

# Information Session

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School of Keyboard Studies  
School of Vocal Studies and Opera

# Application, Audition and Selection

Mark Beards

Assistant Head of Registry  
(Admissions)

# How to Apply

UCAS  
Conservatoires

  
acceptd

# UCAS Conservatoire Application

By 1 October 2018:

- Register, fill forms and pay application and audition fees
- Application will automatically be sent to the RNCM
- You will receive an email with a link to audition requirements and Accepted

# Accepted Application

- Upload qualifications to date – scans/photographs
- Input referee details – academic and practical
- Accepted will automatically contact referees
- References *must* be submitted via Accepted – we are unable to accept references via other means

# Entrance Requirements

- Be 18 years of age as of 31 Dec in year of entry
- Supply 2 references – 1 Academic and 1 Practical
- Hold 2 A Levels for BMus
- AAA for GRNCM/MusB
- AAB and DipABRSM for 3yr BMus (By selection only – cannot be applied for directly)
- A good honours degree for Master's applicants and example of written work
- Master's Degree for PGDip
- Meet appropriate IELTS requirements

# Audition

- Audition date will be sent via UCAS Conservatoires and email
- Dates are non-negotiable to avoid clashes with other conservatoires
- UCAS Track will contain all appropriate information with regard to preparation and what to expect on the day
- All UG applicants will complete online theory test

# Theory Test

- **BMus/GRNCM candidates**
  - Short online multiple choice test examining theory (chord recognition), musicianship (interval recognition) and stylistic knowledge (ensembles, notation)
- **BMus (Hons) Popular Music candidates**
  - Undergraduate Popular Music candidates will also be required to undertake a 45-minute online theory test, equivalent to grade 5 theory.

# School of Keyboard Studies

- One round:
  1. Undergraduate: need to prepare 3-4 contrasting pieces, must play at least 1 piece from memory
  2. Postgraduate: need to prepare a 40 minute programme, must play all pieces from memory
- All candidates will undertake some sight-reading & a quick study
- Interview focusing on the repertoire

# School of Keyboard Studies: Audition Criteria

- Posture
- Technique/Facility
- Tone
- Pedalling
- Rhythm
- Stylistic Awareness
- Memory

# School of Vocal Studies and Opera

For all programmes, with the exception of Repetiteurs, you will need to prepare in advance:

- Three pieces of your own choice totalling no more than 12 minutes and contrasting in period and style, to be sung from memory
- a short (maximum two minutes) spoken piece of poetry or prose in Standard English, to be recited from memory or read

In your audition you will also be expected to:

- Undertake a test of sight-reading ability
- Take part in a short interview with the panel

# School of Vocal Studies and Opera: Audition Criteria

- Vocal quality
- Breathing
- Pronunciation
- Characterisation
- Musicality
- Support
- Intonation
- Clarity of text
- Communication skills

# What happens if I'm offered a place?

- All places are conditional upon meeting entry requirements.
- Most conditions will have been met via Accepted application, including references.
- A Levels/BTEC/Highers results received via UCAS.
- Other documents to be email to [admissions@rncm.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@rncm.ac.uk)
- You can follow the progress of your application through Track on UCAS Conservatoires
- You are advised to confirm your decision on UCAS Conservatoires by the end of January 2019 (Declined by Default in early February 2019)

# What do I need to do?

- Apply on UCAS
- Set up Accepted profile
- Check UCAS Track for time and date of audition
- Attend Audition

# Contacts

Mark Beards/Robert Arcangeli

Admissions Team

0161 9075 465/210

[admissions@rncm.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@rncm.ac.uk)

Research (MPhil/PhD):

0161 9075 228

[research@rncm.ac.uk](mailto:research@rncm.ac.uk)

International Office:

Clair Rigby (International Administrator)

0161 9075 337

[international@rncm.ac.uk](mailto:international@rncm.ac.uk)

