STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2006 No. 213

The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006

PART 7

Students

SECTION 1

General

Interpretation

53.—(1) In this Part—

"academic year" means the period of twelve months beginning on 1st January, 1st April, 1st July or 1st September according to whether the course in question begins in the winter, the spring, the summer or the autumn respectively but if students are required to begin attending the course during August or September and to continue attending through the autumn, the academic year of the course shall be considered to begin in the autumn rather than the summer;

"access funds" means-

- (a) grants made under section 68 of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 M1 for the purpose of providing funds on a discretionary basis to be paid to students;
- (b) grants made under sections 73(a) and (c) and 74(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 M²; or
- (c) grants made under Article 30 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 M3 or grants, loans or other payments made under Article 5 of the Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 M4 in each case being grants, or grants, loans or other payments as the case may be, for the purpose of assisting students in financial difficulties;
- (d) discretionary payments, known as "learner support funds", which are made available to students in further education by institutions out of funds provided by the [F1]F2Secretary of State under section 14 of the Education Act 2002]F3... under sections 100 and 101 of [F4the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009]]M5; or
- (e) Financial Contingency Funds made available by the [F5Welsh Ministers];

"college of further education" means a college of further education within the meaning of Part I of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992 M6;

[F6" contribution" means—

- (a) any contribution in respect of the income of a student or any person which the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or an education authority takes into account in ascertaining the amount of a student's grant or student loan; or
- (b) any sums, which in determining the amount of a student's allowance or bursary in Scotland under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, the Scottish Ministers or education

authority takes into account being sums which the Scottish Ministers or education authority consider that it is reasonable for the following persons to contribute towards the holder's expenses—

- (i) the holder of the allowance or bursary;
- (ii) the holder's parents;
- (iii) the holder's parent's spouse, civil partner or a person ordinarily living with the holder's parent as if he or she were the spouse or civil partner of that parent; or
- (iv) the holder's spouse or civil partner;]

"course of study" means any course of study, whether or not it is a sandwich course and whether or not a grant is made for undertaking or attending it;

"covenant income" means the gross income payable to a full-time student under a Deed of Covenant by his parent;

"education authority" means a government department, [F7a local authority as defined in section 579 of the Education Act 1996 (interpretation)], a local education authority as defined in section 123 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 M7, an education and library board established under Article 3 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 M8, any body which is a research council for the purposes of the Science and Technology Act 1965 M9 or any analogous government department, authority, board or body, of the Channel Islands, Isle of Man or any other country outside Great Britain;

"full-time course of study" means a full-time course of study which—

- (a) is not funded in whole or in part by the [F8[F9]Secretary of State under section 14 of the Education Act 2002][F10] or under section 100 of the Apprenticeships, Children, Skills and Learning Act 2009]] or by the [F11]Welsh Ministers] or a full-time course of study which is not funded in whole or in part by the Scottish Ministers at a college of further education or a full-time course of study which is a course of higher education and is funded in whole or in part by the Scottish Ministers;
- (b) is funded in whole or in part by the [F8[F9]Secretary of State under section 14 of the Education Act 2002][F12] or under section 100 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009]] or by the [F11]Welsh Ministers] if it involves more than 16 guided learning hours per week for the student in question, according to the number of guided learning hours per week for that student set out—
 - (i) [F13 in the case of a course funded by the Young People's Learning Agency for England F14... in the student's learning agreement signed on behalf of the establishment which is funded by [F15 the Secretary of State] for the delivery of that course; or]
 - (ii) in the case of a course funded by the [F11Welsh Ministers], in a document signed on behalf of the establishment which is funded by that Council for the delivery of that course; or
- (c) is not higher education and is funded in whole or in part by the Scottish Ministers at a college of further education and involves—
 - (i) more than 16 hours per week of classroom-based or workshop-based programmed learning under the direct guidance of teaching staff according to the number of hours set out in a document signed on behalf of the college; or
 - (ii) 16 hours or less per week of classroom-based or workshop-based programmed learning under the direct guidance of teaching staff and it involves additional hours using structured learning packages supported by the teaching staff where the

combined total of hours exceeds 21 hours per week, according to the number of hours set out in a document signed on behalf of the college;

"full-time student" means a person attending or undertaking a full-time course of study and includes a student on a sandwich course;

"grant" (except in the definition of access funds means any kind of educational grant or award and includes any scholarship, studentship, exhibition, allowance or bursary but does not include a payment from access funds or any payment to which paragraph 11 of Schedule 5 or [F16paragraph 51] of Schedule 6 applies;

"grant income" means—

- (a) any income by way of a grant;
- (b) any contribution whether or not it is paid;

"higher education" means higher education within the meaning of Part 2 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992;

