

[Knowledgebase](#) > [Applying](#) > [Fees, costs and financing](#) > [Loans and allowances](#) > [How do student loans work?](#)

## How do student loans work?

Rachel Rees - 2016-05-25 - [Loans and allowances](#)

Student loans are a government loan for New Zealand students that you repay through the Department of Inland Revenue when you start working.

The amount you can borrow includes:

- Course fees
- Course related costs
- Living costs and
- Loan administration fee

You can apply for a loan when you apply for a programme and you should most certainly apply once you have been accepted on to a programme to ensure there is enough time to process your application before you start your studies.

You will know that your loan is approved when you get a letter of approval from StudyLink.

You will need your IRD number for your loan application and for your NMIT application/enrolment.

- Tags
- [Fees and finances](#)
- [Student loan](#)

### Related Content

- [Who do I talk to about student loans and allowances?](#)
- [How do I pay my fees or other charges?](#)
- [Will I be able to get a student allowance?](#)
- [Will I be able to get a student loan?](#)