



Statistical First Release



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**Coverage:
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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

STUDENT SUPPORT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND, ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/14 (FINAL)

INTRODUCTION

This statistical first release presents figures on the student support awarded to applicants and paid to students or their Higher Education Provider. It shows final figures for 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14 academic years.

Once applicants who were awarded support have their attendance at a HE Provider confirmed and their first payment made, they are classified as paid students.

This release shows the number of loans, grants and allowances awarded / paid to full time undergraduate applicants / students or their Higher Education Providers.

It covers applicants and students domiciled in Northern Ireland taking a course in a Higher Education Provider in the UK or in the Republic of Ireland (ROI) as well as applicants and students domiciled in the EU (Outside UK) studying in a Higher Education Provider in Northern Ireland.

KEY POINTS

- Final figures show that 46,700 full time applicants were awarded some support in academic year 2013/14 which is equivalent to £359.3 million. This is an increase of 2% on the number of full time applicants awarded support in 2012/13 and an increase of 8% on the amount awarded in 2012/13 (see Table 2, Charts 1 and 2).
- In academic year 2013/14 Higher Education Providers were paid Tuition Fee Loans on behalf of 39,400 Northern Ireland domiciled students studying in the UK or the Republic of Ireland plus EU (Outside UK) domiciled students studying in Northern Ireland which amounted to £154.8 million. This was an average of £3,930 per student. The average figure in 2012/13 was £3,470 (see Table 4B, Charts 5 and 6).
- In academic year 2013/14, 38% of applicants were awarded the full maintenance grant of £3,475. 22% were awarded a partial grant and 40% were not awarded a grant. This compares to 39%, 22% and 39% in 2012/13 (see Table 3A, Charts 3 and 4).

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DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Alternative Provider	An Alternative Provider is any provider of higher education courses which is not in direct receipt of recurrent funding from the Department for Employment and Learning or from equivalent bodies in the other Government Administrations; or does not receive direct recurrent public funding (for example, from a local authority, or from the Minister for Employment and Learning); and is not a further education college. Only providers with courses designated for student support are included in the statistics.
Applicant	This is a person applying for student support. Not all applicants take up a place. Applicants become students once they took up place and the SLC has received a confirmation of their attendance.
Award	Number of and amount of money awarded to applicants for student finance who have passed the eligibility criteria as stipulated within the student finance regulations and have been assessed for the respective support package accordingly. Awards will be paid on condition that the applicant subsequently attends the Higher Education Provider at which point will be considered a student and payments will be released according to the payment schedule for the support types awarded.
Country of Study	The country in which the higher education institute is located to which the applicant intends to/ is studying at.
Domiciled	The country in which the applicant normally lives. Student Finance Northern Ireland covers those students domiciled in Northern Ireland and European Union Students studying in Northern Ireland.
Estimated Eligible Population	The numbers of students that are eligible to apply for student finance including those who do not apply. Figures for the estimated eligible population are supplied by the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL).
Entry Cohort	Grouping of student finance applicants according to the student finance regulations against which the applicant was assessed for support. Student finance applicants are covered by transitional protection which means they continue to be assessed against the regulations in place for their first year of study. Students changing courses, or starting a new period of study no longer receive transitional protection and will be assessed under the arrangements in place for their latest year of study.
Final Figures	The final position refers to the readiness of the statistics being in a steady state. Final figures are not expected to change significantly and should represent the final outcome.
Full Year Maintenance Loan	The amount of maintenance loan available to students varies between those studying in their final year and those studying in an earlier year of their course. Those in their final year will be entitled to a reduced amount to reflect the reduced length of time in attendance at their university over which maintenance support is required.
Level of Support	Identifies if the applicant was awarded the full level of means tested grant, partial level or no grant.

Maintenance Loan Rate	The rate determines how much loan is available to the applicant in principle and depends on where the applicant is residing during their term time. There are three rates: Home rate, London, and Elsewhere (not London).
Public Provider	A Public Provider is any provider of higher education courses which is in direct receipt of recurrent funding from the Department for Employment and Learning or from equivalent bodies in the other Government Administrations; or in receipt of direct recurrent public funding (for example, from a local authority, or from the Minister for Employment and Learning); or is a further education college. Only providers with courses designated for student support are included in the statistics.
Residual Income	The income from the household from which the applicant normally resides. This income determines how much means tested support the applicant is entitled to. Residual income comprises of the taxable earned and unearned income of the applicant and/or the taxable earned and unearned income of the applicants sponsors minus any allowable deductions.
Student	Those student finance applicants for whom an attendance confirmation has been received from the university which indicates that the applicant is or has taken a place at university. This is an important distinction as those making student finance applicants go on to take a place at university.
Student Support Arrangement	The range of support available, the eligibility rules, and income thresholds which are in place for a given academic year.
Take up rate	The rate of which the Eligible Population chooses to apply for maintenance loan.
Targeted Support	Grants and allowances which are aimed to provide additional student support to student to meet costs specific to their circumstance. Covers Travel Grant, Parental Learning Allowance, Childcare Grant and Adult Dependants Grant.

STATISTICAL COMMENTARY

Chart 1: Number of awards to Northern Ireland domiciled applicants for student support (000's)

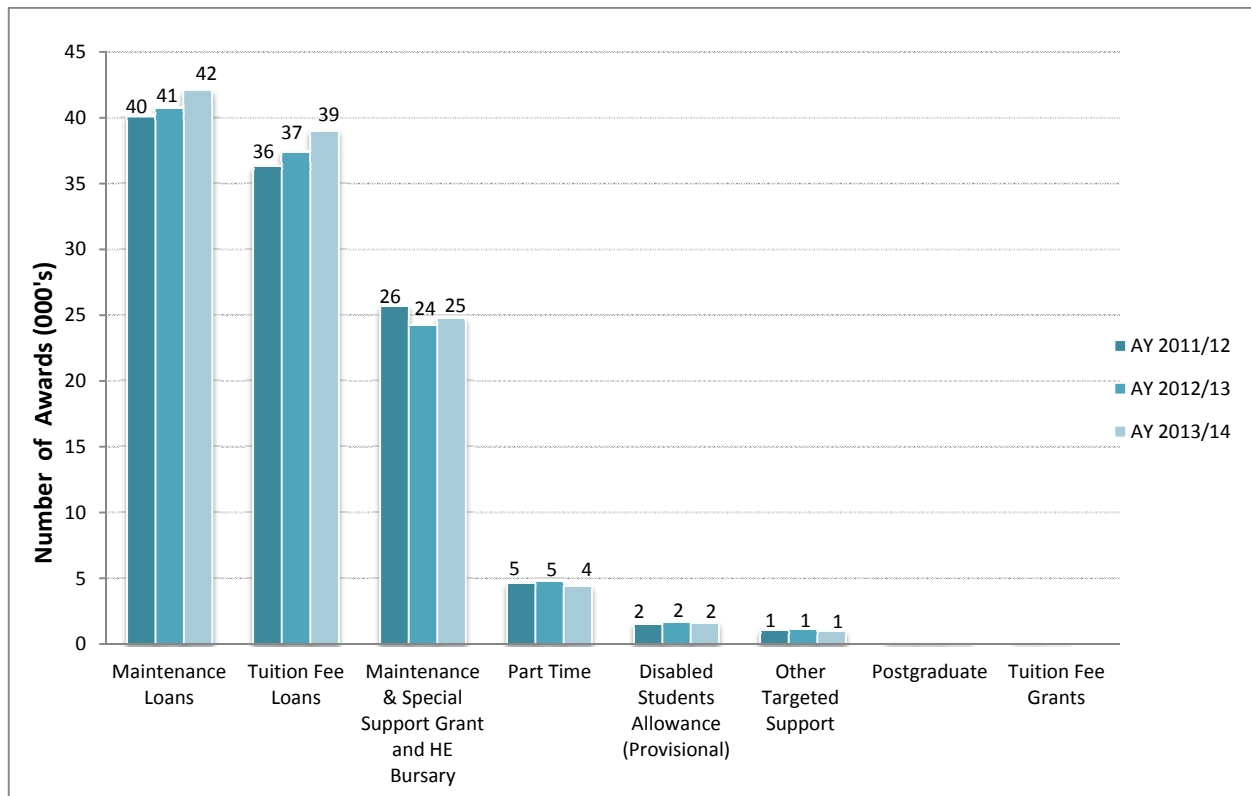


Chart 1 shows the number of awards for all successful applications for Higher Education student finance from applicants domiciled in Northern Ireland
See Table 2.