"last day of the course" means—

- (a) in the case of a qualifying course, the date on which the last day of that course falls or the date on which the final examination relating to that course is completed, whichever is the later;
- (b) in any other case, the date on which the last day of the final academic term falls in respect of the course in which the student is enrolled;

"period of study" means—

- (a) in the case of a course of study for one year or less, the period beginning with the start of the course and ending with the last day of the course;
- (b) in the case of a course of study for more than one year, in the first or, as the case may be, any subsequent year of the course, other than the final year of the course, the period beginning with the start of the course or, as the case may be, that year's start and ending with either—
 - (i) [F17the day before the start of the next year of the course in a case where the student's grant or loan is assessed at a rate appropriate to his studying throughout the year or, if he does not have a grant or loan, where a loan would have been assessed at such a rate had he had one; or]
 - (ii) in any other case, the day before the start of the [F18 normal] summer vacation appropriate to his course;
- (c) in the final year of a course of study of more than one year, the period beginning with that year's start and ending with the last day of the course;

"periods of experience" means periods of work experience which form part of a sandwich course;

[F19" postgraduate master's degree loan" means a loan which a student is eligible to receive under the Education (Postgraduate Master's Degree Loans) Regulations 2016;]

"qualifying course" means a qualifying course as defined for the purposes of Parts 2 and 4 of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations;

[F20" sandwich course" has the meaning prescribed in regulation 2(9) of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2008, regulation 4(2) of the Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 or regulation 2(8) of the Education (Student Support) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007, as the case may be;]

"standard maintenance grant" means—

- (a) except where paragraph (b) or (c) applies, in the case of a student attending or undertaking a course of study at the University of London or an establishment within the area comprising the City of London and the Metropolitan Police District, the amount specified for the time being in paragraph 2(2)(a) of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003 M10 ("the 2003 Regulations") for such a student;
- (b) except where paragraph (c) applies, in the case of a student residing at his parent's home, the amount specified in paragraph 3 thereof;
- (c) in the case of a student receiving an allowance or bursary under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 MII, the amount of money specified as "standard maintenance allowance" for the relevant year appropriate for the student set out in the Student Support in Scotland Guide issued by the Student Awards Agency for Scotland MI2, or its nearest equivalent in the case of a bursary provided by a college of further education or a local education authority MI3;
- (d) in any other case, the amount specified in paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 2 to the 2000 Regulations other than in sub-paragraph (a) or (b) thereof;

"student" means a person, other than a person in receipt of a training allowance, who is attending or undertaking—

- (a) a course of study at an educational establishment; or
- (b) a qualifying course;

"student loan" means a loan towards a student's maintenance pursuant to any regulations made under section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998 M14, section 73 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 or Article 3 of the Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 M15 and shall include, in Scotland, a young student's bursary paid under regulation 4(1)(c) of the [F22Students' Allowances (Scotland) Regulations 2007] M16.

- (2) For the purposes of the definition of "full-time student" in paragraph (1), a person shall be regarded as attending or, as the case may be, undertaking a full-time course of study or as being on a sandwich course—
 - (a) subject to paragraph (3), in the case of a person attending or undertaking a part of a modular course which would be a full-time course of study for the purposes of this Part, for the period beginning on the day on which that part of the course starts and ending—
 - (i) on the last day on which he is registered with the educational establishment as attending or undertaking that part as a full-time course of study; or
 - (ii) on such earlier date (if any) as he finally abandons the course or is dismissed from it;
 - (b) in any other case, throughout the period beginning on the date on which he starts attending or undertaking the course and ending on the last day of the course or on such earlier date (if any) as he finally abandons it or is dismissed from it.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (2), the period referred to in that sub-paragraph shall include—
 - (a) where a person has failed examinations or has failed to successfully complete a module relating to a period when he was attending or undertaking a part of the course as a full-time course of study, any period in respect of which he attends or undertakes the course for the purpose of retaking those examinations or that module;
 - (b) any period of vacation within the period specified in that paragraph or immediately following that period except where the person has registered with the educational establishment to attend or undertake the final module in the course and the vacation immediately follows the last day on which he is required to attend or undertake the course.

(4) In paragraph (2), "modular course" means a course of study which consists of two or more modules, the successful completion of a specified number of which is required before a person is considered by the educational establishment to have completed the course.

