

# FlexStudent

Getting the most out of your account



**Nationwide**

Building Society

## What makes Nationwide different

Nationwide was started by people like you. Well, maybe just a little different, as it was back in 1884 and fashion wasn't quite the same! Even so, they were everyday people who came together to help each other save up, buy homes of their own and manage their money.

Today, we're still owned by our members – that's what being a 'mutual' means. We don't have shareholders to answer to, in the same way banks do. Instead, we listen to you. It's our members who help shape our future; and who help build society, nationwide.

Find out more about what being a member means at [nationwide.co.uk/membership](https://nationwide.co.uk/membership)

## How being a member helps make things happen

In 2007, our members decided we should give at least 1% of pre-tax profits to good causes – so we did. Plus, through our Community Grants programme, we're making £22 million available for housing-related charitable organisations over the next few years – because we believe everyone deserves to have a place to call home.

Grants of up to £50,000 can be applied for, to help make a difference in local communities – and that's where our members come in. We bring together members and employees to form Community Boards, allowing them to decide which projects should receive grants.

## Check if you qualify for a FlexStudent account

First things first. Here's how to see if you qualify for a FlexStudent account.

- ✓ You must be 18 or over and accepted\* on a full-time UCAS course of at least two years.
- ✓ It must be no more than five months before your course starts, and either:
  - No more than two months after your course start date, OR
  - No more than 18 months after your course start date if you've been a Nationwide member\*\* for 12+ months. If you're a member and apply over two months after your course starts, then you can only do this in branch or over the phone.
- ✓ You can't have another student account with another provider – but if you do, you could move this to Nationwide.

**Quick heads-up:** if you already have a high level of debt, then you may not be accepted.

**Just so you know, to have this account, you'll need to pay in at least £500 per term from the date your account is opened.** If you don't, we may remove any overdraft you have (or refuse to increase it) or close your FlexStudent account; if this happens, we'll give you two months' notice.

\*You must have either an unconditional offer, or a previous conditional offer that has been confirmed. If you have a conditional offer, you'll need to wait until your place has been confirmed following your results before applying.

\*\*To be a member, you must hold a current account, savings account or a mortgage with Nationwide.

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## FlexStudent at a glance

FlexStudent has been specially designed to give students what they need from a current account. Which is why you get all this:



**An account that's totally fee-free:** we want you to be able to use it whenever you need to, without worries.



**A flexible arranged overdraft facility that's interest-free:** you can fine-tune it to your needs online or through the Banking app.



**A Contactless Visa debit card:** it makes buying things and using cash machines a doddle.



**Text alerts for arranged overdrafts:** these are a great way to help you manage your money – you can find out more on page 7.



**Unlimited commission-free spending on your card when you're abroad:** meaning you don't have to worry about taking lots of cash with you when you go off on your travels.



**No charge by us for buying things or taking money out of cash machines anywhere in the world.**

### We're still there for you once you graduate, too

Once you graduate, unless you tell us otherwise, we'll move you to a FlexGraduate current account, which is designed to help you find your feet after university or college. Of course, we'll let you know before we move you over, and send you all the details and Terms and Conditions well in advance.

Once you move to your new account, we'll support you in paying off any arranged overdraft you might have in steady steps, while keeping it interest-free. You can find out more about how this works – and how we help you find your feet, on page 13.

## A bit about the FlexStudent arranged overdraft

### What's an arranged overdraft and why might you need one?

- An arranged overdraft is when we agree in advance that you can borrow up to a certain amount of money if you have no money left in your account.
- It can provide a useful short-term buffer if your spending is more than your income.
- Like all borrowing, it has to be repaid at some point.




### What's special about the FlexStudent arranged overdraft?

- It's interest-free, so you'll never be charged for using it.
- It's available as soon as your account's open.
- The maximum available limit increases in steady steps each year you're studying, to help you to manage your budget throughout your studies.
- It puts you in control – you can ask us for how much you'd like within the maximum available limit.
- The maximum available limit steadily steps down again after you graduate, to help you manage your account balance back to normal levels.