# Student Finance 2018/19

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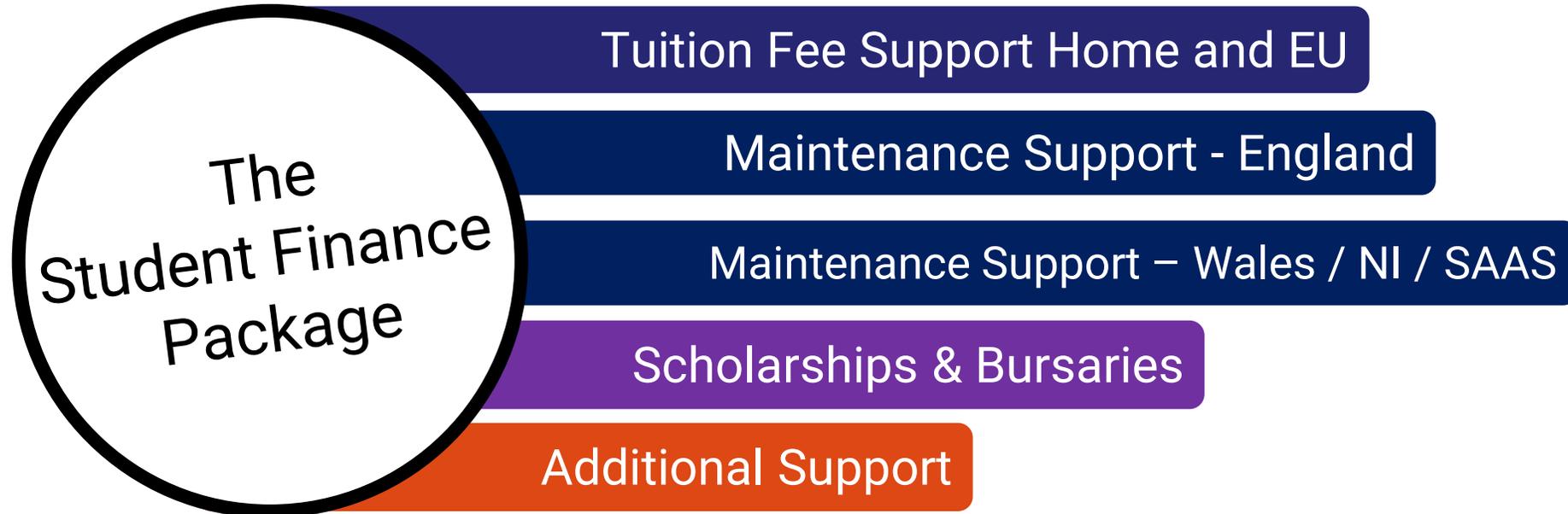
Adam Croucher  
Assistant Head of Registry  
(Student Finance & Wellbeing)

# Session Content

- Student Finance Package
- Repayment
- Applications & Information
- Questions & Comments

**\*\* All figures subject to Parliamentary review\*\***

# The Student Finance Package 2018/19



# Tuition Fee Support: Full-Time Students

- Tuition fees for the 18/19 academic year are £9,250 for Home / UK students
- Eligible students **won't** have to pay any tuition fees up front
- A Tuition Fee Loan (**not dependent on household income**) is available

to cover the fee levels set by the university or college.

Welsh students will no longer receive a grant towards fees.

- The Student Loans Company pay any Tuition Fee Loan to the university/college directly in instalments across the academic year
- The loan is repayable, but linked to future earnings over £25,000\* a year

\* This threshold has been increased and should now rise with inflation.

**\*\* All figures subject to Parliamentary review\*\***

# Statement on EU Student Support

- The government has confirmed that EU students will continue to remain eligible for undergraduate, master's, postgraduate and advanced learner financial support in academic year 2018/19.
- The decision means EU students applying for an undergraduate or master's course at an English university or further education institution in the 2018/19 academic year will continue to have access to student loans and grants, even if the course concludes after the UK's exit from the EU.
- EU students are eligible for home fee status, which means they are charged the same tuition fees as UK students. Other non-EU, international students do not have their tuition fees capped in this way.

# Maintenance Support: England

## **Maintenance Loan 2018/19: how much can I get?**

The amount you can get depends on where you live, where you study and your household income. The table below shows the maximum amounts for the year.

Living with parents	Up to £7,324
Studying in London and not living with parents	Up to £11,354
Studying outside London and not living with parents	Up to £8,700
Living and studying abroad for at least one term	Up to £9,963



Additional loan may be available for any extra weeks of study if your course goes beyond 30 weeks in an academic year

# Maintenance Support: Wales

student finance wales  
cyllid myfyrwyr cymru

Household income	Living with your parents		Living away from home, studying outside London		Living away from home, studying in London	
	Grant	Maintenance Loan	Grant	Maintenance Loan	Grant	Maintenance Loan
£18,370 or less	£6,885	£765	£8,100	£900	£10,124	£1,126
£25,000	£5,930	£1,720	£6,947	£2,053	£8,643	£2,607
£35,000	£4,488	£3,162	£5,208	£3,792	£6,408	£4,842
£45,000	£3,047	£4,603	£3,469	£5,531	£4,174	£7,076
£59,200 or more	£1,000	£6,650	£1,000	£8,000	£1,000	£10,250
Total	£7,650		£9,000		£11,250	