Textual Amendments

- F1 Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (1.9.2010) by The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (Consequential Amendments to Subordinate Legislation) (England) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/1941), art. 14(3)(a), reg. 1
- **F2** Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (1.5.2012) by The Young Peoples Learning Agency Abolition (Consequential Amendments to Subordinate Legislation) (England) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012/956), arts. 1, 11(3)(a)(i)
- Words in reg. 53 omitted (26.5.2015) by virtue of The Deregulation Act 2015 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/971), art. 1(2)(a), Sch. 3 para. 8(3)(a)
- **F4** Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (1.5.2012) by The Young Peoples Learning Agency Abolition (Consequential Amendments to Subordinate Legislation) (England) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012/956), arts. 1, 11(3)(a)(ii)
- Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (5.1.2009) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 7) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/3157), regs. 1(1), 5(4)(a)
- Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (6.4.2009) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/583), regs. 1(2), 6(6)(a)
- F7 Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (5.5.2010) by The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities (Integration of Functions) (Local and Subordinate Legislation) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/1172), art. 1(1), Sch. 3 para. 64
- F8 Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (1.9.2010) by The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (Consequential Amendments to Subordinate Legislation) (England) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/1941), art. 14(3)(b)(i), reg. 1
- F9 Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (1.5.2012) by The Young Peoples Learning Agency Abolition (Consequential Amendments to Subordinate Legislation) (England) Order 2012 (S.I. 2012/956), arts. 1, 11(3)(b)(i)
- F10 Words in reg. 53 substituted (26.5.2015) by The Deregulation Act 2015 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/971), art. 1(2)(a), Sch. 3 para. 8(3)(b)(i)
- F11 Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (5.1.2009) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 7) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/3157), regs. 1(1), 5(4)(b)
- F12 Words in reg. 53 substituted (26.5.2015) by The Deregulation Act 2015 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/971), art. 1(2)(a), Sch. 3 para. 8(3)(b)(ii)
- F13 Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (1.9.2010) by The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (Consequential Amendments to Subordinate Legislation) (England) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/1941), art. 14(3)(b)(ii), reg. 1
- F14 Words in reg. 53 omitted (26.5.2015) by virtue of The Deregulation Act 2015 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/971), art. 1(2)(a), Sch. 3 para. 8(3)(aa), (b)(iii)
- F15 Words in reg. 53 substituted (26.5.2015) by The Deregulation Act 2015 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/971), art. 1(2)(a), Sch. 3 para. 8(3)(b)(iii), (bb)
- F16 Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (19.5.2008) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No.2) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1042), regs. 1(2), 3(6)(a)
- F17 Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (6.4.2009) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/583), regs. 1(2), 6(6)(b)(i)
- F18 Word in reg. 53(1) substituted (6.4.2009) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/583), regs. 1(2), 6(6)(b)(ii)
- Words in reg. 53(1) inserted (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, 4(2)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7. (See end of Document for details)

```
Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (19.5.2008) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments)
        (No.2) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1042), regs. 1(2), 3(6)(b)
       Words in reg. 53(1) omitted (17.11.2008) by virtue of The Social Security (Miscellaneous
        Amendments) (No.6) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/2767), regs. 1(2), 6(5)(b)
       Words in reg. 53(1) substituted (19.5.2008) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments)
        (No.2) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1042), regs. 1(2), 3(6)(c)
Marginal Citations
 M1
       1992 c. 13.
 M2
       1980 c. 44; the functions of the Secretary of State were transferred to Scottish Ministers by virtue of
       section 53 of the Scotland Act 1998(c. 46).
 M3
       S.I. 1993/2810 (N.I.12).
 M4
       S.I. 1997/1772 (N.I.15).
 M5
       2000 c. 21.
       1992 c. 37.
 M6
 M7
       1973 c. 65.
       S.I. 1986/594 (N.I.3).
 М9
       1965 c. 4.
 M10 S.I. 2003/1994; the relevant amending Instrument is S.I. 2005/2083.
 M11 1980 c. 44.
 M12 The relevant leaflets are SAS2, SAS4 and SAS6.
 M13 1992 c. 37.
 M14 1998 c. 30.
 M15 S.I. 1998/1760 (N.I. 14).
 M16 S.I. 1999/1131.
```

Treatment of students

54. The provisions of Parts 2, 3 and 4 (entitlement to housing benefit, payments in respect of a dwelling, membership of a family) shall have effect in relation to students subject to the following provisions of this Part.

SECTION 2

Entitlement and payments in respect of a dwelling

Occupying a dwelling as a person's home

- **55.**—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), a full-time student shall not be treated as occupying a dwelling as his home during any benefit week outside the period of study if he is absent from it for the whole of that week and if the main purpose of his occupation during the period of study would be to facilitate attendance on his course.
- (2) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall not apply to any absence occasioned by the need to enter hospital for treatment.