## How the FlexStudent arranged overdraft works

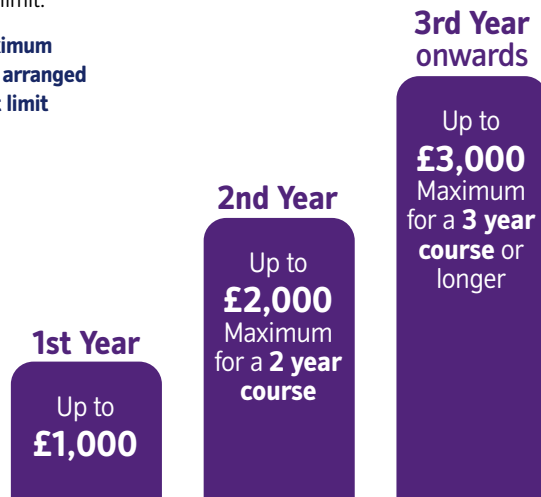
Depending on how long you've been studying, you can ask us for a larger overdraft limit.

-  **Year one of study** – you can ask for up to **£1,000**
-  **Year two of study** – you can ask for up to **£2,000**
-  **Year three or longer** – you can ask for up to **£3,000**

**BTW – we'll never increase your limit without you asking.**

- **You can ask us to increase and reduce your arranged overdraft limit whenever you like** – so you only borrow what you need, when you need it.
- **Increases to your overdraft are 'dependent on our view of your circumstances'** – that just means we look at how you manage your account and your circumstances at the time that you apply for an increase. You have to:
  - Pay in at least £500 a term.
  - Have a good credit record.
  - Manage your account well. You can find out more on page 7
  - Live in the UK.
- **If you go above your arranged overdraft limit, you won't be charged** – but we may reject further payment requests until you bring your balance back within your arranged limit.

Your maximum available arranged overdraft limit



## Here's what happens to your arranged overdraft limit after your course

Once you graduate, we'll move you to a FlexGraduate current account, unless you tell us otherwise. This account is designed to help you find your feet after your studies, and your arranged overdraft limit will reduce gradually. You can find out more about FlexGraduate on page 13.

The graphs below show how your arranged overdraft limit would decrease after a three-year course and a two-year course. You can find out more in the Q&As on page 12.

### After a three-year course

Your maximum available arranged overdraft limit

1st Year after graduation

Up to **£2,500**  
By the end of year 1

2nd Year after graduation

Up to **£1,750**  
By the end of year 2

3rd Year after graduation

Up to **£1,000**  
By the end of year 3

### After a two-year course

Your maximum available arranged overdraft limit

1st Year after graduation

Up to **£1,500**  
By the end of year 1

2nd Year after graduation

Up to **£1,000**  
By the end of year 2

# Manage your account in the way that suits you best

There are lots of handy ways to keep track of your balance.



**With our Banking app:** keep an eye on your account whenever, wherever. You can download the Banking app from wherever it is you normally get your apps.



**Through the Internet Bank:** you'll automatically be registered for internet banking when you open your account.



**With Text Alerts:** so long as we have your mobile number, you'll automatically get alerts to let you know when a scheduled payment could take you into an overdraft. And if you enter an arranged or unarranged overdraft, you'll get an alert the day after. You can even sign up for extra alerts through the Internet Bank or in branch.

You can find out more about these services at [nationwide.co.uk/waystobank](https://nationwide.co.uk/waystobank)



Scan this code with your phone's camera or an app with QR reader capability to find out more and apply.

## Pay your way

There are lots of ways to pay, so here's a quick guide. You can find more at [nationwide.co.uk/ways-to-pay](https://nationwide.co.uk/ways-to-pay)



### Debit card

Buy things quickly, easily and safely in store, online or over the phone, without carrying cash around.



### Contactless

No need to sign or even enter your PIN. Just place your card near the terminal, and when you hear the beep, you're done. Use your debit card in stores with contactless terminals to make smaller payments. There are limits on how much you can spend, and just to make sure it's definitely you, sometimes you'll be asked to enter your PIN or signature.