Chart 2: Amount of support awarded (£m) to Northern Ireland domiciled applicants by Product

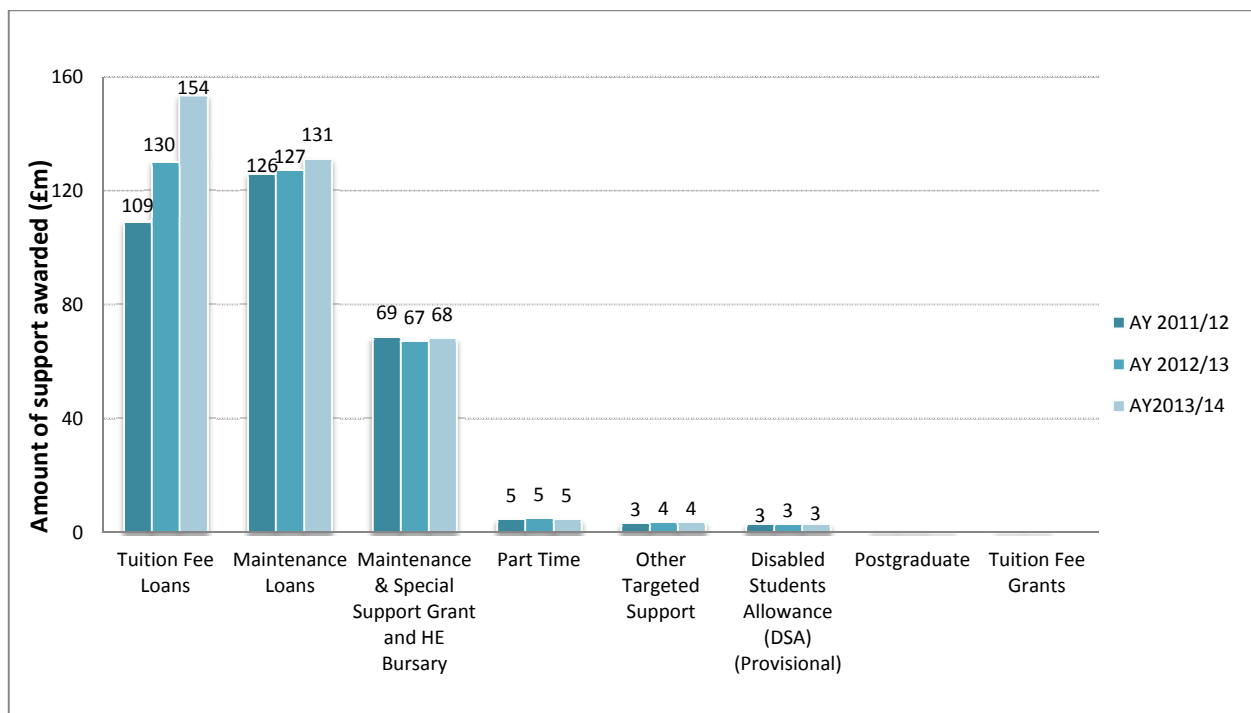


Chart 2 shows a rise in the amount of tuition fee loans awarded over the past 3 years which is a result of the shifting of the student body from the pre 2012/13 to the post 2012/13 fee system
See Table 2.

Chart 3: Amount (£m) of Maintenance and Special Support Grant awarded to Northern Ireland domiciled applicants



Chart 3 shows the amount awarded as full and partial maintenance grant to Northern Ireland domiciled applicants has remained fairly constant over the past 3 academic years
See Chart 3A.

Chart 4: Distribution of Maintenance and Special Support Grants awarded to Northern Ireland domiciled applicants

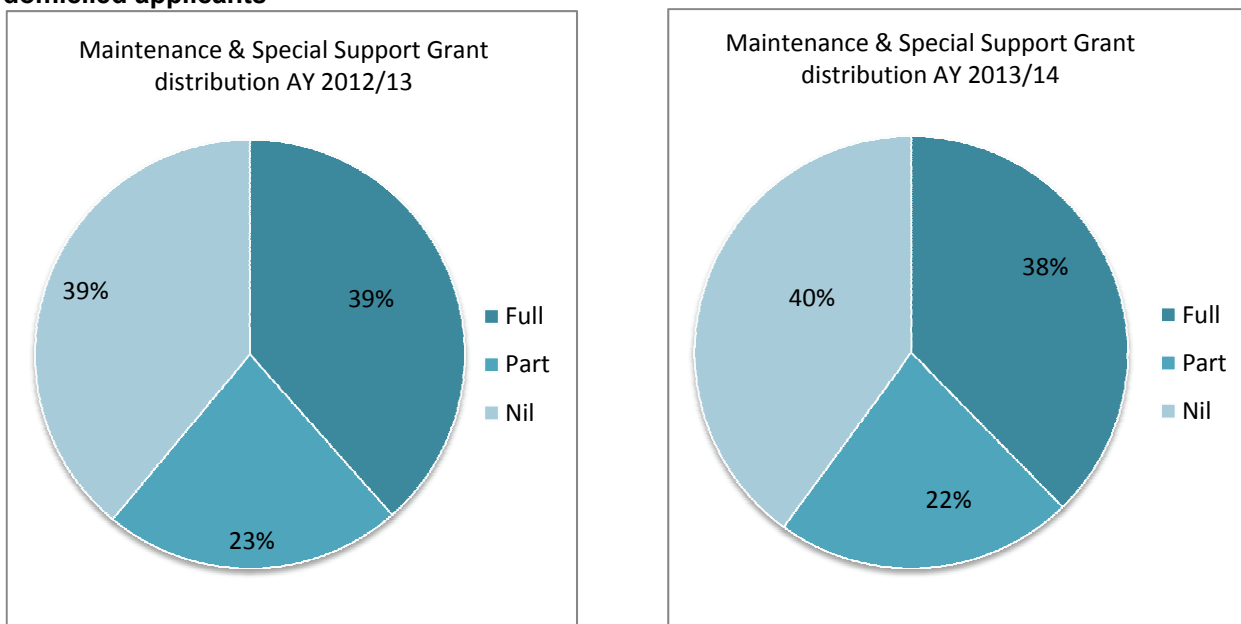


Chart 4 shows that distribution of Maintenance & Student Support Grants has changed only slightly between AY 2011/12 and AY 2012/13
See Chart 3A.