Full-time students to be treated as not liable to make payments in respect of a dwelling

- **56.**—(1) A full-time student shall be treated as if he were not liable to make payments in respect of a dwelling.
 - (2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a full-time student—
 - (a) who is a person on income support [F23, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance];

- [F²⁴(aa) who is a person on universal credit, except where the award of universal credit to that person includes an amount in respect of a liability to make payments in respect of the accommodation they occupy as their home, in accordance with section 11 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (housing costs);]
 - (b) who is a lone parent;
 - (c) whose applicable amount would, but for paragraph (1), include the F25... disability premium or severe disability premium;
 - (d) whose applicable amount would include the disability premium but for his being treated as capable of work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with regulations made under section 171E of the Act^{M17};
 - (e) who is, or is treated as, incapable of work and has been so incapable, or has been so treated as incapable, of work in accordance with the provisions of, and regulations made under, Part 12A of the Act (incapacity for work) for a continuous period of not less than 196 days; and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 56 days shall be treated as one continuous period;
- [F26(ea)] who has, or is treated as having, limited capability for work and has had, or been treated as having, limited capability for work in accordance with the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations [F27] or the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013] for a continuous period of not less than 196 days and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 84 days must be treated as one continuous period;]
 - (f) who has a partner who is also a full-time student, if he or that partner is treated as responsible for a child or young person;
 - (g) who is a single claimant with whom a child is—
 - (i) placed by a local authority or voluntary organisation under [F28 section 22C(2)] or section 59(1)(a) of the Children Act 1989 M18 (provision of accommodation and maintenance); F29...
 - [F30(ia) in Wales, placed by a local authority under section 81(2) of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or]
 - (ii) in Scotland, boarded out by a local authority or voluntary organisation within the meaning of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968^{M19};

[F31(h) who is—

- (i) aged under 21 and whose course of study is not a course of higher education;
- (ii) aged 21 and attained that age during a course of study which is not a course of higher education; or
- (iii) a qualifying young person or child within the meaning of section 142 of the Act (child and qualifying young person);
- (i) in respect of whom—
 - (i) a supplementary requirement has been determined under paragraph 9 of Part 2 of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003^{M20}; or
 - [F32(ii) an allowance or, as the case may be, bursary has been granted which includes a sum under paragraph (1)(d) of regulation 4 of the Students' Allowances (Scotland) Regulations 2007 or, as the case may be, under paragraph (1)(d) of regulation 4 of the Education Authority Bursaries (Scotland) Regulations 2007, in respect of expenses incurred; or

- (iii) a payment has been made under section 2 of the Education Act 1962 M21 or under, or by virtue of regulations made under, the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998 M22. or
- (iv) a grant has been made under [F33 regulation 37 of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2008] or under [F33 regulation 39 of the Education (Student Support) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007]; or
- (v) a supplementary requirement has been determined under paragraph 9 of Schedule 6 to the [F34Students Awards Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003]M23 or a payment has been made under Article 50(3) of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986M24,

on account of his disability by reason of deafness; or

- (i) who—
 - (i) immediately before 1st September 1990 was in receipt of income support by virtue of paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987 as then in force; or
 - (ii) on or after that date makes a claim for income support or housing benefit (or both) and at any time during the period of 18 months immediately preceding the date of that claim was in receipt of income support either by virtue of that paragraph or regulation 13(2)(b) of those Regulations,

but this sub-paragraph shall cease to apply where the person has ceased to be in receipt of income support for a continuous period of 18 months or more.

- [F35(2A) Paragraph (2)(h)(ii) only applies to a claimant until the end of the course during which the claimant attained the age of 21.]
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (2), once paragraph (2)(e) applies to a full-time student, if he then ceases, for a period of 56 days or less, to be incapable, or to be treated as incapable, of work, that paragraph shall, on his again becoming so incapable, or so treated as incapable, of work at the end of that period, immediately thereafter apply to him for so long as he remains incapable, or is treated as remaining incapable, of work.
- (4) In paragraph (2)(h) reference to a course of higher education is a reference to a course of any description mentioned in Schedule 6 to the Education Reform Act 1988^{F36}....
- (5) A full-time student to whom sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph (2) applies shall be treated as satisfying that sub-paragraph from the date on which he made a request for the supplementary requirement, allowance, bursary or payment, as the case may be.
- (6) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a full-time student for the period specified in paragraph (7) if—
 - (a) at any time during an academic year, with the consent of the relevant education establishment, he ceases to attend or undertake a course because he is—
 - (i) engaged in caring for another person; or
 - (ii) ill
 - (b) he has subsequently ceased to be engaged in caring for that person or, as the case may be, he has subsequently recovered from that illness; and
 - (c) he is not eligible for a grant or a student loan in respect of the period specified in paragraph (7).

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7. (See end of Document for details)

- (7) The period specified for the purposes of paragraph (6) is the period not exceeding one year beginning on the day on which he ceased to be engaged in caring for that other person or, as the case may be, the day on which he recovered from that illness and ending on the day before—
 - (a) the day on which he resumes attending or undertaking the course; or
 - (b) the day from which the relevant educational establishment has agreed that he may resume attending or undertaking the course,

whichever shall first occur.