# Maintenance Support: Northern Ireland



- The maximum **non-repayable** maintenance grant level in 2018 is £3,475. Partial grant available for students with a household income of up to £41,065. The grant a student receives is solely dependent on household income levels. (100% means tested)
- Maintenance loan of up to £4,840 (outside of London) available
- Maintenance loan is 75% non means tested / 25% means tested
- £19,203 is the threshold for the maximum maintenance grant

# Maintenance Support: Scotland (SAAS)



**Table A** shows the loan amounts available for dependent students in session 2018/19, for the levels of household income shown.

Household income	Loan
£0 to £18,999	£5,750
£19,000 to £23,999	£5,750
£24,000 to £33,999	£5,750
£34,000 and above	£4,750

**Table B** shows the loan amounts available, for independent students in session 2017-2018, for the levels of household income shown.

Household income	Loan
£0 to £18,999	£6,750
£19,000 to £23,999	£6,750
£24,000 to £33,999	£6,250
£34,000 and above	£4,750

# What is 'Household Income'?

If you're supporting an application for student finance that depends on household income, SFE will need details of your taxable income and National Insurance number.

If you're the parent of a student and live with your partner, they'll also have to give us details of their taxable income and National Insurance number.

## **Taxable earned income includes\*:**

- wages, salaries, tips, and other taxable employee pay
- long-term disability benefits received prior to minimum retirement age
- net earnings from self-employment

## **Taxable unearned income includes\*:**

- interest from savings (only the annual summary is required)
- benefits and pensions
- rent from property or a room

# Scholarships and Bursaries

## **RNCM Support:**

- Access Bursaries (Household income and being UK/EU student the only criteria) up to £1,420 per year of course (18/19 figures)
- Access to Learning Fund (UK students only): Application to the Assistant Head of Registry (Student Finance and Wellbeing).

## **Scholarships:**

- Awarded at audition – All students considered
- Limited in numbers

**Check RNCM website ([www.rncm.ac.uk/fees](http://www.rncm.ac.uk/fees)) and ask at audition for information on bursaries & scholarships – what's available and how to apply.**

# Additional Support

You may get extra money or support if you:

- have children or adults dependent on you
- have a disability, mental-health condition, long-term health condition or specific learning difficulty

# Student Loan Repayment

- Repayments don't start until the student is earning at least **£25,000 a year (£2,083.33 a month) gross**.
- **Full-time students** will begin to repay in the April after graduating from or leaving their HE course.
- If income falls to £25,000 or below repayments will be suspended.
- Repayments will be 9% of income over £25,000 and will be deducted from salary through the HMRC tax system for most students.

# Student Loan Repayment: The Figures

Income each year before tax	9% will be deducted from	Monthly repayment (Approx)
£25,000	£0	£0
£27,000	£2,000	£15
£29,500	£4,500	£33
£31,000	£6,000	£45
£33,000	£8,000	£60



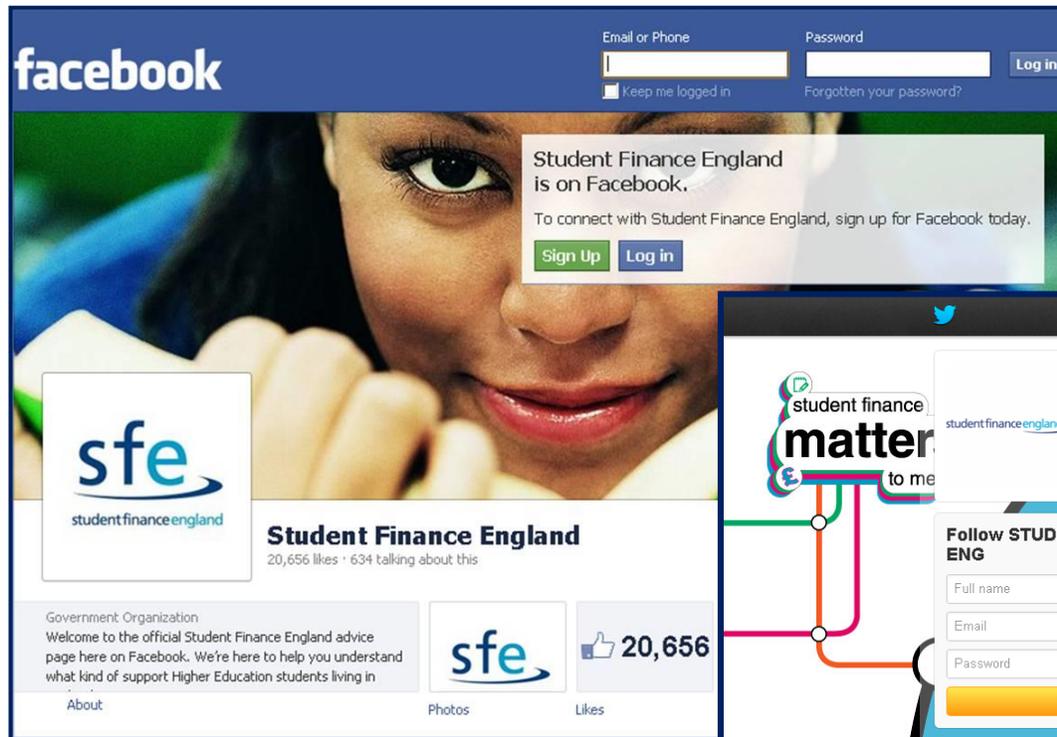
Interest is applied to your loan at a maximum rate of RPI +3%  
More info can be found on [www.slc.co.uk/repayment](http://www.slc.co.uk/repayment)

