

BMus UK Finance Guide: September 2024 entry

UK fees: Bachelor of Music degree

Tuition fee loans, Income Bursaries, Scholarships,
Maintenance

www.ram.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding/uk-eu-student-loans

This PDF document can be provided in other formats if needed, contact
admissions@ram.ac.uk



Registry Office, Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5HT.
admissions@ram.ac.uk

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Congratulations on gaining the offer of a study place at the Academy!
We hope this short guide to fees and finances will be helpful for you.

If you have any questions about this, please contact us on
admissions@ram.ac.uk

and consult the online guidance at
www.gov.uk/student-finance

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STUDENT FINANCE for BMus - fees and funding support

STUDENT FINANCE LOANS

EU/EEA nationals

If you're starting a course on or after 1 August 2021, you must have UK settled or pre-settled status to get student finance.

Tuition Fee Loan (Student Loan)

UK and eligible EU students can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan for the Academy's Bachelor Degree, up to the full tuition fee amount through the Student Finance website:

www.gov.uk/student-finance

www.gov.uk/student-finance/new-fulltime-students and

www.gov.uk/apply-for-student-finance

The applications will be open during Spring 2024.

Make sure you select the link for the country where your home is, because the process is slightly different depending if your home is in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, or in the European Union (EU).

There are eligibility conditions which you can find detailed on the *gov.uk* student finance website:

www.gov.uk/student-finance/who-qualifies.

If your home is in an EU country (not the UK) you may need to complete a **paper application** from the Student Finance website, instead of making an online application. Also please look at this page of the *gov.uk* student finance website:

www.gov.uk/student-finance/eu-students

APPLY EARLY

After accepting your study place at the Academy, we advise that you should begin the process of applying for loans no later than March or April 2024, so your finances are in place to allow you to enrol in September.

www.gov.uk/student-finance

Application deadlines are usually during May, to ensure your loan is ready for the start of your course.

You will need to use the correct course title:

Bachelor of Music (Honours),
Bachelor of Music (Honours) Composition, or
Bachelor of Music (Honours) Jazz.

UK students apply online.
European Union students may need to use a paper application form.

If you have already completed a year or more on a Bachelor degree course, in any discipline, this may reduce your eligibility for Student Finance support, please contact Student Finance for advice about this.

No UK Student Finance?

Please tell the Admissions Team on admissions@ram.ac.uk if you might be ineligible to have Student Finance support (for example, if you have already studied on a Bachelor Degree programme for a year or more), or if your tuition fee is being paid directly to the Academy without using Student Finance.

LIVING COSTS

Maintenance loans for living costs: UK residents

If you are normally domiciled in the UK, you will be able to apply to the Student Loan Company to obtain a Maintenance Loan to help cover your living costs.

The maximum maintenance loan available for students studying in London in the 2023/24 academic year is £13,022 and you apply with the main Tuition Fee Loan application. The 2024/25 amount has not yet been confirmed.

The amount you can get depends on where you live, where you study and your household income.

All students who are eligible for the loan can receive up to 50% of the loan amount regardless of their financial situation. The loan is paid directly into your bank account at the start of each term, after the Academy has confirmed you are fully enrolled.

www.gov.uk/student-finance/new-fulltime-students

INCOME BURSARIES

www.ram.ac.uk/financial-support

* Eligible UK or EU students are those that are classed as eligible UK (England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland) or EU (European) students, as assessed for student support purposes, determined by Student Finance England or other relevant UK student loans awarding agency.

REMEMBER!

If you want to be considered for an Income Bursary, you must complete a Tuition Fee Loan application each year, give your Consent to Share, agree to be Means Tested, and send details of your household income to Student Finance.

Student Finance EU office:
+44 141 243 3570
Monday to Friday 09.00 to 17.30

Income Bursaries 2024/25

If you are an eligible* UK or EU Bachelor Degree student from a lower-income household, you may receive an income-related bursary.

This table shows how the income bursary is calculated:

Verified household income:	Income bursary 2024/25
Up to £25,000	£3000
£25,001 to £33,500	£2000
£33,501 and above	£0

For example if the income is £28,000, you receive a income bursary of £2,000.

The income bursary will be paid through the **BAS** system (Bursary Administration System). BAS is part of UK Student Finance, separate from the Academy. It is a central processing system which pays your Academy scholarship directly to your UK bank account.

YOU must complete a tuition fee loan application each year for the full fee amount (£9,250) and, in the Student Finance application, consent to share your details (both yourself and your sponsor) with the Academy.

If both you and your sponsor do not 'consent to share' these details, your name will not appear in BAS and we will be unable to calculate your eligibility for the income bursary or pay you.

You must agree to be **Means Tested**, and provide details of your household income to the loan company. The Academy will receive confirmation of your household income through the Student Finance website. [The Academy does not need to receive income documentation directly from you.]