Textual Amendments

- **F23** Words in reg. 56(2)(a) substituted (27.10.2008) by The Employment and Support Allowance (Consequential Provisions) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1082), regs. 1, **17(a)**
- F24 Reg. 56(2)(aa) inserted (28.10.2013) by The Universal Credit (Transitional Provisions) and Housing Benefit (Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/2070), regs. 1, 7(5)
- F25 Words in reg. 56(2)(c) omitted (19.5.2008) by virtue of The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No.2) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1042), regs. 1(2), 3(7)(a)
- F26 Reg. 56(2)(ea) inserted (27.10.2008) by The Employment and Support Allowance (Consequential Provisions) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1082), regs. 1, 17(b)
- F27 Words in reg. 56(2)(ea) inserted (29.4.2013) by The Universal Credit (Consequential, Supplementary, Incidental and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/630), regs. 1(2), 35(6)
- **F28** Words in reg. 56(2)(g)(i) substituted (3.11.2017) by The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/901), arts. 1, **25(3)**
- **F29** Word in reg. 56(2)(g)(i) omitted (3.11.2017) by virtue of The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/901), arts. 1, 11(5)(a)
- **F30** Reg. 56(2)(g)(ia) inserted (3.11.2017) by The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/901), arts. 1, **11(5)(b)**
- F31 Reg. 56(2)(h) substituted (1.4.2012 for specified purposes, 2.4.2012 in so far as not already in force) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 2012/757), regs. 1(2), 12(a)
- **F32** Reg. 56(2)(i)(ii) substituted (19.5.2008) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No.2) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1042), regs. 1(2), **3(7)(b)**
- F33 Words in reg. 56(2)(i)(iv) substituted (19.5.2008) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No.2) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1042), regs. 1(2), 3(7)(c)
- F34 Words in reg. 56(2)(i)(v) substituted (19.5.2008) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No.2) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1042), regs. 1(2), 3(7)(d)
- F35 Reg. 56(2A) substituted (1.4.2012 for specified purposes, 2.4.2012 in so far as not already in force) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 2012/757), regs. 1(2), 12(b)
- F36 Word in reg. 56(4) omitted (19.5.2008) by virtue of The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No.2) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1042), regs. 1(2), 3(7)(e)

Marginal Citations

- M17 Section 171E was inserted by section 6 of the Social Security (Incapacity for Work) Act 1994 (c. 18).
- M18 1989 c. 41; sections 23(2)(a) and 59(1)(a) were amended by the Children Act 2004 (c. 31), section 116, Schedule 4, paragraph 14(1) and (3)(a).
- M19 1968 c. 49.
- M20 S.I. 2003/1994; the relevant amending Instrument is S.I. 2005/2083.
- **M21** 1962 c. 12; *see also* Article 3 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998 (Commencement No. 4 and Transitional Provisions) Order (S.I. 1998/3237).

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7. (See end of Document for details)

```
M22 1998 c. 30.
M23 S.I. 1999/351; the relevant amending Regulations are S.I. 1999/369.
M24 S.I. 1986/594 (N.I.3).
```

Student's eligible housing costs

- **57.**—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (4), housing benefit shall not be payable during the period of study in respect of payments made by a student to an educational establishment which the student is attending.
- (2) Subject to paragraph (4), where the educational establishment itself pays rent for the dwelling occupied by the student as his home to a third party (other than to another educational establishment) the provisions of paragraph (1) shall only apply if rent is payable under the terms of a long tenancy or to an education authority which has provided the dwelling in exercise of its functions as an education authority.
- (3) Where it appears to the relevant authority that an educational establishment has arranged for accommodation to be provided by a person or body other than itself in order to take advantage of the housing benefit scheme, housing benefit shall not be payable during the period of study in respect of payments made to that person or body by a student.
- (4) Housing benefit shall be payable during the period of study in respect of payments made by a student to an educational establishment which the student is attending where the student—
 - (a) is one who falls within a category specified in regulation 56(2); or
 - (b) would fall within a category specified in regulation 56(2)(b) to (j) if he were a full-time student

Student partners

58. Where a claimant is not, but his partner is, a student, the provisions of regulation 57 (student's eligible housing costs) shall apply as if the claimant were a student.

SECTION 3

Income

Calculation of grant income

- **59.**—(1) The amount of a student's grant income to be taken into account shall, subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), be the whole of his grant income.
 - (2) There shall be excluded from a student's grant income any payment—
 - (a) intended to meet tuition fees or examination fees;
 - (b) in respect of the student's disability;
 - (c) intended to meet additional expenditure connected with term time residential study away from the student's educational establishment;
 - (d) on account of the student maintaining a home at a place other than that at which he resides during his course;
 - (e) on account of any other person but only if that person is residing outside of the United Kingdom and there is no applicable amount in respect of him;
 - (f) intended to meet the cost of books and equipment;
 - (g) intended to meet travel expenses incurred as a result of his attendance on the course;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7. (See end of Document for details)