Chart 5: Number of Northern Ireland domiciled and EU students studying in Northern Ireland (000's) taking out Tuition Fee Loans by Academic Year & Domicile

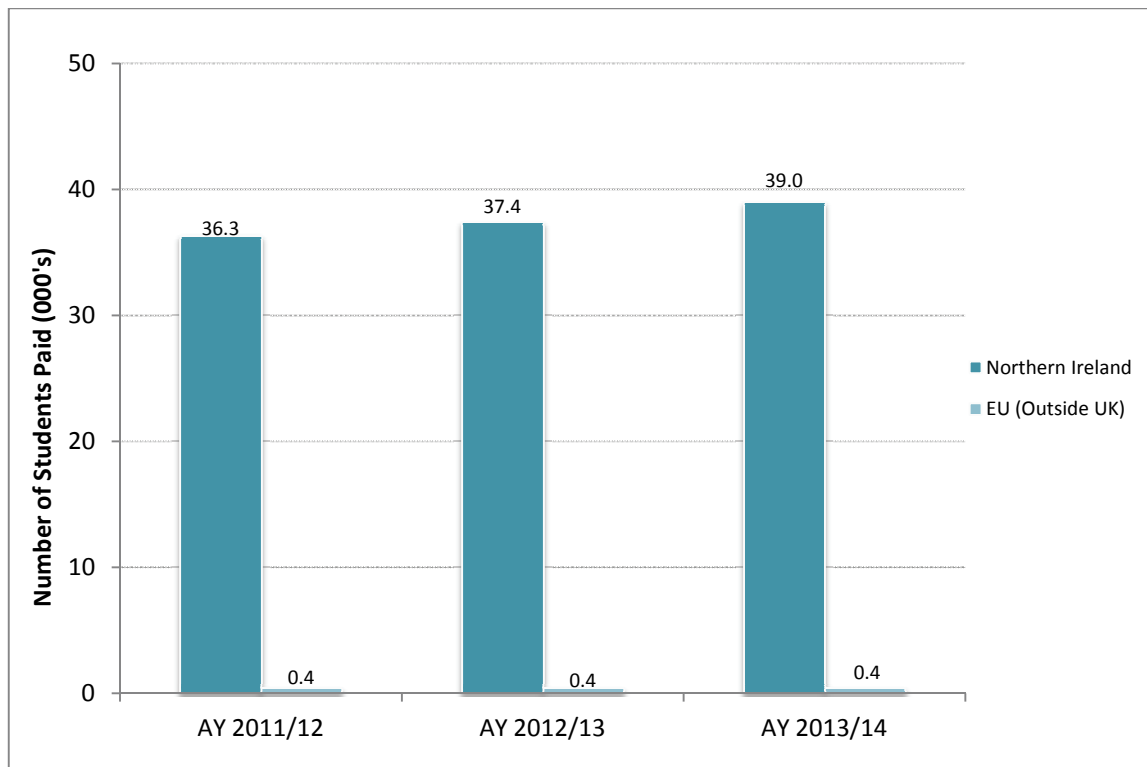


Chart 5 shows that the number of Northern Ireland domiciled students being awarded Tuition Fee Loans rises slightly year on year however the number of EU domiciled students remains fairly constant. See Table 4B.

Chart 6: Tuition Fee Loans paid to HE Providers by on behalf of Northern Ireland domiciled and EU students studying in Northern Ireland by Academic Year & Domicile

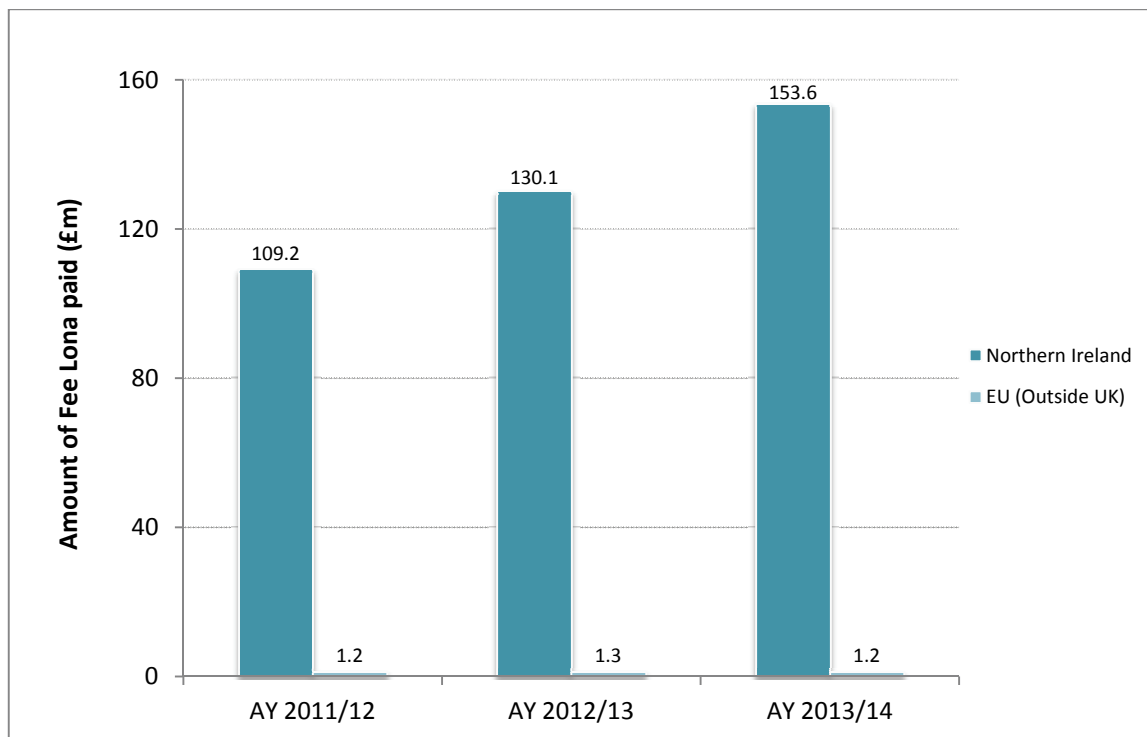


Chart 6 shows an increase in the amount of tuition fee loans paid year on year to institutions on behalf of Northern Ireland domiciled students. See table 4B

Chart 7: Payments to Part-Time students (£m) domiciled in Northern Ireland and EU domiciled students studying in Northern Ireland