UK students: this may be done by supplying your National Insurance Number as part of the loan application, to be checked against HM Revenue & Customs records.

EU students: if you are eligible for UK Student Finance, to apply for a income bursary or to receive scholarship payments, you must complete a bursary form EU23B from the Student Finance Services EU Team in Darlington. When your Student Finance loan application is confirmed and you have opened a UK bank account you can telephone the EU Student Finance office in Darlington with the bank account information or request the bursary form EU23B from them.

Student Finance EU office: +44 141 243 3570, Monday to Friday 09.00 to 17.30

Please complete your loan application by **1st July** before enrolment, to ensure that the loan details and your household information can be processed by Student Finance before the start of the academic year in September.

Student Finance may also send you a form to sign and return: please complete the form because the system will not allow you to be paid until Student Finance has received your signature on that form.

When you have completed all the loan application details and your details appear in BAS, if you are eligible for a waiver bursary it will be calculated automatically in the autumn term.

After you have completed enrolment the waiver bursary will be paid to your UK bank account in three termly instalments during the academic year for you to spend as you choose.

ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Entrance Scholarships

If you have been awarded an Entrance Scholarship by the Academy following your entrance audition, you will find the details in your UCAS Conservatoires "Hub".

BMus Entrance Scholarships for Home Fee students are for living costs.

The scholarship is intended to help you during your course with general financial costs (buying music, instrument repairs, food or rental costs etc), though you can use it to repay your tuition fee loan if you prefer.

Scholarship Payment

The scholarship money will be paid to you through the **BAS** system (Bursary Administration System). BAS is part of UK Student Finance, separate from the Academy. It is a central processing system which pays your Academy scholarship directly to your UK bank account.

It is paid into your UK bank account in three equal instalments, one each term, after you have enrolled. You will receive a letter from Student Finance in the summer to tell you the payment dates. The first is paid around 1 October.

What you need to do

You must complete a tuition fee loan application - for zero pounds if you plan to pay the tuition fee without using a loan (see below) - and, within the application, you must *consent to share* your details (both yourself and your sponsor) with the Academy.

Your tuition fee will need to be paid either with a student loan or directly to the Academy before you receive the scholarship. The scholarship is not normally be used to pay your tuition fee unless it is a Full Fee scholarship, but you can (if you wish) use the scholarship money to help repay the tuition fee loan.

To get your details into the BAS system, you will need to complete a tuition fee loan application, and both you and your sponsor must 'Consent to Share' financial details with the Academy. There is a specific part of the application process confirming the 'consent to share'. If both you and your sponsor do not 'consent to share' these details, your name will not appear in BAS and we will be unable to pay you.

Student Finance may also send you a form to sign and return: please complete the form because the system will not allow your scholarship to be paid until Student Finance has received your ink signature on that form.

When your details appear in BAS and you have completed all the loan application details, after you have completed enrolment the scholarship will be paid to you in three equal termly instalments during the academic year for you to spend as you choose.

If you have an Academy scholarship and are paying your tuition fee directly to the Academy without using a Student Finance loan:

You need to apply for a zero pound loan to get your details into the Student Finance system.

Make sure you complete all sections of the application including 'consent to share'; input the full tuition fee amount (£9250), and then say you want a loan of £0 (zero pounds).

BANK DETAILS

Bank details

You should give your bank account details to UK Student Finance, the Academy does not need to receive your bank details.

EU students: when your Student Finance loan application is confirmed and you have opened a UK bank account you can telephone the EU Student Finance office in Darlington with the bank account information or request the bursary form EU23B from them.

Student Finance EU office: +44 141 243 3570, Monday to Friday 09.00 to 17.30

After you have completed enrolment, you can ask the Registry for a Bank Letter to use when you apply for an account. It confirms that you are an enrolled student, so you can get a student account. When you ask for the letter, please tell us the name of the bank and its full postal address.

ANNUAL REVIEW

For every student who has a scholarship, the award will be reviewed each year and will depend on your satisfactory progression and engagement with the course. If you change to a different Principal Study later in the course, the scholarship will not normally continue because it was awarded on the basis of your entrance assessment for your first Principal Study.

SAAS

Students from Scotland: If your tuition fee loan application is handled by SAAS, you and your sponsor may need to complete a separate consent-to-share form, which will be posted to you by SAAS.

If you do not get a means-tested maintenance award from SAAS, please let us know because that may prevent your details reaching BAS.

SAAS office: 0300 555 0505

OTHER SUPPORT

The Academy has compiled a range of suggestions and guidance for you on: ram.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding

That part of our website includes information about Academy scholarships and bursaries, undergraduate loans, specific funding for international students, and a variety of potential sponsors.

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact the Admissions Team on admissions@ram.ac.uk, we are here to help!

Registry: December 2023