

Our Ref: 2517

FOI request dated 29 November 2021 concerning:

1. How many students applied for hardship funds in the following academic years?

- a) 2020/21
- b) 2019/20
- c) 2018/19
- d) 2017/18
- e) 2016/17

2. How many of the students' applications identified in the answer to Q1a-e were successful? Please give a figure per academic year of all successful applications where the application was made in the following academic years:

- a) 2020/21
- b) 2019/20
- c) 2018/19
- d) 2017/18
- e) 2016/17

3. How much money was distributed in the form of hardship funds in each of the following academic years? Please provide one figure for the entire academic year.

- a) 2020/21
- b) 2019/20
- c) 2018/19
- d) 2017/18
- e) 2016/17

Response

Year	Number of applications	Number of successful applicants	Total amount applicants were awarded
2016/2017	331	331	£255,741
2017/2018	322	322	£261,970
2018/2019	361	214	£210,405
2019/2020	403	156	£171,144
2020/2021	310	151	£117,014

The above figures are taken from stats previously gathered in each year and relate specifically to applications to the Hardship Support Fund, and are accurate to the best of our knowledge.

Following additional monies received from the Office for Students to provide support to those that have been financially affected by Covid, two additional funds were implemented. The funds set up covered the academic year 20/21 only. The funds were only open for a limited time within this year due to the deadline set by OfS to distribute the funds.

Named Fund	Number of applications	Number of successful applicants	Total amount applicants were awarded
Additional Support Fund	401	382	£91,775*

Digital Access Grant	1667	1558	£521,100
----------------------	------	------	----------

*£17,500 of this total was paid from other donated funds

Other funds are also paid from the 'Hardship Fund pot' and these have not been included in the above stats.