\*The interest rate is updated once a year in September, using the rate of RPI from March.

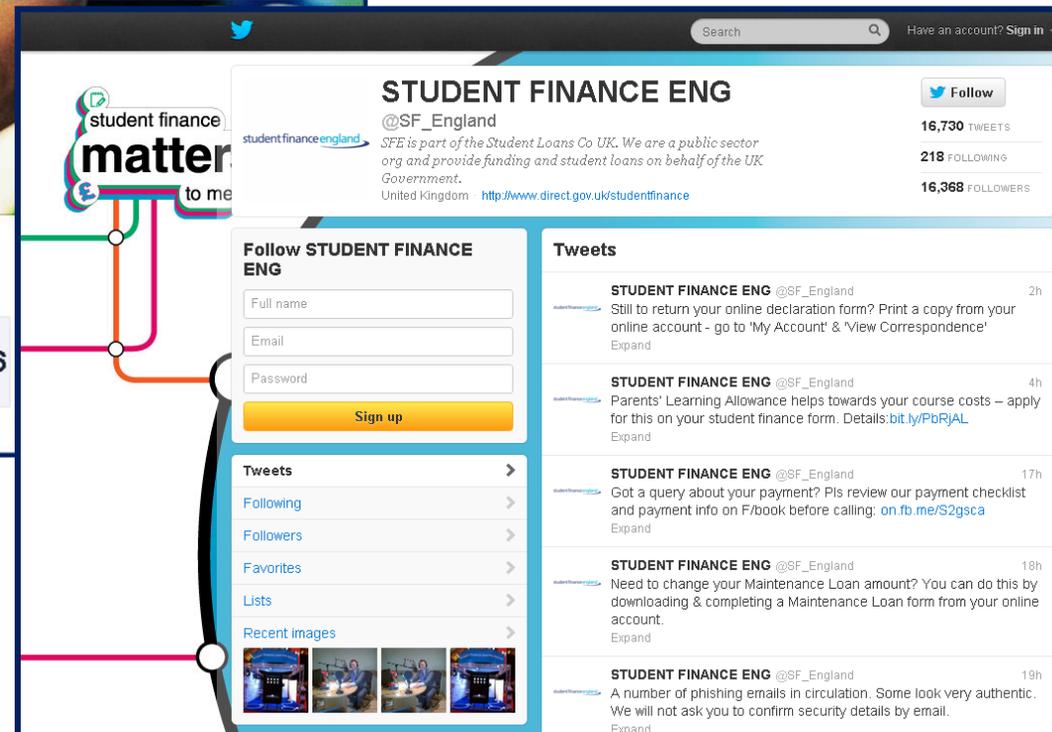
# Applications and Information

- Students should apply as soon as possible to make sure they have their money at the start of their course.
- Applying online through **GOV.UK / SAAS** is the quickest and easiest way.
- No need to wait for a confirmed offer from a university, but SLC need to know right away if anything changes (uni, course or personal details).
- Make sure any required evidence is sent straight away to support applications. In most cases this will be details supplied during the application, with no need for original documents to be sent, including:
  - Valid UK passport number (for student identity)
  - National Insurance numbers (student & parents' for income details)

# Social Media: Facebook and Twitter



The image shows the Facebook login interface at the top, with fields for 'Email or Phone' and 'Password', and a 'Log in' button. Below the login fields is a notification box that reads: 'Student Finance England is on Facebook. To connect with Student Finance England, sign up for Facebook today.' with 'Sign Up' and 'Log in' buttons. The main content area features the 'sfe student finance england' logo and the text 'Student Finance England' with '20,656 likes · 634 talking about this'. Below this is a description: 'Government Organization Welcome to the official Student Finance England advice page here on Facebook. We're here to help you understand what kind of support Higher Education students living in'. Navigation links for 'About', 'Photos', and 'Likes' are visible at the bottom.



