



UWS CHILDCARE FUND 2026-27

GUIDANCE FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

The Purpose of the UWS Childcare Fund:

The purpose of the UWS Childcare Fund is to provide help meeting the costs of study-related childcare to eligible students who are unable to meet this cost independently. An award from this fund will only ever represent a contribution to relevant childcare costs. Support is in the form of a non-repayable bursary, paid directly to your childcare provider.

Before applying, you should make your childcare arrangements for your whole academic year. Requests for additional childcare funding later in the year are likely to result in a lower-value contribution, or refusal due to a depleted fund budget.

If you have unregistered childcare costs, we will need to discuss this with you before an application can be made. We are normally only able to consider contributing towards unregistered childcare costs where there are extenuating reasons for you being unable to use registered care. You should book an appointment with us so we can discuss your circumstances further, before submitting an application. [Students can make an appointment to speak with a Funding Advisor by contacting the Student Hub.](#)

How to Apply:

The application form is in 2 parts – the main application and a childcare form. The main part should be completed by you, the student, and the childcare form should be completed by your childcare provider(s) (one childcare form per provider, if you have more than one). Both parts must be submitted together, as per the guidance below.

The guidance notes that follow will help you to complete the application and gather together the required supporting evidence. Please follow this guidance carefully to ensure you submit the information required, in a suitable format.

You must submit your application and supporting evidence electronically, via email. If you have read this guidance and have any concerns about completing/submitting the application and supporting evidence as instructed, please contact us at fundingadvice@uws.ac.uk and we will be happy to help.

Spending a little time now reading this guidance carefully and preparing your application will pay off in the long run as we can finalise our assessment more quickly.

How to Complete and Collate your Application Pack – Electronically:

The application form is provided in Microsoft Word format. You should ensure you download and open the document fully, and enable editing, as you will be unable to edit this if it is in preview mode.

When the document has been opened fully, you will be able to provide all information required by typing directly into the document or choosing from a drop-down list of options. You will be unable to edit the document further but should not need to do so.

When you complete the application form, you should save this Microsoft Word document as your full name: we get thousands of emails and this will ensure we can easily identify your application.

Alongside your application form, we require supporting evidence to be submitted as a single PDF document. You should be able to access most, if not all, of the required supporting evidence in PDF format. This means you will need to gather together the required supporting evidence in an electronic format, and collate everything together into a single PDF document that makes up your entire package of supporting evidence.

There are many different free and paid-for PDF converter tools available. You can use any search engine or app store to find them, and choose the one that suits you best. The website **ilovepdf.com** is one option that allows you to convert files from one format to another, as well as to merge several files together.

We have a [specific guidance document showing you how to collate your supporting evidence into the single PDF document we need](#). Read this to increase the chances of you providing what we need in a format that allows us to assess your application more quickly.

Similar to your Microsoft Word document application, save your PDF file of supporting evidence as your full name.

In order to keep our assessment times as short as we can - so that you receive an outcome as quickly as possible - we are unable to accept applications which are not submitted in accordance with this guidance.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND US LARGE NUMBERS OF ATTACHMENTS, IMAGE FILES, LINKS TO EXTERNAL STORAGE, SCREENSHOTS OF EVIDENCE, SCREENSHOTS FROM YOUR PHONE, ETC.

We will not be able to accept this, and you will be referred back to this guidance. If you have difficulty in following the guidance, completing the form, or compiling your evidence, please contact us about this before submitting anything.

It takes us twice as long to upload and review 2 documents as it does to upload and review 1. If lots of students send us lots of attachments, it significantly slows down the process and will take us much longer to assess your application.

How to Submit your Application Pack:

Once you have your Microsoft Word application and single PDF document of collated supporting evidence, you should submit this via email attachment to fundingadvice@uws.ac.uk. If you are a continuing student, or already enrolled, you should send this from your student email account.

If we have accepted your application, you will receive confirmation that it has been received within 5 working days. If you do not receive any confirmation or other email responses (be sure to check junk/spam email folders), please contact us again as this may indicate that we did not receive your application.

The Childcare Form:

You **must** submit a completed Childcare Form reflecting the childcare costs for which you wish to apply through this fund. We do not require and cannot accept copies of contracts, invoices etc.

This Childcare Form should be completed by your childcare provider – not you. However, you should ensure you discuss your childcare requirements with your provider, so the form reflects the care you have signed up for.