- (h) intended for the child care costs of a child dependant.
- [F37(i)] of higher education bursary for care leavers made under Part III of the Children Act 1989 [F38] or Part 6 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014].]
- (3) Where a student does not have a student loan [F39 or a postgraduate master's degree loan] and is not treated as possessing [F40 a student loan or a postgraduate master's degree loan], there shall be excluded from the student's grant income—
 - (a) the sum of [F41£303] per academic year in respect of travel costs; and
- (b) the sum of [F42£390] per academic year towards the costs of books and equipment, whether or not any such costs are incurred.
- [F43(4)] There shall also be excluded from a student's grant income the grant for dependants known as the parents' learning allowance paid pursuant to regulations made under Article 3 of the Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 or section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998 [F44] or paid under section 63(6) of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968].]
 - (5) Subject to paragraphs (6) and (7), a student's grant income shall be apportioned—
 - (a) subject to paragraph (8), in a case where it is attributable to the period of study, equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the benefit week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the period of study and ending with the benefit week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the period of study;
 - (b) in any other case, equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the benefit week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the period for which it is payable and ending with the benefit week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the period for which it is payable.
- (6) Any grant in respect of dependants paid under section 63(6) of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 M25 (grants in respect of the provision of instruction to officers of hospital authorities) and any amount intended for the maintenance of dependants under Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003 M26 shall be apportioned equally over the period of 52 weeks or, if there are 53 benefit weeks (including part-weeks) in the year, 53.
- (7) In a case where a student is in receipt of a student loan or where he could have acquired a student loan by taking reasonable steps but had not done so, any amount intended for the maintenance of dependants to which neither paragraph (6) nor regulation 63(2) (other amounts to be disregarded) apply, shall be apportioned over the same period as the student's loan is apportioned or, as the case may be, would have been apportioned.
- (8) In the case of a student on a sandwich course, any periods of experience within the period of study shall be excluded and the student's grant income shall be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the benefit week, the first day of which immediately follows the last day of the period of experience and ending with the benefit week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the period of study.

Textual Amendments

- F37 Reg. 59(2)(i) added (6.4.2009) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/583), regs. 1(2), 6(8)
- F38 Words in reg. 59(2)(i) inserted (3.11.2017) by The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/901), arts. 1, 11(6)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7. (See end of Document for details)

- Words in reg. 59(3) inserted (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, 4(3)(a)
- **F40** Words in reg. 59(3) substituted (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, 4(3)(b)
- Sum in reg. 59(3)(a) substituted (1.8.2009 with effect in accordance with reg. 1(3) of the amending S.I.) by The Social Security (Students and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/1575), regs. 1(2), 2(2)(4)
- F42 Sum in reg. 59(3)(b) substituted (1.8.2009 with effect in accordance with reg. 1(3) of the amending S.I.) by The Social Security (Students and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/1575), regs. 1(2), 2(3)(4)
- **F43** Reg. 59(4) substituted (1.8.2006 for specified purposes, 1.9.2006 in so far as not already in force) by The Social Security (Students and Income-related Benefits) Amendment Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/1752), regs. 1(2), **3(3)**
- **F44** Words in reg. 59(4) added (23.2.2015) by The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/67), regs. 1, 6

Marginal Citations

M25 1968 c. 46.

M26 S.I. 2003/1994; the relevant amending Instrument is S.I. 2005/2083.

Calculation of covenant income where a contribution is assessed

- **60.**—(1) Where a student is in receipt of income by way of a grant during a period of study and a contribution has been assessed, the amount of his covenant income to be taken into account for that period and any summer vacation immediately following shall be the whole amount of the covenant income less, subject to paragraph (3), the amount of the contribution.
 - (2) The weekly amount of the student's covenant income shall be determined—
 - (a) by dividing the amount of income which falls to be taken into account under paragraph (1) by 52 or 53, whichever is reasonable in the circumstances; and
 - (b) by disregarding from the resulting amount, £5.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (1), the contribution shall be treated as increased by the amount (if any) by which the amount excluded under regulation 59(2)(g) (calculation of grant income) falls short of the amount specified in paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003 (travel expenditure).

Covenant income where no grant income or no contribution is assessed

- **61.**—(1) Where a student is not in receipt of income by way of a grant the amount of his covenant income shall be calculated as follows—
 - (a) any sums intended for any expenditure specified in regulation 59(2)(a) to (e) (calculation of grant income) necessary as a result of his attendance on the course shall be disregarded;
 - (b) any covenant income, up to the amount of the standard maintenance grant, which is not so disregarded, shall be apportioned equally between the weeks of the period of study;
 - (c) there shall be disregarded from the amount so apportioned the amount which would have been disregarded under regulation 59(2)(f) and (3) (calculation of grant income) had the student been in receipt of the standard maintenance grant; and
 - (d) the balance, if any, shall be divided by 52 or 53 whichever is reasonable in the circumstances and treated as weekly income of which £5 shall be disregarded.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7. (See end of Document for details)

- (2) Where a student is in receipt of income by way of a grant and no contribution has been assessed, the amount of his covenanted income shall be calculated in accordance with sub-paragraphs (a) to (d) of paragraph (1), except that—
 - (a) the value of the standard maintenance grant shall be abated by the amount of such grant income less an amount equal to the amount of any sums disregarded under regulation 59(2) (a) to (e); and
 - (b) the amount to be disregarded under paragraph (1)(c) shall be abated by an amount equal to the amount of any sums disregarded under regulation 59(2)(f) and (g) and (3).

