

FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY HARDSHIP FUND PERSONAL INFORMATION

A SUMMARY OF THE PERSONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED AND
GUIDANCE ON HOW TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION OF THE
HARDSHIP FUND APPLICATION

THE FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY HARDSHIP FUND IS DESIGNED TO HELP STUDENTS WHO HAVE ENCOUNTERED **UNFORESEEN** FINANCIAL PROBLEMS DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR. THE ASSESSMENT WILL CONSIDER YOUR INCOME, OUTGOINGS AND ORIGINAL FINANCIAL PLAN AT THE POINT OF ENROLMENT TO THE ACADEMIC YEAR.

THESE NOTES ARE DESIGNED TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT INFORMATION IS CONSIDERED SURROUNDING YOUR **PERSONAL DETAILS**.

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In addition to this information sheet; further guidance is available on each stage of the assessment process:

- General Notes and Terms
- Course Information
- Expenditure
- Income
- Supporting Evidence
- Appeals

Questions in the application form

Do Student Finance consider you 'independent' of your parents?

Student Finance will consider a student 'independent' of their parental home(s) if they are, on the 1st Sept in the academic year they access support:

- Aged 25 or over
- Are married
- Are the primary carer for a dependent child
- Have been financially independent for at least 36 months (3 years), prior to commencing their studies
- Are permanently estranged from both parents or are orphaned

Such circumstances will need to have been evidenced to Student Finance as part of a claim for 'independent status'. If Student Finance regards a student as not being 'independent' then it will be expected that their household will make an appropriate contribution towards maintenance costs.

Do you live with your partner?

This means that you and your partner share your accommodation. If you live in a shared house (multiple occupancy), you do not need to complete this section.

If you do live with your partner, please clarify their situation

In order to fully understand your domestic financial situation, we need to know some details about your partner, if you live with them. Firstly; by understanding their full-time situation, the Panel can assume how they should be funding themselves.

If you live with your partner, please detail how they contribute towards your domestic bills and rent

It will be assumed that your partner will be accessing the relevant income associated with their situation:

- Full-time students should be accessing support from Student Finance and/or their parents
- Unemployed non-students should be accessing the appropriate state benefits
- Employed non-students should be receiving a salary
- Other; If none of the above categories fairly reflect your partners situation, please detail this here, or in more depth in your Supporting Statement (under the 'Supporting Documentation' section)

The Panel would not expect the student to be paying for more than 50% of domestic bills or have their partner financially dependent upon them.

During term time, what are your accommodation arrangements?

Are you living with your parents; in Halls; or in a private house? This information will help inform the Panel as to what your domestic costs are likely to be.

Do you have any dependants (children or adult, who are financially dependent on you)?

Dependants include any children for whom you receive Child Benefit and/or adults for whom you receive Adult Dependant Grant from Student Finance.

If yes, please provide details of all dependents (children will only be considered if you are in receipt of child benefit and the child/children live with you)

Please clarify how many individuals are dependant upon you, and the amount of additional financial support you receive for them. If there is additional information you wish the Panel to consider regarding dependants, please detail this in your Supporting Statement (under the 'Supporting Documentation' section)

Do you want the hardship panel to contact any of the below support teams, so an appointment for you can be arranged? This might include the Student Finance Team; Student Union; Student Services Support; Finance or the Chaplaincy

If you would like to receive further support from any of these university departments, please state so here. The Hardship Panel can then contact them on your behalf, asking that you arrange a meeting with you.

If you have seen a member of staff from elsewhere in the university and you'd like the Panel to contact them for further information on your situation; please state their name and position.

This is not mandatory; but if you have already spoken to an advisor or tutor and you feel they may be able to further support your application please state their name and position, and the Panel will contact them direct.

Further Support and Guidance

For further advice on how to apply to the Hardship Fund, please contact one of the below support teams:

The Hardship Panel	falhardship@falmouth.ac.uk
The Student Union	advice@thesu.org.uk ; 01326 255861
The Student Finance Team	student.fiance@falmouth.ac.uk ; 01326 255310