

How much does it cost to study at Oxford or Cambridge?

Fees

Annual tuition fees for undergraduate degree courses are £9000 per year, **€10800** at €1.20 to the pound (this exchange rate is used throughout). All of the good universities in the UK are now charging this amount – **Oxford and Cambridge are not more expensive than other major universities in England.**

Living Expenses

Living expenses can vary enormously depending very much on where students live and eat. The following information is taken from the Oxford University website but costs are similar in Cambridge. It probably represents a median cost for students at the Universities.

http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate_courses/student_funding/2012_living_costs.html

1. College accommodation

The cost varies but the average is about **£3900/€4680 per year**. Most Colleges provide accommodation at least for first and final years; many are now offering this for the whole of an undergraduate degree course. In some Colleges students from overseas may have priority for college rooms.

Students can also live out in privately rented accommodation, but must then pay rent outside term, in the holidays. Private accommodation costs vary depending on the number of people sharing and the quality and location of the accommodation. The University suggests budgeting for around **£6,600/€7920** (this includes around £1,000/€1200 for heating, lighting and water bills).

2. Food

Based on students eating meals in college or self-catering, suggested costs are about **£1800/€2160 per year**.

3. Other Expenses

This includes books, travel expenses in the UK, clothes and toiletries, social, etc. A suggested value is about **£1900/€2280 per year**.

Medical expense such as glasses or dentistry, the costs of more expensive hobbies, and study requirements such as field trips are not included in these estimates (some College can offer funding for field trips). Budget travel to and from Luxembourg is not necessarily more expensive than the cost for someone living more distant parts of the UK.

Total living expenses in Euros

The combined cost of these estimated items, in Euros, is **€9120 per year**.

In a year where the student lives out in rented accommodation the cost would be **€12360 per year**

Overall cost

For an undergraduate living in college: **€19920**

For an undergraduate living in rented accommodation: **€23160**

Other Universities

The cost of studying at other major universities in the UK will not be very different. Living costs in major cities such as Birmingham or Manchester are unlikely to be much lower, and in and around London they are likely to be somewhat higher.

What funding is available to students from Luxembourg?

This information is mostly taken from <http://cedies.public.lu/aides-financieres/pre-bourses/index.html> and

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/index.htm>

Grants and loans

The Luxembourg government provides a mixture of grants and loans, depending the **student's** income, up to a total value of **€13000 per year**:

“Considéré comme un jeune adulte responsable de sa formation et du financement de ses études supérieures, l'étudiant n'a plus besoin de déclarer la situation financière de ses parents pour pouvoir bénéficier d'une aide financière. Seule sa situation financière et sociale est prise en compte.”

From:

http://www.cedies.public.lu/fr/actualites/2010/07/Aides_financieres_nouveau_projet/index.html

In the case of a loan, the annual interest is 2%, with interest payable every six months. Repayment starts 2 years after the end of the course and must be completed within 10 years.

Tuition Fees

In addition to the grant/loan, the Government contributes to tuition fees, to a maximum of **€3700** per year. This sum is split, so that half is added to the grant and half to the loan.

Total available funding from Luxembourg: €16700

Shortfall

For an undergraduate living in college: **€3220**

For an undergraduate in rented accommodation: **€6460**

UK Student Finance

In addition, EU Nationals normally resident outside the UK are entitled to a UK Student Loan to cover the tuition fees (£9000/€10800) but not for living or other expenses. Repayments on a UK Student Loan start in the April after graduation and continue for 30 years after that date, at which time any outstanding balance is written off. Repayments are only due when the graduate's income exceeds £21,000/€25,200 per year and are charged at 9% of the part of income above this amount. However, interest rates on UK student loans are higher than on those provided by the Luxembourg government. This

means a UK Student Loan is probably more expensive for the individual in the long term, but has built in safety measures to ensure affordability for those on lower incomes or during any periods of unemployment.

Oxford University Financial Support

The **University** provides financial help for students where household income is below £42600 per year. This is a mixture of fee waivers and bursaries, depending on the size of family income (see the table below, from

http://www.ox.ac.uk/media/news_stories/2011/111207_3.html. Note that the 2nd and 3rd sections are an expansion of the summary in the 1st section).

Total financial support available at Oxford from 2012:

Household income	First year of study (waiver + bursary)	Subsequent years of study (waiver + bursary)	Total support package over three years
£0 - £16,000	£9,800	£6,300	£22,400
£16,001 - £20,000	£5,500	£5,000	£15,500
£20,001 - £25,000	£4,000	£3,500	£11,000
£25,001 - £30,000	£2,500	£2,000	£6,500
£30,001 - £35,000	£2,000	£1,500	£5,000
£35,001 - £40,000	£1,500	£1,000	£3,500
£40,001 - £42,600	£1,000	£500	£2,000

Breakdown by waivers and bursaries:

Tuition charges for 2012 entry (after waivers applied)

Household income	Fee waiver in first year	Fee waiver in subsequent years	Total value of waivers over three years
£0 - £16,000	£5,500	£3,000	£11,500
£16,001 - £20,000	£2,000	£2,000	£6,000
£20,001 - £25,000	£1,000	£1,000	£3,000

Bursary support for 2012 entry

Household income	Bursary for first year of study	Bursary for subsequent years	Total bursary support over three years
£0 - £16,000	£4,300	£3,300	£10,900
£16,001 - £20,000	£3,500	£3,000	£9,500
£20,001 - £25,000	£3,000	£2,500	£8,000
£25,001 - £30,000	£2,500	£2,000	£6,500
£30,001 - £35,000	£2,000	£1,500	£5,000
£35,001 - £40,000	£1,500	£1,000	£3,500
£40,001 - £42,600	£1,000	£500	£2,000

In addition the **Colleges** offer different types of aid to undergraduates on low incomes. In some Colleges as many as 25% of undergraduates are receiving financial help.

An undergraduate receiving the maximum of Luxembourg Government aid, €16700/£13917, might well qualify for aid in Oxford from either the University or her College, especially if her family income is low.

In addition there are a wide range of scholarships, prizes and bursaries available to students at both Oxford and Cambridge, depending on their academic ability, nationality and personal circumstances.

In short, no able candidate should be discouraged by the cost – help is available!

The information in this note is provided without responsibility on the part of the Oxford University Society of Luxembourg asbl and its members and the Cambridge Society of Luxembourg and its members. The information is intended to assist potential candidates for admission to Oxford or Cambridge Universities to make a provisional evaluation of the cost of and the availability of financing for undergraduate study at those Universities. It is based on information believed to be reliable at the time of writing and on an interpretation of the application of the relevant rules and regulations. No reliance should be placed on the information and candidates for Oxford and Cambridge should make their own enquiries about living costs and the sources of funding for study at those Universities before making any decision to proceed with an application or otherwise.