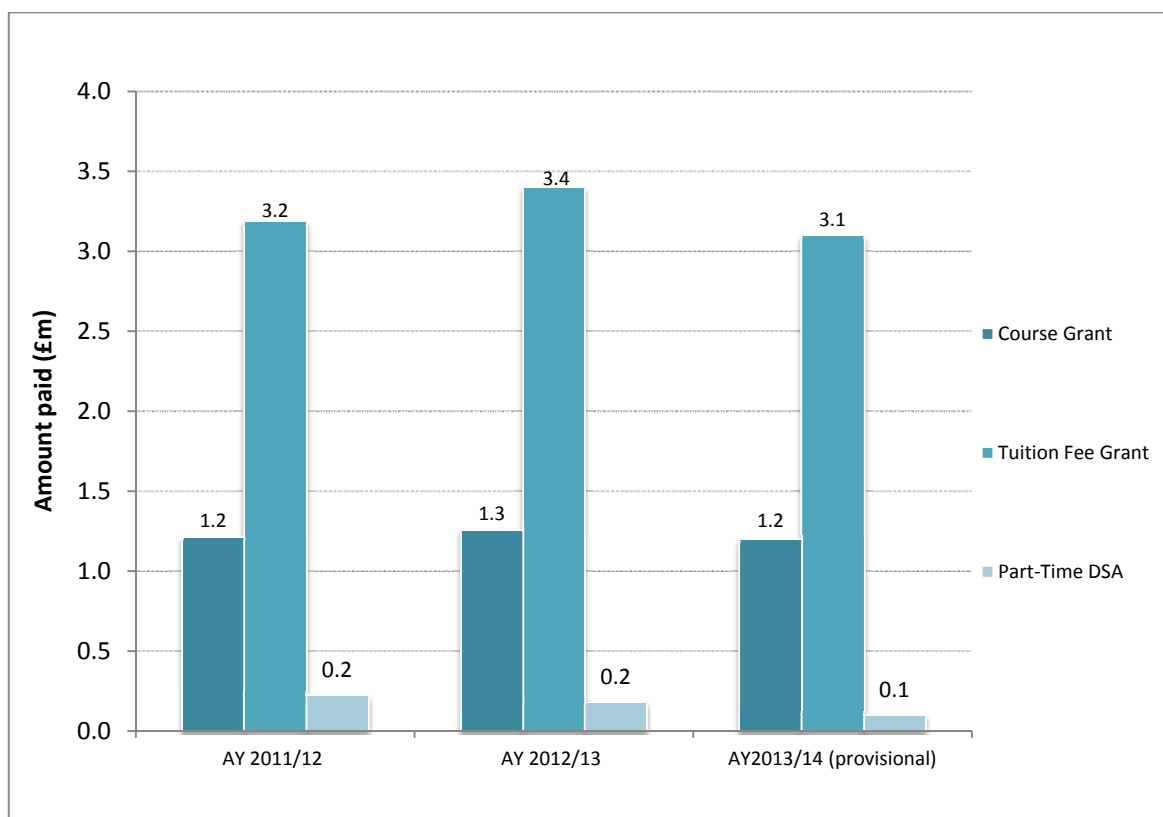


Chart 7 shows that payments for part-time tuition fee grant and part-time course grants rise between academic year 2011/12 and academic year 2012/13. Figures for academic year 2013/14 show a slight decrease; however, these figures are provisional and will be revised in November 2015. See Table 5.

DATA SOURCES

1. This publication uses data from a single source: administrative data from the SLC Customer Ledger Account Servicing System (CLASS). For details of the administrative sources see the published Statement of administrative sources published on the SLC website using the following link

http://www.slc.co.uk/media/520778/slc_statistics_-_statement_of_administrative_sources.pdf

DATA QUALITY

2. SLC has published the Quality Guidelines that it follows. As per those guidelines a Quality Plan is produced for each publication. The Quality Plan stipulates two stages of Quality Assurance. Data is extracted from the administrative systems then reviewed using a standard Quality Assurance checklist. The statistical tables created using that data are quality assured using the Statistical Quality guidelines. Further details can be found by following the link below

http://www.slc.co.uk/media/653716/slc_statistics_-_quality_guidelines.pdf

DATA USES

3. SLC has published a Uses Made document for Official statistics.

Further details can be found by following the link below

http://www.slc.co.uk/media/756631/slc_official_statistics_-_use_made.pdf

REVISIONS

4. Revisions within the data are denoted with an [r]. Some of these revisions are carried over from the previous year's publication and are, therefore, not revisions to this year's publication. Further details can be found by following the link below

http://www.slc.co.uk/media/520775/slc_statistics_-_revisions_policy.pdf

POLICY CONTEXT

Key policy changes from 2013/14

5. No significant changes have been made to the policy introduced for new entrants in 2012/13. Some of the thresholds have been upgraded and they affect equally the new entrants as well as those continuing after entry in 2012/13.

2012/13 entrants

6. Full-time students from Northern Ireland who start a course on or after 1 September 2012 in England, Wales or Scotland can apply for a tuition fee loan of up to £9,000. All other full-time Northern Ireland domiciled students can apply for a tuition fee loan of up to £3,685.

2011/12 entrants

Maintenance grant

7. Postgraduate teacher trainees (or those on equivalent courses) who commenced their teacher training courses before 1 September 2010 and are continuing on that course in AY 2011/12 receive a portion of the maximum grant irrespective of their income (the maximum amount of guaranteed grant is £1,318 for NI domiciled students); and the remainder is income assessed. Note that postgraduate or equivalent teacher trainees on part-time or short flexible courses which commenced before 1 September 2010 receive about half the rates of maintenance grant / special support Grant quoted above.

2010/11 entrants

8. Maintenance grant -- Northern Ireland domiciled teacher training students on postgraduate or equivalent courses will still be awarded a minimum maintenance grant / Special Support Grant regardless of income, with the remainder income assessed. If a full-time undergraduate student receives maintenance grant, a portion of the loan is substitutable for a grant of £1,887 for Northern Ireland domiciled students.

9. Maintenance loan -- For all students entering HE in September 2006 or later (other than those on an ITT course of type 1,2 or 3) reduce the maximum loan by the amount of grant awarded if the grant is less than £1,318. If the grant awarded is the maximum £3,475, reduce the loan by £1,887. Where students are eligible for a grant between £1,318 and £3,475, reduce the loan by £1,887 less £1 in every £17.25 by which the income exceeds £19,203 or the actual maintenance grant awarded if less; =

10. If the student is being assessed for a financial contribution, deduct the assessed contribution from the financially-assessed part of the loan.

RELATED STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS

11. Statistics on loans and grants awarded to students in HE in Northern Ireland in academic year 2012/13 (final) were published in SLC SFR 07/2013 on 28 November 2013. These can be found at <http://www.slc.co.uk/media/694176/slcsfr072013.pdf>

12. Statistics on the repayment of loans in financial year 2013-14 were published on 19 Jun 2014 in SLC SFR 03/2014. These can be found at <http://www.slc.co.uk/media/787035/slcsfr032014.pdf>

NOTES FOR USERS

13. The figures in this first release have been compiled by the Student Loans Company Limited (SLC). All student numbers and amounts have been rounded to the nearest 100 and £100,000 unless specified otherwise. All totals and averages are calculated from un-rounded numbers.

14. Details of the amounts of loans and grants available in academic year 2013/14 are publicly available in the Student Finance NI booklet 'A guide to financial support for higher education students in 2013/14', which can be found on the Student Finance NI website.

15. Figures also include postgraduate applicants and students taking their Initial Teacher Training (ITT) course on a full-time, part-time or flexible basis. All other part-time and postgraduate applicants and students are excluded as they are entitled to different support packages.

USER CONSULTATIONS

16. Consultation exercises are conducted by SLC on the Official Statistics it produces in order to understand who uses the publications, for what purpose, and to find out how they can be made more useful in terms of content, methodology, timeliness and presentation. As part of the consultation process SLC runs surveys. See the User Consultation Survey section of the SLC website at <http://www.slc.co.uk/statistics/statistics-user-consultation.aspx>.

17. The most recent response to user feedback can be found at http://www.slc.co.uk/media/689853/consultation_response_nov-jan_13_v7.pdf

NATIONAL STATISTICS

18. This is an Official Statistics publication. National and Official Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Official Statistics. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

TABLE GUIDE

Section 1 - Student Support Available

19. Table 1A shows the maximum support available for maintenance in Northern Ireland through the grants and Maintenance Loans schemes for student support scheme students between academic years 2011/12 and 2013/14.

20. Table 1B shows the support arrangement for new entrants in academic year 2013/14.

21. Chart 1 show the student support entitlements for the student support arrangement for academic year 2013/14.

Section 2 - Overview of Support Awarded

22. Table 2 shows the overview of all the products for student support scheme in Northern Ireland. It details the number of awards and the total amount of support awarded to Northern Ireland domiciled applicants for academic years from 2011/12 and 2013/14.

Section 3 - Grants and Allowances

23. Table 3A shows the distribution of Maintenance Grants for Northern Ireland domiciled students between academic years 2011/12 and 2013/14.