Relationship with amounts to be disregarded under Schedule 5

62. No part of a student's covenant income or grant income shall be disregarded under [F45paragraph 14] of Schedule 5 F46....

Textual Amendments

- F45 Words in reg. 62 substituted (1.8.2006 for specified purposes and, 1.9.2006 in so far as not already in force) by The Social Security (Students and Income-related Benefits) Amendment Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/1752), regs. 1(2), 3(4)
- **F46** Words in reg. 62 omitted (for specified purposes and with effect in accordance with reg. 1(4) of the amending S.I.) by virtue of The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 4) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2378), reg. 15(3)

Other amounts to be disregarded

63.—(1) For the purposes of ascertaining income other than grant income, covenant income and loans treated as income in accordance with regulation 64 (treatment of student loans), any amounts intended for any expenditure specified in regulation 59(2) (calculation of grant income), necessary as a result of his attendance on the course shall be disregarded but only if, and to the extent that, the necessary expenditure exceeds or is likely to exceed the amount of the sums disregarded under regulation 59(2) or (3), 60(3), 61 (1)(a) or (c) or 64(5) (calculation of grant income, covenant income and treatment of student loans) on like expenditure.

F47(2)																																
(<i>~</i>)	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠

Textual Amendments

Reg. 63(2) omitted (6.4.2009) by virtue of The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/583), regs. 1(2), 6(9)

Treatment of student loans [F48 and postgraduate master's degree loans]

- **64.**—(1) A student loan [^{F49} and a postgraduate master's degree loan] shall be treated as income.
- (2) In calculating the weekly amount of the loan to be taken into account as income—
 - (a) in respect of a course that is of a single academic year's duration or less, a loan which is payable in respect of that period shall be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with—
 - (i) except in a case where head (ii) applies, the benefit week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the single academic year;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7. (See end of Document for details)

(ii) where the student is required to start attending the course in August or where the course is less than an academic year's duration, the benefit week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the course,

and ending with the benefit week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the course;

- (b) in respect of an academic year of a course which starts other than on 1st September, a loan which is payable in respect of that academic year shall be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the benefit week the first day of which coincides with or immediately follows, the first day of that academic year and ending with the benefit week, the last day of which coincides with or immediately precedes, the last day of that academic year but excluding any benefit weeks falling entirely within the quarter during which, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, the longest of any vacation is taken and for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, "quarter" shall have the same meaning as for the purposes of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2005 M27;
- (c) in respect of the final academic year of a course (not being a course of a single year's duration), a loan which is payable in respect of that final academic year shall be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with—
 - (i) except in a case where head (ii) applies, the benefit week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of that academic year;
 - (ii) where the final academic year starts on 1st September, the benefit week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the earlier of 1st September or the first day of the autumn term,

and ending with the benefit week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the course;

- (d) in any other case, the loan shall be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the earlier of—
 - (i) the first day of the first benefit week in September; or
 - (ii) the benefit week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows the first day of the autumn term,

and ending with the benefit week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of June,

and, in all cases, from the weekly amount so apportioned there shall be disregarded £10.

- (3) A student shall be treated as possessing a student loan [F50] or a postgraduate master's degree loan in respect of an academic year where—
 - (a) a student loan [F50 or a postgraduate master's degree loan] has been made to him in respect of that year; or
 - (b) he could acquire [F51a student loan or a postgraduate master's degree loan] in respect of that year by taking reasonable steps to do so.
- (4) Where a student is treated as possessing a student loan under paragraph (3), the amount of the student loan to be taken into account as income shall be, subject to paragraph (5)—
 - (a) in the case of a student to whom a student loan is made in respect of an academic year, a sum equal to—
 - (i) the maximum student loan he is able to acquire in respect of that year by taking reasonable steps to do so; and
 - (ii) any contribution whether or not it has been paid;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7. (See end of Document for details)

- (b) in the case of a student to whom a student loan is not made in respect of an academic year, the maximum student loan that would be made to the student if—
 - (i) he took all reasonable steps to obtain the maximum student loan he is able to acquire in respect of that year; and
 - (ii) no deduction in that loan was made by virtue of the application of a means test.
- [^{F52}(4A) Where a student is treated as possessing a postgraduate master's degree loan under paragraph (3) in respect of an academic year, the amount of that loan to be taken into account as income shall be, subject to paragraph (5), a sum equal to 30 per cent. of the maximum postgraduate master's degree loan the student is able to acquire in respect of that academic year by taking reasonable steps to do so.]
 - (5) There shall be deducted from the amount of a student's loan income—
 - (a) the sum of [F53£303] per academic year in respect of travel costs; and
- (b) the sum of [F54£390] per academic year towards the cost of books and equipment, whether or not any such costs are incurred.

