

# Discretionary Support Fund

A Union self-help guide

**Your Union of Students'  
independent advice service**

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Talk to  
**US**



# What is the Discretionary Support Fund?

The Discretionary Support Fund is available for UK or EEA students who meet the criteria and who are experiencing financial hardship. It provides financial assistance if unforeseen circumstances were to occur, providing a lump sum payment which is not required to be paid back. For example, if you recently lost your job and are struggling financially, you could apply for this financial support.

## How to apply

You can apply for the additional funding by completing the online form and emailing it to the Student Money Advice and Rights Team who will assess the information provided. You will be required to disclose your financial circumstances, including your total income and expenditure. Any non-essential spending will be taken into consideration.

## How much will you receive?

The amount awarded is based on each student's individual need and will be calculated accordingly.

## Support

If at any point you find you are struggling to finance your needs, please contact the Student Wellbeing Student Money Advice and Rights Team (SMART) on 01332 592000 or you can email [smart@derby.ac.uk](mailto:smart@derby.ac.uk), who may be able to offer financial assistance, or provide an alternative. For support in filling out the form or further information, please contact the Advice Team who will be happy to help.