



T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Claire Adamson MSP
Convener, Education and Skills Committee

24 March 2021

**CORONAMRUS (COVID-19): UPDATE ON LEARNER JOURNEY TASKFORCE MEETING-
FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FURTHER EDUCATION (FE) AND HIGHER EDUCATION (HE)
STUDENTS**

Dear Convener,

As I promised in my letter to you of 19 March, I am writing to provide an update on the work of the Learner Journey Task Force, and specifically in relation to Scottish Government support for HE and FE students to complete their courses.

The Scottish Government, Colleges and Universities have committed to continue to do everything we can to support students to complete their courses by the time originally planned.

I can confirm to the Committee, that a package of further support for Further (FE) and Higher Education (HE) students will be available to provide reassurance that they can complete their studies where these have been impacted by the Covid-19 restrictions. We know that many students are facing uncertainty due to the pandemic, with some having to extend courses and complete placements.

Full-time HE students will be eligible to receive a guaranteed one off COVID-19 payment of up to a maximum of £1,600 for additional study of 16 weeks or less. HE students who require extension beyond 16 weeks can apply to SAAS and continue to receive the standard monthly package of bursary, grant, loan and fees until their extended course date ends. This extension will not impact the additional year of support available to students commonly referred to as +1 year.

The Scottish Funding Council (SFC) has already confirmed that full-time FE students will continue to receive their standard package of support for any extended study, until this date ends.

Tha Ministearan na h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus an Rùnaire
Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered
by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

Taigh Naomh Anndrais, Rathad Regent, Dùn Èideann EH1 3DG
St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

Accredited
Until 2020



Discretionary Hardship Funding remains available to all students via applications to their college or university.

A letter will also be issued today to all Higher Education students to promote the additional funding measures and provide information on the Phased Return and Easter travel arrangements.

Further information can be found on www.studentinformation.gov.scot

Yours sincerely,

RICHARD LOCHHEAD

Tha Ministearan na h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus an Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

Taigh Naomh Anndrais, Rathad Regent, Dùn Èideann EH1 3DG
St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

Accredited
Until 2020

