

A guide to financing your studies at Guildhall School for ELQ students



From September 2020, at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, all Home students assessed as ELQ will be charged the Home rate. Please see the [Fee Schedule 2020/21](#) for further details.

What is ELQ?

In September 2007 the Government announced that public funding would no longer be available for UK and EU students to study for a qualification which equivalent to, or of a lower level than, one which the student already holds. This policy is known as the ELQ (Equivalent or Lower Qualifications) policy.

What qualifications are ELQ?

If you already have a degree or diploma at or above the level of the programme you wish to study at the Guildhall School and would otherwise pay the Home/EU fees rate you will be classified as ELQ. An equivalent or higher previous degree or diploma from any country counts in this way, not just those obtained in the UK or the EU.

Please note that a student whose highest qualification on entry is a PGCE (and who has no other postgraduate qualification) will **not** be treated as an ELQ student if they enrol on a postgraduate masters qualification.

Student Finance Applications – Fees and Maintenance

If you plan to study for a qualification at the same level as one you already hold you may not be eligible for Tuition Fee or Maintenance Funding. For further details of ELQ eligibility visit <https://www.gov.uk/browse/education/student-finance>.

Student Finance Applications – Additional Support

Students may still be able to apply for extra support such as Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs), Parent's Learning Allowance, Adult Dependants' Grant and Childcare Grant.

Students who will receive a Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) during their studies are exempt from the ELQ policy. It is therefore important that both undergraduate and postgraduate students who may be eligible for a DSA inform the School of this on their application form.

Paying ELQ fee Deposits

All ELQ students will be classified as self-funded students and will be subject to the School's policy on deposits. A non-refundable fee deposit of 15% of the fee due (tuition fee less any tuition fee scholarship if applicable) is payable by the 15th July 2020 to secure a place on the programme. This is a condition of the offer, so if we do not receive a deposit by this date the place may be offered to another candidate. Please contact Finance if you have any queries on +44 (0)20 7382 7208.

You can pay by one of the following methods:

Credit/debit card: You can pay by Visa, Visa Electron, Mastercard and Maestro by calling +44 (0)20 7382 7208.

Cheque: Cheques must be drawn on a UK bank and made payable to the Guildhall School of Music & Drama

Paypal: Prospective students can pay by Paypal via the eGo portal.

Bank Transfer: You may arrange a direct bank transfer to the Guildhall School's account, and we advise you to do so at least a week before the deadline since it can take a few days to clear. Please ensure your name and 7 digit student reference number are clearly stated on any transfer document, and that you have paid any transaction charges. Keep the bank transfer notification in a safe place in case it is needed at a later point. Please contact Finance if you have any queries.

The Guildhall School's bank details are as follows:

Lloyds TSB Bank

Sort Code: 30 00 02

Account Name: Guildhall School of Music & Drama Collection Account

Account Number: 01949360

IBAN (International Bank Account No.): GB38 LOYD 3000 0201 9493 60

BIC Number: LOYDGB2LCTY

Alternative support for ELQ students

Guildhall School Scholarships

The School offers a range of financial scholarships to students regardless of ELQ status. These awards are supported by a wide range of external donors including City Livery Companies, grant-making trusts and foundations, businesses and individuals. The awards enable students to take up their place at the School or continue their studies. An award may be made to cover either the full cost of tuition fees or a fraction of them, and may include an element for maintenance. These are awarded mainly on the basis of merit but financial need can also be considered.

Scholarships are either awarded with the offer of a place at the School, or can be applied for after an offer of a place at the School has been accepted. The application form will be available online, and your Department will inform you of the deadline by which it should be submitted. Each Department disburses its own funds and you will be informed whether or not your application has been successful before you begin your studies at the School or continue your programme into the next academic year.

(Please see our Guildhall School Financial Awards page at https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about_the_school/shared_left_nav/fees_and_funding/guildhall_school_financial_awards/ for further information on financial support provided by the School.)

For further information about scholarships, please contact the department direct:

Music Scholarships: Please direct any queries to Sophie Hills, Deputy Head of Music Administration, on 020 7628 2571 7934 or by email music_scholarships@gsmd.ac.uk.

Production Arts: please email PA_Scholarships@gsmd.ac.uk or contact Drama Administration on +44 (0)20 7382 2323.

Acting: please email acting_scholarships@gsmd.ac.uk or contact Drama Administration on +44 (0)20 7382 2323.

The School Hardship Fund

Once fully enrolled at the School, if you experience unexpected and temporary financial hardship, you may apply to the Hardship Committee which will consider your case. A grant will be awarded if the circumstances merit it. Grants are normally in the region of £200-£400 with a maximum of £1500 in any one year. Please note that the Hardship Fund is not able to help with tuition fee debt to the School and all students must be fully enrolled in order to apply.

If you would like to discuss in more detail the information contained in this document, please contact:

Eloise Peters

Student Funding Officer

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7382 7181

Email: studentfundingofficer@gsmd.ac.uk