24. Table 3B shows the summary of Disabled Students Allowances (DSA) expenditure authorised for payment to full time Northern Ireland domiciled students, between academic years 2010/11 and 2013/14.

25. Table 3C shows the distribution of Other Targeted Support awards to Northern Ireland domiciled applicants between academic years 2011/12 and 2013/14.

Section 4 - Loans

26. Table 4A shows the number and take up of maintenance loans, the amount borrowed and the average loan value for the student support scheme for students domiciled in Northern Ireland between academic years 2011/12 and 2013/14. The Table also shows the take-up rate of Maintenance Loans in academic years 2011/12 and 2012/13.

27. Table 4B shows the number of Tuition Fee Loans taken out, the amount borrowed and the average loan value for the student support scheme for all students domiciled in Northern Ireland and for EU (Outside UK) students attending HE courses in Northern Ireland between academic years 2011/12 and 2013/14.

28. Table 4C shows the number of Tuition Fee Loans taken out, the amount borrowed and the average loan value for the student support scheme for all students domiciled in Northern Ireland broken down by Northern Ireland and other UK countries of HE Provider attended between academic years 2011/12 and 2013/14.

29. Table 4D shows the number for Maintenance Loans and Tuition Fee Loans combined, the amount borrowed and the average loan value for the student support scheme for students domiciled in Northern Ireland between academic years 2011/12 and 2013/14.

Section 5 – Part Time and Postgraduate

30. Table 5A shows the support given to part time students domiciled in Northern Ireland and EU (outside UK) students studying in Northern Ireland between academic years 2011/12 and 2013/14.

31. Table 5B shows the DSA support to Postgraduate students between academic years 2011/12 and 2013/14.

TABLES

Section 1 - Student Support Available

Table 1A : Maximum rates of Maintenance Grant and full year Maintenance Loan Available to full time Northern Ireland domiciled students [1][2] Academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14

Student support for maintenance (food, accommodation etc.) is provided via a combination of maintenance loans and/or maintenance grants. This table shows how the maximum amount of maintenance support has changed over the past three years using the example of a student studying for the full length of the academic year.

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Academic years	Rates [1]	Maximum maintenance grant (cash terms)	Maximum amount of maintenance loan (cash terms)	Overall Maximum support for Maintenance (cash terms)	Maintenance grant plus maintenance loan (constant prices)[3]
2011/2012	Elsew here	3,475	4,840	6,428	6,806
(2006/07 Arrangement) [1][4]	London	3,475	6,780	8,368	8,860
	Home	3,475	3,750	5,338	5,652
	Elsew here	2,000	4,840	5,340	5,654
(1998/99 Arrangement) [1]	London	2,000	6,780	7,280	7,708
	Home	2,000	3,750	4,250	4,500
2012/2013	Elsew here	3,475	4,840	6,428	6,631
(2006/07 Arrangement) [1][4]	London	3,475	6,780	8,368	8,632
	Home	3,475	3,750	5,338	5,506
	Elsew here	2,000	4,840	5,340	5,508
(1998/99 Arrangement) [1]	London	2,000	6,780	7,280	7,510
	Home	2,000	3,750	4,250	4,384
2013/2014	Elsew here	3,475	4,840	6,428	6,428
(2006/07 Arrangement) [1][4]	London	3,475	6,780	8,368	8,368
	Home	3,475	3,750	5,338	5,338
	Elsew here	2,000	4,840	5,340	5,340
(1998/99 Arrangement) [1]	London	2,000	6,780	7,280	7,280
	Home	2,000	3,750	4,250	4,250

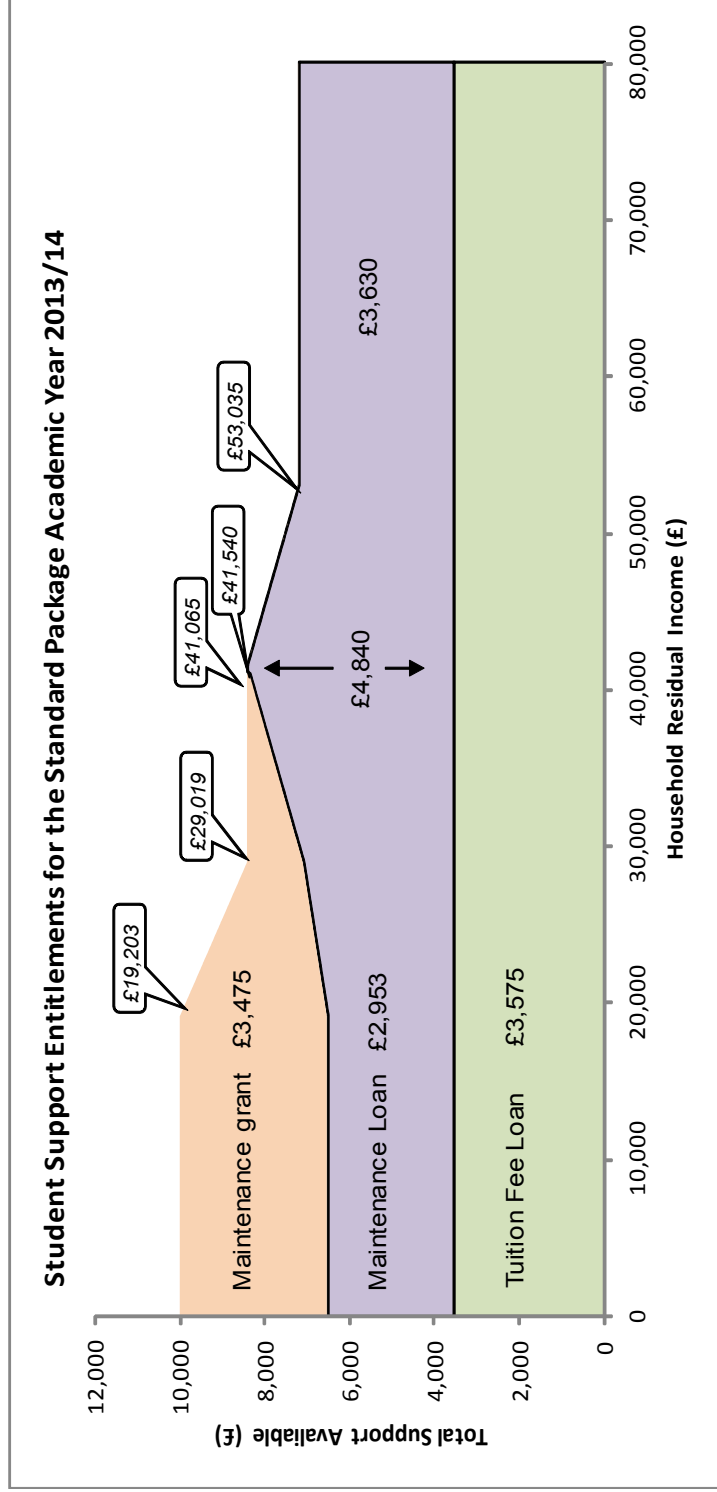
Source: Department for Employment and Learning (DEL), SLC

Table 1B : Student Support Arrangement for full time Northern Ireland domiciled students [1] Academic Year 2013/14

This table uses the entitlement amounts for a student living away from home and studying at an institution located in Northern Ireland i.e. the 'Elsewhere' rate for maintenance support in Table 1A.