The form should include your study-related childcare costs **for the whole of your academic year.** Requests for additional childcare funding later in the year are likely to result in a lower-value award, or refusal due to a depleted fund budget.

The Childcare Form appears at the end of the application; the [Childcare Form is also available on the Discretionary and Childcare Fund webpage](#).

As with your application form, this is provided in Microsoft Word format. When the document has been opened fully (i.e. not in preview mode), your provider will be able to enter all information required by typing directly into the document or choosing from a drop-down list of options.

Once complete, your provider should return the form to you. You should save this as your full name, and submit it to us along with your own application, and your supporting evidence.

How to Complete the Application – Section by Section:

Section 1:

Fill in your personal details, including telephone numbers should we need to reach you.

Your Banner ID number is your unique UWS identification number. If you are a new student, this will be detailed on your offer, and other communications from UWS. It begins with B0 and is followed by 7 digits.

When telling us the number of financially dependent children you have, this should include only those for whom you are still receiving Child Benefit.

Please tick to confirm how you meet the eligibility criteria.

Please tick to indicate your household income source(s), and note the evidence required for each. Use Section 4 if there is anything else you want to tell us about your household income.

Section 2:

Tell us what course you are studying and the mode of study.

Section 3:

You should provide details of your childcare provider(s), including their registration number, and your total costs with that provider for your academic year. This should match the detail provided in the Childcare Form, which we will expect you to submit along with this application.

Further guidance on completing the Childcare Form can be found above.

If you have unregistered childcare costs you will need to discuss this with a Funding Adviser **before** making an application. Where extenuating reasons mean an award may be possible, the Adviser will guide you in how to progress an application.

Section 4:

Use this section to add anything further to your application that you feel is important. You may wish to come back to this section as you work through the rest of the application and identify information that you think will help us better understand your circumstances.

Section 5:

This section details what evidence we require, and further guidance can be found below.

Don't forget to add your name and date to the declaration – without this we cannot proceed. There is no requirement for a real signature as we will accept your typed name and date.

Further Guidance on Supporting Evidence:

SAAS Award Notice:

If you are a SAAS funded student, we need a copy of this document showing your award for the 2026/27 academic year. Download a PDF version of this directly from your SAAS online account.

Evidence of household income:

If you are a UK student in receipt of Universal Credit, please see section below.

If you are a UK student not in receipt of Universal Credit, we need evidence that your household income is under £25k or £30k per year. Please provide your partner's most recent P60, or payslips for the last three months, or bank statements with your household income highlighted. Save this evidence as a PDF to include in your application pack.

If you are not a UK student, we need evidence that your household income is under £25k or £30k per year, such as a P60, payslips for the last 3 months etc. This would include a spouse/partner, whether they live with you in the UK or not. Save this evidence as a PDF to include in your application pack.

Universal Credit:

If you are a UK student in receipt of Universal Credit, we will use this to confirm both your household income and financial dependents for whom you are responsible.

To access your Universal Credit award statement, go to the home page of your online Universal Credit account. From there you can access your latest monthly statement (if calculated) as well as all your previous monthly statements. The statement shows both how much you will be paid and the calculations relating to this payment. Even if the award is £0, the statement is required for us to assess your application. [Find out more about getting statements from your online Universal Credit account.](#)

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit, we will expect you to have declared your student funding so that your Universal Credit claim is calculated correctly. If your Universal Credit statement does not show you student funding being taken into consideration, we may not be able to complete the assessment of your UWS Childcare Fund application.

If you are not a UK student, you will not have Universal Credit, so we do not expect you to include this evidence.

Checklist:

Follow this handy checklist to help you complete and collate your application pack.

TASK	TICK WHEN COMPLETE
Step 1: Complete the application form. Save your completed application form as your full name.	
Step 2: Ask your Childcare Provider to complete the Childcare Form.	
Step 3: Gather your supporting evidence together. This includes your student funding award letter, Universal Credit statement, and/or evidence of your household income.	
Step 4: Convert any supporting evidence into a PDF format. Use your preferred tool to convert all supporting evidence to PDF, if not already in that format. Save these PDFs alongside your completed application form.	
Step 5: Collate your supporting evidence into a single PDF document. Use your preferred tool to merge all of your individual PDFs into a single PDF document. Save this as your full name. You are now ready to submit your application form and childcare form together with your PDF document including all supporting evidence i.e. three email attachments.	