

# Conditions for reimbursement of quarantine and PCR testing costs 2021-22

## Background

Restrictions and conditions on travel to the UK, arising from COVID-19, place an additional financial burden on students. These restrictions are likely to remain in place into the beginning of the 2021-22 academic year.

Birkbeck, University of London will reimburse these costs for new and returning internationally domiciled students who are travelling from outside the UK as follows:

<b>Country designation*</b>	<b>Government quarantine hotel funding</b>	<b>PCR test funding</b>	<b>Maximum amount</b>
<b>Red list</b>	Yes	N/A included in hotel package	£2,285
<b>Amber list</b>	N/A	Yes	£210
<b>Green list</b>	N/A	Yes	£210

*\*on day of departure to UK*

For students travelling from or through a country which is listed on the UK government's red list on the day of departure to the UK (where possible students should avoid travelling through red list countries to minimise the impact on their arrival in the UK):

- Quarantine costs to a maximum amount of £2,285 for:
  - returning students who are required to quarantine on arrival in the UK in order to continue with studies in September or October 2021
  - new students who commence their course from 1 September 2021 to 31 October 2021.
- The application form will be available on 1 September 2021. Completed applications and all supporting evidence must be submitted between 1 September 2021 and 31 October 2021.
- Payment will be made as a single payment to the student in January 2022, subject to relevant evidence being provided. The costs will not be met up-front.

For students travelling from or through a country which is listed on the UK government's amber or green list on the day of departure to the UK:

- PCR testing costs to a maximum amount of £210 for:
  - returning students who are required to undertake PCR tests on arrival in the UK in order to continue with studies in September or October 2021
  - new students who commence their course from 1 September 2021 to 31 October 2021.

- Completed applications and all supporting evidence must be submitted between 1 September 2021 and 31 October 2021.
- Payment will be made as a single payment to the student in January 2022, subject to relevant evidence being provided. The costs will not be met upfront. In all cases, payment will be subject to the conditions and restrictions listed below.

### **Conditions and restrictions**

In order to be eligible for a reimbursement of quarantine accommodation costs or PCR testing costs, students must:

- Be fully enrolled at Birkbeck, University of London to undertake their studies prior to 1 September 2021.
- Be fully enrolled on their programme on the date of payment in January 2022. Students who are withdrawn, interrupted or suspended/excluded will not be eligible for the reimbursement.
- Where required, have a valid Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) certificate, or relevant visa from the University.
- Have adhered to the [Student Discipline Policy](#) throughout their programme.
- Have satisfactorily engaged with their studies for the first academic term of 2021-22.
- Have completed the application form and provided all the required evidence between 1 September 2021 and 31 October 2021. Applications will close on 31 October 2021. There will be no extension to this deadline.
- Have paid their tuition fees in full. In cases where students have not paid their tuition fees in full, quarantine or PCR reimbursement will be applied to your tuition fee account.
- Have a UK bank account in their own name. The University cannot make payments to non-UK bank accounts or accounts held by a third party.

*Failure to supply UK bank details by the deadline will make you ineligible for the reimbursement.*

- Refunds will not be paid in the event that a student does not follow the UK quarantine rules or is fined by the UK government for poor behaviour while in quarantine.

### **Supporting evidence**

For the quarantine reimbursement:

- A valid receipt of payment for quarantine in a UK Government designated hotel on arrival in the UK, clearly showing:
  - the date of departure to the UK
  - proof of transit from or through a red list country\*
  - the amount paid for the quarantine package
  - the student as the recipient of the quarantine package.

For the PCR reimbursement:

- A valid receipt of payment and travel documentation clearly showing:
  - the date of departure to the UK
  - proof of transit from or through an amber or green list country\*
  - the amount paid for the PCR tests
  - the student as the recipient of the PCR testing kits.

\* *On the day of departure to the UK.*

### **The detail**

- The refund is available to eligible students once per academic year.
- For applications submitted from 1 September 2021, travel must be undertaken between 1 September 2021 and 4 October.
- This offer is subject to change in line with UK Government requirements at the time of departure to the UK. If Government requirements change and students are no longer required by law to undertake PCR testing and/or quarantine in a Government designated hotel on arrival in the UK, this offer will no longer apply.
- The offer is to reimburse the cost of whatever testing and quarantine requirements are in place at the time of departure, up to the maximum sums stated.
- This offer is only available to students whose programmes are solely based at Birkbeck University of London's campus. It is not available to students studying at partner institutions, students studying online or distance learning programmes.
- The offer is not currently applicable to students starting their programmes in January 2022. The situation in relation to those students will be reviewed in accordance with Government guidelines in place at that time.
- The University will not reimburse any additional costs incurred as a result of students having to extend their period of quarantine due to a positive COVID-19 test.
- The reimbursement payment will be made directly to the student's UK bank account or offset against any unpaid tuition fees.
- There is no appeal process. You must provide the application, required evidence and details of a UK bank account in your name by the deadline to receive payment.
- The refund applies to the student only, costs for dependents will not be met by the University.