### Smart phone payments

You can load your Nationwide debit card on to many of today's latest mobiles and tablets, allowing you to use your device to make secure, quick and easy payments – both in store and online.



### Regular payment/standing order

Send and receive money securely between UK accounts. You can set these up online with no charge.



### Using your card abroad

We won't charge you for buying things or taking money out of a cash machine (ATM) anywhere in the world.



### Internal transfers

Instantly move money between your FlexStudent and other Nationwide accounts, either online or with our Banking app. For example, you can transfer money you have in your FlexStudent account to a savings account with us, if you have one.



### Single payments

Send and receive money securely between UK accounts using our Internet Bank, Banking app, or in branch.



### Paym

Lets you send and receive money securely using just a UK mobile phone number.



### Direct debit

Make sure those important regular bills are paid automatically, saving you time and avoiding charges. You can set up a Direct Debit online or in branch.

# FlexStudent Terms and Conditions

These conditions together with our current account general terms and conditions and our rates and charges leaflet apply to the FlexStudent account. You should read them carefully. If these additional conditions conflict with the general terms and conditions, these additional conditions will apply.

## 1. Account holding and ownership

- (a) You must be aged 18 or over and studying on a full-time UCAS registered course of two or more years' duration.
- (b) You can only have one FlexStudent account open at any one time.
- (c) The FlexStudent account cannot be held jointly with another person.
- (d) You must be registered for Internet Banking.

## 2. Funding your account

- (a) You must pay in at least £500 per term from the date the account is opened.
- (b) If you don't, we may:
  - remove or decline to increase your arranged overdraft; or
  - close your FlexStudent account on giving you at least two months' notice.

## 3. Changing your contact details

You must tell us straight away if you change your name, address, telephone number or other contact details you have given us (like an email address). You can do this through the Internet Bank, by calling us or in branch.

## 4. Arranged overdrafts

- (a) An arranged overdraft is subject to us checking your credit history and ensuring it is affordable for you.
- (b) You won't pay any charges, interest or fees on any arranged overdraft we give you.
- (c) You can ask us for an arranged overdraft or ask us to increase your arranged overdraft limit online through the Internet Bank, by calling us or in branch.
- (d) If we agree, the maximum available arranged overdraft limit you can ask us for will depend on your year of study:

Year of study	Maximum available arranged overdraft limit
1	£1,000
2	£2,000
3+	£3,000

- (e) You can ask us to reduce your arranged overdraft limit at any time.
- (f) Overdrafts are repayable on demand. We may ask you to repay or reduce your arranged overdraft at any time. Some examples of when we might ask you to do this are if:
  - you're made bankrupt;
  - you're behind on payments on other credit held with us or someone else; or
  - you have a court judgement registered against you for a debt.
- (g) If you try to make payments from your account and you do not have enough money available to use (including any arranged overdraft limit) generally we will not make those payments. However, there is a small chance that a payment could be made causing you to go into an unarranged overdraft. For example, if a payment into your account is recalled by the bank making it or a cheque paid into your account is returned unpaid. If this happens we will not charge you any fees but you must repay the unarranged overdraft straightaway. We may reject any further payment requests until you do this.

## 5. When your studies end and changes to your course or circumstances

### (a) Graduation

When your course ends you'll no longer be eligible for the FlexStudent account. Unless you make alternative arrangements with us, we'll move your account to a FlexGraduate account and the terms and conditions for that account will apply to you. We'll tell you at least two months before we move your account to the FlexGraduate account and will give you full information about the account and its terms and conditions.

### (b) Extending your studies or changing your course

If you extend your studies or change your course, you must tell us as soon as possible and provide us with evidence of the change if we ask for it.

### (c) Change of circumstances

If your circumstances change, for example you leave your course before completing it, you must tell us as soon as possible, as you'll no longer be eligible for the FlexStudent.

If you stop being eligible for the FlexStudent account (other than because you complete your course), we'll automatically convert your account to our FlexAccount (if you're eligible) or our FlexBasic account (or, if we no longer offer those accounts, our standard current account at that time). Our current account general terms and conditions will continue to apply to your account together with the additional conditions for the account.

