

The Falmouth & Exeter Students' Union Advice Service

Welfare Benefits

Book an appointment,
get in touch with us:

 01326 255861

 www.thesu.org.uk/advice

 advice@thesu.org.uk

 **THE** FALMOUTH & EXETER
STUDENTS' UNION

Full-Time Students

As a general rule, full-time students are not entitled to means-tested welfare benefits.

Nevertheless, there are exceptions, including:

- Lone parents
- Students who live with a partner and have at least one dependent child
- Disabled students

Lone Parents

- A lone parent of a child under 5 years, may be entitled to **Income Support**.
- If you are a lone parent and your youngest child is 5 or older, you may be able to claim **Jobseekers' Allowance (JSA)** during the summer vacation.
- You qualify for **Housing Benefit (HB)** if you are a lone parent with a dependent child or qualifying young person under 20.

Students who live with a partner and have at least one dependent child

- You will also be entitled to **Housing Benefit** if you and your partner are both full-time students and you have a dependent child, if you are in receipt of a disability benefit, or if you are certified as severely sight-impaired or blind.
- One of you may also make a joint claim for **Jobseekers' Allowance** in the summer vacation.

Disabled Students

- If you are already in receipt of **Disability Living Allowance (DLA)** or **Personal Independence Payment (PIP)**, you should be able to continue your claim whilst studying. You are also entitled to make a new claim for PIP to assist with any day-to-day living or mobility problems.
- In some circumstances, full-time students in receipt of either DLA or PIP may be entitled to **Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)**. If you were already in receipt of ESA prior to becoming a student, you may still be able to continue your claim.

Part-Time Students

Part-time students may be entitled to receive **Universal Credit (UC)**.

Universal Credit replaces six existing benefits: Jobseekers Allowance, Employment Support Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit, Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit.

If you are already claiming one of those other benefits, you should continue to do so.

Getting Advice

If you think you might be entitled to any welfare benefits or have a problem with your existing benefit entitlement, you can book an appointment with one of our advisers here.

Alternatively, email your enquiry to advice@thesu.org.uk