



**Rt. Hon. Michelle Donelan MP**

Minister of State for Higher and Further Education

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT  
tel: 0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus](http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus)

27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Higher Education Providers,

I am writing this letter to update you on financial support that the Government will be providing to students who have come from Ukraine and are currently studying at English Higher Education Providers (HEPs).

Before setting out the additional support we are making available I firstly wanted to thank you for the generous and vital support you have shown students and staff from Ukraine over the past couple of months.

Just as we saw during the pandemic, you have once again stepped up to the challenge and made sure that students and staff are supported both in terms of dispersing individual hardship funds and providing vital counselling and support services.

### **Hardship funding**

We recognise that many students from Ukraine studying at English HEPs will be facing significant challenges following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. It is therefore important that additional support is provided to enable these students to complete their courses and I am pleased to be able to set out the additional support we have made available.

#### Support for students from Ukraine at Approved (fee cap) providers

We are providing up to £4m to the Office for Students (OfS) for students from Ukraine in need of financial support. We have confirmed this in our Strategic Priorities Grant (SPG) guidance letter to the Office for Students, which confirms that the OfS should use up to £4 million across the 2022-23 financial year to support students from Ukraine whose financial means have been impacted by events. The OfS will allocate the funding to providers for them to distribute to students where need is greatest.

The OfS will shortly be contacting Approved (fee-cap) providers to set out further details and request information from you to determine allocations. It is important that you distribute funding to ensure it supports students most in need.

## Support for students from Ukraine at Approved providers

In view of the circumstances arising from the invasion of Ukraine, the Department for Education is also making exceptional funding available to Approved providers that are not fee-capped, to support you in your efforts to assist with the continued education of your current cohort of students from Ukraine. This funding will be for you to distribute to students from Ukraine and not to cover your own costs.

For those of you with a cohort of students from Ukraine and in need of additional financial hardship support, please contact my officials as soon as possible via the following email: [HE.UKRAINE-RESPONSE@education.gov.uk](mailto:HE.UKRAINE-RESPONSE@education.gov.uk) and they will be in touch with you to discuss next steps and determine allocations.

### **Student finance for students from Ukraine**

We are also extending access to HE student support, home fee status, tuition fee caps, Advanced learner loans and FE19+ funding for those who are granted leave under one of the three schemes for Ukrainians introduced recently by the Home Office. This ensures Ukrainians who have been affected by the war in Ukraine can access support on the same basis as those within other protection-based categories (such as refugees).

In line with those within existing protection-based categories, these persons would not be required to meet a three-year period of ordinary residence for HE support, Advanced Learner Loans or FE19+ funding, but would need only to have been ordinarily resident in the UK since their grant of leave. Access to student support is crucial in enabling them to attend education to improve their skills and enhance the ability of Ukrainians to contribute to the UK, or to the rebuilding of their home country.

We are grateful for all the work you have already done to ensure your staff and students are being supported in this incredibly difficult time. Please do reach out to my officials if you need clarification or have any concerns.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michelle Donelan', written in a cursive style.

**Rt. Hon. Michelle Donelan MP**  
**Minister of State for Higher and Further Education**