



Durham
University

A Budgeting Guide for Postgraduate Students

Postgraduate Student
Ambassadors

My Guide to Budgeting for Postgraduate Students

Harvey | Finance MSc

Smart Budgeting Tips for Postgrad Life

- Colleges frequently schedule free food/drinks for movies, paint'n'sip etc...
- Prioritise needs (rent, food) before wants (takeaway, tech)
- Consider a “no-spend” day each week
- Use student discounts (UNiDAYS, TOTUM, railcard)





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Living Well for Less

- Part-time jobs: Uni ambassador, library, bar/restaurant, food delivery
- Saving on essentials: Aldi, Lidl, Tesco (Clubcard), Durham Market
- Buy second-hand: FB Marketplace, Vinted, £1 charity shop in town



For International Students & Accommodation Tips

- Bring: vital documents, seasonal clothing, adaptors
- Buy: kitchenware, duvets, stationery (HomeBargains, Argos, IKEA)
- Finding housing: StuRents for private or various options for student accommodation





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Support at Durham

- Financial support & hardship funds available
- College tutors & student support teams
- Free budgeting workshops & careers advice
- Nightline and wellbeing services for emotional support



My Guide to Budgeting for Postgraduate Students

Hung | Classics MA

Best place to study in Durham

- Bill Bryson Library (Open: Monday – Sunday)
- Your college library (Open: 24/7)
- Teaching and Learning centres
- My recommendation: The Undercroft café, Durham Cathedral



International students: What to bring with you and what to buy here

Bring:

Passport

University Acceptance Letter (CAS)

Umbrella

Rainproof jacket

Buy: (easily found in Tesco or Sainsbury's)

Kitchen and cooking supplies

Bedding and home comforts
(Mattress, laundry basket,...)

Personal care items (towels,
skincare products,...)



Best places to do your food shopping

For food and drinks: Tesco,
Sainsbury's (Market Place, city-
centre location)

For bedding material, fashion-
related: Prince Bishop's
shopping centre (centrally
located)

My Guide to Budgeting for Postgraduate Students

Zoe | Astronomy PhD

A Guide to Budgeting

How will your studies be funded?

- Faculty-based funding opportunities
- Scholarships and bursaries
- Commonwealth shared scholarships
- Loans

Expenses

- Tuition fees
- Accommodation
- Food and drink
- Utilities
- Travel
- Costs related to study
- Non-essential expenses

Housing/bills

- In-college options
- Central Durham
- Gilesgate
- Surrounding villages

Shopping

- Tesco express in central Durham
- Delivery
- Gilesgate



A Guide to Budgeting

Academic Equipment

- Grants
- Awards
- Equipment budget
- College
- Sponsorships

Academic Travel

- Grants
- Awards
- Travel budget?
- College
- Sponsorships

Partake in competitions and awards

Jobs

- DU Student Ambassador
- Tutor
- Invigilator
- Marker/demonstrator
- Outreach





Financial Support

- **Scholarships** <https://www.durham.ac.uk/study/scholarships/>
- **College support**
- **Cost of living hub** <https://www.durham.ac.uk/cost-living-hub/financial-support/>
- **Money advice** <https://www.durham.ac.uk/colleges-and-student-experience/student-support-and-wellbeing/student-money-advice/>

Thank you for listening!