The image shows the Twitter profile page for 'STUDENT FINANCE ENG' (@SF\_England). The profile header includes the name, handle, bio ('SFE is part of the Student Loans Co UK. We are a public sector org and provide funding and student loans on behalf of the UK Government. United Kingdom - http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance'), and statistics: 16,730 tweets, 218 following, and 16,368 followers. A 'Follow' button is present. Below the header is a 'Follow STUDENT FINANCE ENG' sign-up form with fields for 'Full name', 'Email', and 'Password', and a 'Sign up' button. To the right is a 'Tweets' section with four recent tweets from @SF\_England, each with an 'Expand' link. The tweets include: 'Still to return your online declaration form? Print a copy from your online account - go to 'My Account' & 'View Correspondence'', 'Parents' Learning Allowance helps towards your course costs - apply for this on your student finance form. Details: bit.ly/PbRjAL', 'Got a query about your payment? Pls review our payment checklist and payment info on F/book before calling: on.fb.me/S2gsca', and 'Need to change your Maintenance Loan amount? You can do this by downloading & completing a Maintenance Loan form from your online account.' The bottom of the page shows navigation links for 'Following', 'Followers', 'Favorites', 'Lists', and 'Recent images'.

# Contact

Adam Croucher  
Assistant Head of Registry  
(Student Finance & Wellbeing)  
[studentfinance@rncm.ac.uk](mailto:studentfinance@rncm.ac.uk)  
[www.rncm.ac.uk/fees](http://www.rncm.ac.uk/fees)

# Student Wellbeing

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Jane Gray

Student Wellbeing Advisor

# Support at the RNCM

3 Counsellors

2 Alexander Technique Tutors

Specific Medical Advice/Support for Performers

Chaplaincy based at Manchester University

4 Mental Health First Aiders

Financial Hardship

Accommodation advice

Students' Union

International Office

English Language Tutor

Learning Support Tutor

Disability/Long Term Condition Support

# Personal Learning Plan (PLP)

- A PLP is for students who have a disability or long term condition that will impact on their study.
- A PLP provides staff with information about the students condition and how it may affect them.
- It provides the student with support so they are not disadvantaged by providing, for example, extra time in exams.

# Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs)

- Available to students living in the United Kingdom.
- Paid on top of the standard student finance package and don't have to be paid back.
- Provide specialist equipment you need for studying, like computer packages and specialist software, also non-medical helpers, such as a support tutor.

# How to Apply for DSA

If you normally live in the following countries you can apply online via the following websites:

**England/Wales/Northern Ireland - [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)**

**Scotland - [www.saas.gov.uk](http://www.saas.gov.uk)**

**Student Room - [www.thestudentroom.co.uk](http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk)**

# Accommodation: Sir Charles Groves Hall

- Sir Charles Groves Hall is owned by Liberty Living ([www.libertyliving.co.uk](http://www.libertyliving.co.uk))
- The RNCM hold 314 rooms for our students.
- Each new student is guaranteed a room in Sir Charles Groves Hall if required (halls can only guarantee rooms if you respond by the set deadline).
- We have two Senior Residents living in the halls that provide wellbeing support, advice of life in the halls and at the RNCM and they also organise events for residents.

# Accommodation: Sir Charles Groves Hall

- Convenient location: right next door to the College
- All utility bills included in the cost of the rent
- Internet (Unlimited 16mbps – provided by Ask4)
- Free personal contents insurance (up to £5K)
- En-suite shower, toilet and washbasin in all bedrooms
- Comprehensive CCTV coverage and electronic entry systems
- On-site management and maintenance teams
- Weekly cleaner for cluster flat communal areas
- Spacious communal living area
- On-site laundry facility
- Guest flats available for visiting relatives for a night or short stay
- All for £156.50 per week (2018-19) – 42 week or 51 week available

# Private Accommodation

University-approved accommodation  
Visit Manchester Student Homes website:  
[www.manchesterstudenthomes.com](http://www.manchesterstudenthomes.com)

# Contacts

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