

**For course details please contact:**

[www.huish.ac.uk](http://www.huish.ac.uk)  
[hello@huish.ac.uk](mailto:hello@huish.ac.uk)

**For further information visit:**

[www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance)  
[www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk)  
[www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk](http://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk)

**For help with your online application:**

Contact our Student Finance Officer Jo Quick at [joq@richuish.ac.uk](mailto:joq@richuish.ac.uk)

# It's never too late to educate

**Over 19 and thinking about further education?  
Apply now for a loan to help with tuition fees**



# FAQs

To give everyone the opportunity and right to study, Advanced Learning Loans are available to students aged 19 or over. These loans are not means tested and do not require a credit check ensuring equality and access to learning for all.

## Who can apply for a loan?

- Aged 19 or over on the first day of your course
- You are ordinarily a resident in the UK/EU/EEA and have been for at least three years before the start date of your course
- You are enrolling on a full Level 3, 4, 5 or 6 course.

## What can I use the loan for?

The loan is to pay for the part or full cost of the tuition fee for your full Level 3 or 4 course – the loan cannot be used to pay for individual units or awards.

Qualifications that you can use the loan for include:

- A Levels (up to three)
  - Access to Higher Education Diplomas
  - Advanced or Higher Apprenticeships
  - BTEC and other Diplomas and Certificates
  - National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs).
- If you are taking an apprenticeship you can apply for a loan covering up to 50% of the apprenticeship cost, with the remaining 50% paid for by your employer.

The minimum loan amount you can borrow is £300. The maximum you can borrow is the full cost of the course set by the college.

## How does the loan work?

The Advanced Learning Loan is similar to existing loans for higher education. You need to apply directly to Student Finance England (SFE) who then pay the agreed amount to Richard Huish College when you start your course. You only need to apply once per course, so if for example your course is longer than one year you don't need to apply separately each year.

## Can I take out more than one loan?

You can apply for up to four loans in total, but you can only have one loan at a time. After completing each qualification you will be able to apply again, up to a maximum of four times.

## How is the loan paid back?

Paying back your loan is simple; you only start paying back your loan once you earn over £26,575 per year. Payments are taken directly from your earnings or through the tax system, starting from the April after you have finished your course.

Repayments are based on your income, not on what you borrow or the number of student loans you have. You'll repay 9% of your income over £26,575 a year. Even if your income doesn't exceed £26,575 a year but is over £511 a week or £2,214 a month at any point in the year, then a loan deduction will be made. For example, if you're paid monthly and earn £2,500 before tax you'd repay 9% of the difference between what you earn and what the threshold is:

$$£2,500 - £2,214 = £286 \quad 9\% \text{ of } £286 = £25$$

So your student loan repayment would be £25.74 in that month. If your income changes, either rising or falling your repayments will automatically change to reflect this.

If you successfully complete an Access to Higher Education Diploma and successfully complete a higher education course your Advanced Learner Loan will be written off.

If you have not completely paid off the loan after 30 years the outstanding debt will be written off.

## What about interest charges?

Interest on the loan is linked to inflation and is set at the rate of the Retail Price Index (RPI) plus 3% when you are studying your course.

Interest rates are:

While you are studying and until the April after you leave the course	
£26,575 or less	RPI plus 3%
£26,575 to £45,000	RPI plus up to 3%
£45,000 and over	RPI plus 3%

## How do I apply for a loan?

Applications are made online at [www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance), however you will require a welcome letter from your college or provider. Please contact Jo Quick at [joq@richuish.ac.uk](mailto:joq@richuish.ac.uk) for a welcome letter or any further information on an Advanced Learner Loan.

It is important that you consider your own circumstances and look into all options available to pay for your course. Independent financial advice is available from the Money Advice Service at [www.moneyadvice.org.uk](http://www.moneyadvice.org.uk) or by calling them on 0300 500 5000. For further information about Advanced Learning Loans please visit [www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk).