Residual Income	Amount of tuition fee loan available [6]	Amount of maintenance grant available	Amount of maintenance loan available [7]
Up to and including £19,203	£3,575	£3,475	£2,953
Between £19,204 and £29,019	£3,575	£3475 to £1318	£2953 to £3522
Between £29,020 and £41,065	£3,575	£1318 to £50	£3522 to £4790
Between £41,066 and £41,540	£3,575	nil	£4,840
Between £41,541 to £53,035	£3,575	nil	£4840 to £3630
Over £53,035	£3,575	nil	£3,630

Chart 1: Student Support Arrangement for Northern Ireland domiciled Students



Section 2 - Overview of Support Awarded

Table 2: Total Number and Amount Awarded to Northern Ireland domiciled applicants for Student Support [1] Academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14

Key Points:

- The final number of full time applicants awarded student support for academic year 2013/14 was 46,700, which represents an increase of 2% on the previous academic year 2012/13 for which 45,800 applicants were awarded.
- The final amount of full time student support in total awarded for academic year 2013/14 was £359.3m which represents an increase of 8% on the previous academic year 2012/13 for which £331.2m was awarded.

Product Group	Table	Number of Applicants Awarded or Paid * (000's) [13]			Amount Awarded or paid * (£m)		
		2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
HE Maintenance Grant, Special Support Grant & HE Bursary	3A	25.7	24.2	24.8	68.6	67.0	68.1
Tuition Fee Grants	N/A	0.1	-	-	0.1	-	-
Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) (Provisional)	3B	1.5	1.7	1.6	2.9	3.0	2.8
Other Targeted Support	3C	1.1	1.1	1.0	3.4	3.7	3.7
Maintenance Loans	4A	40.1	40.8	42.1	125.9	127.3	131.2
Tuition Fee Loans	4C	36.3	37.4	39.0	109.2	130.1	153.6
Full Time Total [14]		44.5	45.8	46.7	310.1	331.2	359.3
Part Time	5A	4.6	4.8	4.4	4.6	4.9	4.5
Postgraduate	5B	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2
Grand Total [14]		49.2	50.7	51.3	314.9	336.3	364.0

Footnotes in Appendix 1

Source: Student Loans Company (SLC)

All applications for Higher Education (HE) student support under full time regulations from Northern Ireland domiciled applicants are assessed by Education Library Boards in Northern Ireland. If the applicant is found to be eligible they will be awarded student support, which will start to be paid once attendance has been confirmed by the HE Provider and the term start date has been reached. Many awards do not lead to payment because the applicant does not secure a place or chooses not to attend. The products awarded to each applicant will depend on several factors: the year that they entered HE; the loans (maintenance loan and/or tuition fee loan) they choose to take, if any; whether they submit financial details to be assessed for a means tested grant; whether they are entitled to a special grant or allowance such as the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA). * Payments are presented where available, however where a product type is not available in terms of payments, awards have been presented. This table gives the total of all the data in the following tables for Northern Ireland domiciled applicants. It does not include the Tuition Fee Loans data for EU domiciles, which appears in Table 4B.

Section 3 - Grants and Allowances

Table 3A : Distribution of Maintenance and Special Support Grants awarded to Northern Ireland domiciled applicants by Provider Type [1][15]
Academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14

Key Points:

- In academic year 2013/14 a total of £68.1m was awarded to applicants in all cohorts. This represents an increase of 2% on the previous academic year for which £67.0m was awarded in total.
- In academic year 2013/14, of the 41,300 Maintenance Grant eligible applicants , 38% were awarded full Maintenance Grant support, and 22% were awarded partial Maintenance Grant support. This was a 1 percentage point decrease in full grant awards compared with the position for 2012/13 at this point last year when it was 39%.

Provider Type	Level of Support	Maintenance Grant Eligible Applicants								
		Number (000s)				Percentage (%)				
		2011/12 (as at 18/11/12)	2012/13 (as at 17/11/13)	2013/14 (as at 16/11/14)	2011/12 (as at 18/11/12)	2012/13 (as at 17/11/13)	2013/14 (as at 16/11/14)	2011/12 (as at 18/11/12)	2012/13 (as at 17/11/13)	2013/14 (as at 16/11/14)
Public Provider	Full	16.1	15.2	15.5	39	38	38	53.7	52.9	53.6
	Partial	9.5	8.9	9.2	23	22	22	14.6	13.7	14.1
	Nil (eligible but not entitled) [16]	15.7	15.4	16.4	38	39	40	-	-	-
	Total	41.3	39.5	41.1	100	100	100	68.4	66.6	67.7
Alternative Provider	Full	0.1	0.1	0.1	35	45	44	0.2	0.3	0.3
	Partial	-	-	-	25	24	23	0.1	0.1	0.1
	Nil (eligible but not entitled) [16]	0.1	0.1	0.1	39	32	33	-	-	-
	Total	0.2	0.2	0.2	100	100	100	0.2	0.4	0.4
All Providers	Full	16.1	15.3	15.6	39	39	38	53.9	53.2	53.9
	Partial	9.6	8.9	9.2	23	22	22	14.7	13.8	14.2
	Nil (eligible but not entitled) [16]	15.8	15.5	16.5	38	39	40	-	-	-
	Total Full and Partial	25.7	24.2	24.8	100	100	100	68.6	67.0	68.1
Grand Total		41.5	39.7	41.3	100	100	100	68.6	67.0	68.1

Footnotes in Appendix 1

. = not applicable . - = nil or negligible .. = not available

Source: Student Loans Company Limited (SLC)

The applicants eligible for the Maintenance Grant are those who entered Higher Education (HE) in 2006/07 or later. This excludes anyone who receives a NHS Bursary. The grant is means tested. Applicants who do not submit financial evidence receive nil Maintenance Grant, as do those whose household residual income is above the highest threshold.

Table 3B: Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) Paid in support of full time students domiciled in Northern Ireland [1] Academic years 2010/11 to 2013/14

Key Points:

- Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) are administered separately to other types of financial support. Students submit suppliers invoices over a period longer than the academic year concerned; for this reason figures for 2013/14 remain subject to change.
- Final figures for academic year 2012/13 show that £3.0m was paid in DSA support compared to £2.9m in 2011/12.
- Provisional figures for 2013/14 show that so far 1,600 students have received DSA support to the amount of £2.8m.

	Number of Students in receipt of DSA (000's)			Amount Paid (£m) [21]				
	2010/11 (final) (as at 16/11/11)	2011/12 (final) (as at 13/11/13)	2012/13 (final) (as at 12/11/14)	2013/14 (provisional) (as at 12/11/14)	2010/11 (final) (as at 16/11/11)	2011/12 (final) (as at 13/11/13)	2012/13 (final) (as at 12/11/14)	2013/14 (provisional) (as at 12/11/14)
Total	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.6	2.7	2.9	3.0	2.8

Footnotes in Appendix 1

. = not applicable - = nil or negligible .. = not available

Applications for Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) are separate to core student support applications and follow a different process. The majority of DSA applications are received after the term starts as many students do not become aware that they are entitled to DSA support until they have started their course. Only a small proportion of the allowance is paid to the student. The vast majority is paid to suppliers once they pass on the invoices for equipment or services. Invoices continue to be received well after the end of the academic year which is why the figures are kept as provisional for one year longer than for the other products.

**Table 3C : Other Targeted Support Awards to Northern Ireland domiciled Applicants [1]
Academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14**

Key Points:

- For academic year 2013/14, 1,000 applicants were awarded targeted support other than DSA, which amounted to £3.7m compared to 1,100 applicants awarded in 2012/13 academic year which amounted to £3.7m.

