Education that you are in attendance at the University and you are making satisfactory academic progress (SAP). This has to be completed prior to future disbursement of funds. Prior to your second disbursement we will be contacting your academic school/supervisor for progress reports to ensure that you have progressed to meet criteria set out in University Policy in relation to satisfactory attendance and progress. Details of attendance requirements will be available in your School handbook and in the University's Attendance and Engagement Policy <https://www.bangor.ac.uk/ar/main/student-attendance.php.en>

Failure to meet satisfactory progress could result in your loans being suspended until your progress has reached the standard set out by the University.

You will not have immediate access to your loan funds when you arrive in the UK therefore you will need to prepare for this by bringing sufficient money with you to cover your **first 4 - 5 weeks' expenses**.

Registration

Please be aware that to be able to fully register and obtain your student identification card you need to be able to cover at least your first payment of tuition fees. If you are in receipt of a US loan your payment options are to pay in two instalments (PhD and Undergraduate Students) or three instalments for postgraduate Master's students.

Deferments

You have the right to defer your previous loans while still in School. Obtain a deferment form from your lender and bring to the Academic Registry for the attention of the US Loans Adviser who will complete on your behalf.

Withdrawals, Interruptions, Refunds

Withdrawal and the Return of FFELP Loans Funds. If you withdraw or fail to attend your programme, you are required to inform your School and the US Loans Adviser in the Academic Registry and your Guaranty Agency/Lender no later than five working days after withdrawal. Any 'unspent' part of your loan has to be immediately repaid by you. The 'spent' part of the loan has to be repaid according to your repayment terms.

Students who withdraw from their programme of study are required to inform the University in writing. Full details about withdrawal requirements are detailed on the University's Student Services website at: <https://www.bangor.ac.uk/student-services/leaving/index.php.en> . Failure to attend after enrolment is deemed to be a withdrawal. Any "unearned" loan funds disbursed to you must be returned. **William D Ford Federal Direct Loan students who withdraw from their course of study are not eligible for the refund of tuition.**

If you interrupt your studies you must provide documentary evidence from your School that this has been agreed. You will not be entitled to further Direct Loan funding until you resume studies. Any interruption over 180 days is classed as a withdrawal so therefore the above would occur.

If the University incurs any unexpected financial costs associated with the loan process and/or subsequent default by students who have obtained loans, then these costs will be payable by the student and, if required, the University may take the necessary legal action to recover any such costs.

Further information in relation to tuition fees available at:

<https://www.bangor.ac.uk/ar/main/fees/index.php.en>

Useful Resources:

National Student loan data System

www.nslds.ed.gov

Provides information on your Federal loans on a central database

Federal Student Aid ombudsman

www.ombudsman.ed.gov or 1-877-557-2525

A neutral, independent viewpoint to assist resolving student loan disputes.