## Your questions answered

We realise we've just given you a lot of info about a lot of things, and you might still have some questions. So, we've put together the answers to some of the most common questions we get asked. If you can't find what you need here, you can always get in touch – and we've answered how to do that below!

## How can I get in touch if I've got a query with my account?

If you have any day-to-day queries, you can:

-  Visit [nationwide.co.uk/flexstudent](https://nationwide.co.uk/flexstudent)
-  Contact us on **Twitter @AskNationwide**
-  Call **0800 30 20 11**
-  Pop into your local branch.

## Your overdraft questions answered

### 1. How do I get an arranged overdraft?

You can ask for an arranged overdraft when you open your account. You can also do this through the Internet Bank, Banking app, or in branch.

### 2. How do I change my arranged overdraft limit?

You can ask us to increase or decrease it at any time within the maximum available limit.

You can do this on our Internet Bank, Banking app or in branch.

### 3. What do I need to do to make sure I can keep my arranged overdraft?

You'll need to pay in at least £500 per term from the date the account is opened, and maintain a good credit record. You also need to demonstrate good account behaviour by keeping up with any payments you're required to make. Please note, you will not be able to increase your arranged overdraft limit if you do not live in the UK. If you don't meet any of these conditions, we may refuse if you ask to increase your arranged overdraft limit, or we may reduce or remove your arranged overdraft.

### 4. What happens if I don't use my arranged overdraft?

Nothing. It's there for you in case you need it.

### 5. Can I go over my arranged overdraft limit?

The account is designed to prevent you from doing this. However, in the unlikely event that you do go over your arranged limit, we still won't charge you. We may reject any further payment requests until your account is back within your arranged overdraft limit – but once it is, you'll be able to continue using your account.

### 6. How will my overdraft limit reduce after I graduate from a three-year course?

After you graduate, each year your maximum available limits will decrease, as shown below. You'll need make sure your overdraft balance is below:

- £2,500 by the end of year 1 after graduation
- £1,750 by the end of year 2 after graduation
- £1,000 by the end of year 3 after graduation.

### 7. How will my overdraft limit reduce after I graduate from a two-year course?

After you graduate, each year your maximum available limits will decrease, as shown below. You'll need make sure your overdraft balance is below:

- £1,500 by the end of year 1 after graduation
- £1,000 by the end of year 2 after graduation.

### 8. What happens if I'm struggling to repay my arranged overdraft after graduation?

We appreciate juggling finances can be difficult – that's why we've set up a support page for our members at [nationwide.co.uk/money\\_worries](https://nationwide.co.uk/money_worries) Plus, we're here anytime you need us on **0800 464 30 30** – just give us a call to talk through your options.



## Your FlexGraduate questions answered

### 1. What happens when I graduate?

When you graduate from your course, unless you tell us you want to do something else, **we'll move your account to a FlexGraduate current account** and the terms and conditions for that account will apply. We'll ask you to start paying back your arranged overdraft in steady steps. Please see 'Your overdraft questions answered' section for more info on how that works.

### 2. If I move to FlexGraduate, will my banking details change?

No, it's a smooth move. You'll keep the same account number, sort code and PIN, and we'll send you a FlexGraduate debit card. We'll write to you at least two months before we move your account to the FlexGraduate current account with full information about the account and its terms and conditions.

### 3. What happens after FlexGraduate?

We'll contact you at least two months before your FlexGraduate current account ends to tell you about your options. You can then choose another Nationwide current account and we'll move you to it, so long as you qualify. Once you move, the benefits of your FlexGraduate account will end.

If you don't ask us to move you to a new account, we'll change your account to another Nationwide current account.

Generally, this will be our FlexDirect account (or similar account if it's no longer available). We may change your account to another type of current account if we think you're not eligible for a FlexDirect account.

We'll give you the Terms and Conditions and details of any charges that will apply to your new account before you move to it.