Grants / Allowances	Number of Applicants Awarded (000s)				Amount Awarded (£m)			
	2011/12 (as at 18/11/12)	2012/13 (as at 17/11/13)	2013/14 (as at 16/11/14)		2011/12 (as at 18/11/12)	2012/13 (as at 17/11/13)	2013/14 (as at 16/11/14)	
Adult Dependents Grant	0.2	0.2	0.2		0.4	0.4	0.5	
Parents Learning Allowance	1.0	1.0	1.0		1.4	1.5	1.4	
Childcare Grant	0.4	0.4	0.4		1.5	1.7	1.8	
Travel Grant	0.1	0.1	-		0.1	0.1	-	
Total [14][17]	1.1	1.1	1.0		3.4	3.7	3.7	

Footnotes in Appendix 1

. = not applicable - = nil or negligible .. = not available

Source: Student Loans Company Limited (SLC)

This table shows all the non-repayable grants and allowances not covered elsewhere in Table 3. Like the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) they are all forms of targeted support. Unlike DSA there is some element of means testing for each product.

Section 4 - Loans

Table 4A(i) : Maintenance Loans paid to Northern Ireland domiciled students (final) [1]
Academic years 2012/13 to 2013/14

Key Points:

- In academic year 2013/14, 42,100 students were paid Maintenance Loan which amounted to £131.2m compared to 40,800 students paid in 2012/13 academic year which amounted to £127.3m borrowed. On average, students were paid maintenance loan worth £3,120 for 2013/14 academic year which is the same as the average in the 2012/13 academic year.
- The average amount paid to students at Alternative Providers is higher because they are more likely to be independent students with a lower household residual income and, hence, entitled to the means tested part of the loan.

	Number of Students Paid (000's)			Amount Paid (£m)			Average Amount Paid (£) [22]		
	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)
Public Provider	40.0	40.6	41.9	125.5	126.7	130.5	3,140	3,120	3,110
Alternative Provider	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.6	3,440	3,510	3,350
Total [18]	40.1	40.8	42.1	125.9	127.3	131.2	3,140	3,120	3,120

Footnotes in Appendix 1

Source : Student Loans Company Limited (SLC)

.. = not applicable - = nil or negligible .. = not available

Table 4A(ii) : Maintenance Loan take up by the estimated eligible population [1]

Key Points:

- The percentage of students eligible to take out a maintenance loan who chose to do so was 95.6% in academic year 2012/13

	Estimated Eligible Population (000s)		Students taking out loans (000s)		Estimated Percentage Take - up (%)	
	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13
Total	43.4	42.6	40.1	40.8	92.5	95.6

.. = not applicable - = nil or negligible .. = not available

Sources : Student Loans Company Limited (SLC); DEL

All Northern Ireland domiciled applicants who are eligible for student support can receive a Maintenance Loan. Some choose not to take one even though they might have received other support, such as a Maintenance Grant. Some do not apply for any support at all. Table 4(ii) shows the relationship between those who took out a maintenance loan and those who could have taken one, using estimates of the eligible student population from DEL. The applicant can choose to take all or part of the basic non means tested element of the Maintenance Loan. They can receive a higher amount if they submit financial evidence that shows their household residual income is within the range for additional Maintenance Loan entitlement.

Table 4B : Tuition Fee Loans paid to Higher Education Providers on behalf of Northern Ireland domiciled students and EU (Outside UK) students studying in Northern Ireland (final) Academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14 [1][25]

Key Points:

- For academic year 2013/14, Higher Education Providers were paid Tuition Fee Loans on behalf of 39,400 students which amounted to £154.8m compared to 37,800 Students paid in the 2012/13 academic year amounting to £131.3m.
- On average, students took out a Tuition Fee loan of £3,930 for the 2013/14 academic year, compared to £3,470 in 2011/12. The main cause of this increase was the higher fees level charged to new entrants since 2012/13 studying elsewhere in the UK (see Table 4C for a breakdown by Country of Study)

Provider Type	Domicile of Student	Number of Students Paid (000's)			Amount Paid (£m)			Average Amount Paid (£) [22]		
		2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)
Public Provider	Northern Ireland	36.2	37.2	38.8	108.8	129.5	152.9	3,010	3,480	3,940
	EU (Outside UK)	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	2,920	3,060	3,190
Alternative Provider	Northern Ireland	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.7	3,320	3,560	3,530
	EU (Outside UK)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total [18]		36.7	37.8	39.4	110.4	131.3	154.8	3,010	3,470	3,930

Footnotes in Appendix 1

Source: Student Loans Company Limited (SLC)

. = not applicable - = nil or negligible .. = not available

All applicants who are eligible for student support and are charged tuition fees can take out a Tuition Fee Loan that will cover all or part of the fees charged. The payments will be made directly to the HE Provider on their behalf.

**Table 4C : Tuition Fee Loans paid to Higher Education Providers on behalf of full time Northern Ireland domiciled students according to country of study (final) [1]
Academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14**

Key Points:

- For academic year 2013/14, Higher Education Providers were paid Tuition Fee Loans on behalf of 39,000 Northern Ireland domiciled students which amounted to £153.6m compared to 37,400 paid in the 2012/13 academic year amounting to £130.1m.
- On average, students took out a Tuition Fee loan of £3,940 for the 2013/14 academic year, compared to £3,480 in 2012/13. For those studying elsewhere in the UK the average was £5,840 in 2013/14 compared to £4,440 in 2012/13. This reflects the higher fees charged to new entrants since 2012/13 studying elsewhere in the UK

Provider Type	Country of Study	Number of Students Paid (000's)			Amount Paid (£m)			Average Amount Paid (£) [22]		
		2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)
All Providers	Northern Ireland	24.9	26.4	27.7	75.8	81.2	87.7	3,040	3,070	3,160
	Elsewhere in UK	11.4	11.0	11.3	33.4	48.9	65.9	2,930	4,440	5,840
Total [18]		36.3	37.4	39.0	109.2	130.1	153.6	3,010	3,480	3,940

Footnotes in Appendix 1

Source: Student Loans Company Limited (SLC)

. = not applicable - = nil or negligible .. = not available

The tuition fees charged vary from country to country of the HE Provider. The average amounts in this table illustrate the effect of those differences.

**Table 4D: Combined Total of Maintenance Loans and Tuition Fee Loans paid for full time Students domiciled in Northern Ireland (Final) [1]
Academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14**

Key Points

- In academic year 2013/14, 44,100 eligible students borrowed £284.7m in the form of a Maintenance Loan and/or a Tuition Fee Loan - an amount 11% higher than in 2012/13. On average, students took out combined loans worth £6,460 in 2013/14, compared to £6,000 in 2012/13.
- In the 2013/14 academic year, 5,100 (11% of) students received a maintenance loan only, 2,000 (4%) received a tuition fee loan only, and 37,000 (84%) received a combination of loans. Some students received only one type of support as they did not qualify for both, e.g. training nurses would typically only qualify for maintenance support.