Textual Amendments

- **F48** Words in reg. 64 heading heading added (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, 4(4)(a)
- **F49** Words in reg. 64(1) inserted (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, 4(4)(b)
- **F50** Words in reg. 64(3) inserted (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, 4(4)(c)(i)
- **F51** Words in reg. 64(3)(b) substituted (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, **4(4)(c)(ii)**
- F52 Reg. 64(4A) inserted (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, 4(4)(d)
- F53 Sum in reg. 64(5)(a) substituted (1.8.2009 with effect in accordance with reg. 1(3) of the amending S.I.) by The Social Security (Students and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/1575), regs. 1(2), 2(2)(4)
- F54 Sum in reg. 64(5)(b) substituted (1.8.2009 with effect in accordance with reg. 1(3) of the amending S.I.) by The Social Security (Students and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/1575), regs. 1(2), 2(3)(4)

Marginal Citations

M27 S.I. 2005/52; see regulation 2(1).

[F55Treatment of fee loans

64A. A loan for fees, known as a fee loan or a fee contribution loan, made pursuant to regulations made under Article 3 of the Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998 or section 73(f) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, shall be disregarded as income.]

Textual Amendments

F55 Reg. 64A inserted (1.8.2006 for specified purposes and , 1.9.2006 in so far as not already in force) by The Social Security (Students and Income-related Benefits) Amendment Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/1752), regs. 1(2), 3(4)

[F56Treatment of special support loans

64B. A special support loan within the meaning of regulation 68 of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2011 is to be disregarded as income.]

Textual Amendments

F56 Reg. 64B inserted (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, 4(5)

Treatment of payments from access funds

- **65.**—(1) This regulation applies to payments from access funds that are not payments to which regulation 68(2) or (3) (income treated as capital) applies.
- (2) A payment from access funds, other than a payment to which paragraph (3) applies, shall be disregarded as income.
- (3) Subject to paragraph (5) of this regulation and paragraph 34 of Schedule 5, any payments from access funds which are intended and used for food, household fuel or rent or ordinary clothing or footwear, of a single claimant or any other member of his family, and any payments from access funds which are used for any council tax or water charges for which that claimant or member is liable shall be disregarded as income to the extent of £20 per week.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph (3), "rent" means eligible rent less any deductions in respect of non-dependants which fall to be made under regulation 74 (non-dependant deductions).
 - (5) Where a payment from access funds is made—
 - (a) on or after 1st September or the first day of the course, whichever first occurs, but before receipt of any student loan in respect of that year and that payment is intended for the purpose of bridging the period until receipt of the student loan; or
 - (b) before the first day of the course to a person in anticipation of that person becoming a student.

that payment shall be disregarded as income.

Disregard of contribution and rent

66. Where the claimant or his partner is a student and, for the purposes of assessing a contribution to the student's grant or student loan, the other partner's income has been taken into account, an amount equal to that contribution shall be disregarded for the purposes of assessing that other partner's income.

Further disregard of student's income

67. Where any part of a student's income has already been taken into account for the purposes of assessing his entitlement to a grant[F57, student loan or postgraduate master's degree loan], the amount taken into account shall be disregarded in assessing that student's income.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

F57 Words in reg. 67 substituted (4.8.2016) by The Social Security (Treatment of Postgraduate Masters Degree Loans and Special Support Loans) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/743), regs. 1, 4(6)

Amounts treated as capital

- **68.**—(1) Any amount by way of a refund of tax deducted from a student's covenant income shall be treated as capital.
 - (2) An amount paid from access funds as a single lump sum shall be treated as capital.
- (3) An amount paid from access funds as a single lump sum which is intended and used for an item other than food, household fuel, rent, ordinary clothing or footwear of a single claimant or, as the case may be, of the claimant or any other member of his family, or which is used for any council tax or water charges for which that claimant or member is liable, shall be disregarded as capital but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of the payment.
- (4) In paragraph (3), "rent" means eligible rent less any deductions in respect of non-dependants which fall to be made under regulation 74 (non-dependant deductions).

Disregard of changes occurring during summer vacation

69. In calculating a student's income the relevant authority shall disregard any change in the standard maintenance grant, occurring in the recognised summer vacation appropriate to the student's course, if that vacation does not form part of his period of study from the date on which the change occurred to the end of that vacation.

Status:

Point in time view as at 03/11/2017.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, PART 7.