## Your course questions answered

### 1. What do you mean by course 'terms'?

When we talk about a term, we mean the following three periods during a study year:

**Autumn term** - 1 September to 31 December

**Spring term** - 1 January to Easter Sunday

**Summer term** - Easter Monday to 31 July

### 2. My details have changed mid-course – what do I do?

Please let us know whenever your details change (that's address, email, phone number) so that we can keep them up to date and give you the right support when you need it. We'll also need to know if any of your course details change – for example, if you extend your course or take time out; we may ask for evidence of any changes.

**You can tell us about these changes over the phone or in branch. Some changes can only be made in branch, especially where evidence is required.**

### 3. What happens if I leave my course early?

If this happens, **you must tell us as soon as possible** as you'll no longer qualify for this account and we'll need to discuss your options with you. Please call us on **0800 30 20 11**.

## General questions

### 1. What if I get into financial difficulty?

We know that circumstances can change. If this happens to you, it's better to take action rather than ignore it and hope the situation will go away. **If you're struggling or falling behind with payments, call us on 0800 545 3024.** Our dedicated team has years of experience helping people get back on track and will be happy to help. Make sure you have your account number when you call, along with details of your income, outgoings and debts. If you'd rather have somebody else call us on your behalf about your money worries, we're happy to talk to them – we'll just need your agreement first.

When we talk to you, we'll:

- Be open and honest with you
- Treat you as an individual, taking your circumstances into account
- Try to find a solution that suits you
- Make everything simple and straightforward
- Tell you what you need to know, so you can make an informed decision
- Let you know who else can help you.

### 2. What should I do if I see a transaction I don't recognise on my account?

You should check your account regularly and tell us straightaway if there are any transactions which you weren't expecting or don't recognise.

### 3. How can I help protect myself from fraud?

Please visit our security centre [nationwide.co.uk/security](https://nationwide.co.uk/security) for some useful tips and guidance.

### 4. What happens if I lose my card?

You'll need to contact us so we can report your card as being lost and arrange for a replacement to be sent to your registered address. This will probably be your home address as that's likely to be more secure than a shared house or halls of residence.

**TIP: If you've registered for mobile payments and Paym, you can still make payments while you wait for your new card to arrive.**

### 5. When making a payment out of my account, what happens if I make a mistake and give Nationwide the wrong information?

The payment may be delayed or sent to the wrong person and we may not be able to get it back for you. **So it's very important that you're totally accurate when giving us instructions to send a payment.** That includes quoting the correct sort code and account number. Our Confirmation of Payee service helps you to check that you are sending your payment to the right person. Visit [nationwide.co.uk/confirmation-of-payee](https://nationwide.co.uk/confirmation-of-payee) for more info. If you know you've made a mistake, please contact us.

### 6. When I make a payment, does the money always leave my account immediately?

In most cases, yes, but if you use your debit card to buy things there might be a short time before the money leaves your account. During this time, your account balance will include the amount of money you've spent but it won't be available to you.

### 7. Can I use my card to pay for things abroad?

You can use your FlexStudent debit card overseas to make purchases and take money out of cash machines (ATMs). We don't charge any fees for using your card abroad. Individual sellers and ATM providers may apply their own commission charges.

**TIP: Take a look at [nationwide.co.uk/travel](https://nationwide.co.uk/travel) to find out what you need to know before you set off, and while you're away.**

### 8. If I'm abroad can I pay in UK pounds?

Sometimes when using your card abroad, you'll be asked if you want to pay in UK pounds. The person offering this service (not Nationwide) may charge a fee and use their own exchange rate to convert your transaction into pounds. We don't charge any fees for using your card abroad.



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Visit [nationwide.co.uk/FlexStudent](https://nationwide.co.uk/FlexStudent)  
Call **0800 30 20 11**  
Just ask in branch



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We are able to provide this document in Braille, large print or audio format upon request. Your local branch will arrange this for you or you can contact us on **0800 30 20 11**.

If you have hearing or speech difficulties and are a textphone user, you can call us direct in text on **0800 37 80 01**. We also accept calls via BT TypeTalk. Just dial **18001** followed by the full telephone number you wish to ring. Calls may be recorded.

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