Provider Type	Number of Students Paid (000's)		Total Amount Paid (£m)		Average Amount Paid (£) [22]				
	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)	2011/12 (as at 31/08/12)	2012/13 (as at 31/08/13)	2013/14 (as at 31/08/14)
Public Provider									
Maintenance Loan Only	5.9	5.5	5.1	17.1	16.6	15.1	2,870	3,030	2,990
Tuition Fee Loan Only	2.1	2.1	2.0	6.1	6.7	6.7	2,890	3,160	3,430
Maintenance Loan and Tuition Fee Loan	34.1	35.1	36.9	211.1	232.8	261.6	6,200	6,630	7,100
Total	42.1	42.7	43.9	234.3	256.2	283.5	5,560	5,990	6,460
Alternative Provider									
Maintenance Loan Only	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	4,100	4,140	-
Tuition Fee Loan Only	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	3,470	-
Maintenance Loan and Tuition Fee Loan	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.7	1.1	1.2	6,670	7,020	6,830
Total	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.8	1.2	1.3	6,090	6,440	6,430
All Providers									
Maintenance Loan Only	6.0	5.5	5.1	17.1	16.7	15.2	2,880	3,030	3,000
Tuition Fee Loan Only	2.1	2.2	2.0	6.1	6.8	6.8	2,890	3,160	3,430
Maintenance Loan and Tuition Fee Loan	34.2	35.3	37.0	211.8	233.9	262.8	6,200	6,630	7,090
Grand Totals	42.3	42.9	44.1	235.1	257.4	284.7	5,560	6,000	6,460

Footnotes in Appendix 1

. = not applicable - = nil or negligible .. = not available

Source: Student Loans Company Limited (SLC)

These tables combine the loan amounts shown in Tables 4A and 4B. The number of applicants/students is higher than in either of those tables because although the majority take out both types of loans, some take out Maintenance Loans only and some take out Tuition Fee Loans only.

Section 5 - Part Time and Postgraduate support

Table 5A: Payments to Part-Time Students domiciled in Northern Ireland and EU (Outside UK) domiciled students studying in Northern Ireland (Final) [1]

Academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14

Key Points

- In academic year 2013/14, 4,400 part-time students were paid some part-time Grants which amounted to £4.5m compared to 4,800 students paid in 2012/13 academic year which amounted to £4.9m paid. On average, part-time students were paid grants worth £1,010 for the 2013/14 academic year, the same as for the 2012/13 academic year.

Part-Time Product Types	Number of Students Paid (000's)			Total Amount Paid (£m)			Average Amount Paid (£) [22]		
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14 (Provisional)	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14 (Provisional)	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14 (Provisional)
Part-Time Grants	4.6	4.8	4.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	260	270	270
Tuition Fee Grant	4.6	4.7	4.4	3.2	3.4	3.1	700	720	710
Part-Time DSA [19]	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	1,790	1,510	1,400
Total	4.6	4.8	4.4	4.6	4.9	4.5	1,000	1,010	1,010

Footnotes in Appendix 1

Source: Student Loans Company Limited (SLC)

.. = not applicable - = nil or negligible .. = not available

Table 5B: Payments of DSA to Postgraduate students (Final) [1]

Academic years 2011/12 to 2013/14

Key Points

- In academic year 2013/14, 100 Postgraduate students were paid DSA Grants which amounted to £0.2m compared to 100 students paid for the 2012/13 academic year which amounted to £0.3m paid. On average, Postgraduate students were paid DSA grants worth £1,950 for 2012/13 academic year compared to £1,870 paid in 2011/12 academic year.

Postgraduate Product Types	Number of Students Paid (000's)			Total Amount Paid (£m)			Average Amount Paid (£) [22]		
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14 (Provisional)	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14 (Provisional)	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14 (Provisional)
Postgraduate DSA [19]	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	1,870	1,950	1,550

Footnotes in Appendix 1

Source: Student Loans Company Limited (SLC)

.. = not applicable - = nil or negligible .. = not available

These tables show the breakdown of different products paid to students not covered by full time regulations. They cover Northern Ireland domiciled students studying in the UK and EU (outside UK) students studying in Northern Ireland. Part time course grants are paid directly to the student while the part-time tuition fee grant and part-time tuition fee loan is paid directly to the HE Provider on behalf of the student. Postgraduate students on Initial Teacher Training (ITT) courses are covered by full time regulations so appear in the other tables. All other postgraduate students only have access to DSA and they are shown in Table 5B.

FOOTNOTES

[1] See Definitions for explanation of terms used.

[2] The rate of maintenance grant and loan is applicable to students normally domiciled in Northern Ireland.

[3] Using 2012/13 prices based on the September RPI, excluding mortgage interest payments at the beginning of each academic year.

[4] A means-tested Maintenance Grant of £3,265 was introduced in 2006/07, £3,406 introduced in 2009/10 and £3,475 introduced in 2010/11 onwards. Students in receipt of these grants are not eligible for the £2,000 HE Bursary.

[5] The amount of Maintenance Loan available is reduced by £1 for every £1 of Maintenance Grant received up to a maximum of £1,887. The maximum amount of support available is therefore lower than the sum of the maximum Maintenance Loan and the maximum Maintenance Grant.

[6] The amount of Tuition Fee Loan is equivalent to the tuition fee charged, up to a maximum of £3,375.

[7] Based on the 'Elsewhere' rate of loan

[8] Students in lower-income households will have part of their maintenance needs met through a non-repayable Maintenance Grant. So, their entitlement to repayable support through a Student Loan for Maintenance will therefore be reduced to reflect this. In practice, this means that the amount of Maintenance Loan a student can receive (maximum 'Elsewhere rate' £4,840) will be reduced by £1 for every £1 of Maintenance Grant entitlement.

[9] Reduced by £1 for every £4.55 of income above £19,203.

[10] Reduced by £1 for every £9.50 of income above £29,019.

[11] The full 'Elsewhere' rate of maintenance Loan

[12] All students are entitled to 75% of the appropriate student loan, but the remaining 25% is subject to means-testing.

[13] The number of students applying to the relevant Award Authority and successfully being awarded student support of some kind under the student support scheme.

[14] For the number of applicants awarded and paid, the total represents the count of individuals with at least one type of student support. This is different from the sum of the rows above. For the amount awarded, the total is the sum of the rows above.

[15] Means-tested Maintenance Grants are available to students entering HE from 2006/07. It includes the special support grants payable to vulnerable groups of students who may otherwise have their DSD benefits reduced. Those studying part-time or flexible PG ITT courses with a combined study and teaching practice weeks of between 6 to 10 weeks are eligible to apply for the reduced rate maintenance grant of £1,887 (academic year 2010/11). Students within this group who were awarded the reduced rate grant will be categorised as in receipt of a partial maintenance grant.

[16] Those that are eligible to apply for maintenance grant but were not awarded a grant

because their household residual income is greater than the upper earnings threshold to receive a partial grant, or the applicant has not supplied household income information. Note that those applicants who are receiving an NHS bursary are omitted from the grant eligible population.

[17] Excludes those applicants who do not apply for any student support. It Includes awards made to students who subsequently withdrew from their course or suspended study during the academic year. The eligible population for the Maintenance Grant comprises all students who entered HE in 2006/07 or later under the 2006/07 arrangements.

[18] Constituent parts may not add to totals due to rounding.

[19] Student support scheme students continuing study in 2010/11 under pre-2006/07 arrangements were assessed to contribute up to £1,318 to their fees depending on family income. 1999/00 is the first year in which Tuition Fee Grants were channelled via SLC to the HE Providers. 2005/06 is the last entry year for eligibility for Tuition Fee Grants.

[20] Includes students on courses where the fee support was not subject to income-assessment (e.g. PGCE courses, and some other ITT courses, and designated courses at Alternative Providers). It excludes those studying Part Time or Flexible PG ITT Courses with combined study and teaching practice periods of between 6 to 10 weeks.

[21] Includes the cost of need assessing of the applicants.

[22] Rounded to the nearest £10.

[23] Students entering HE prior to 2006/07.

[24] Students entering HE from 2006/07.

[25] Tuition Fee Loans are payable to Providers on behalf of students normally domiciled in Northern Ireland who attend an HE course anywhere in the United Kingdom as well as to students from the EU (Outside UK) attending HE courses in Northern Ireland.