Part Time Dependants' Grants

Higher Education Student Finance in Wales 2014/15 Academic Year

TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES and STUDENT FINANCE WALES (For the attention of the Student Support Officer)

April 2014

Dear Colleague

2014/15 STUDENT FINANCE: Part-time Dependants' Grants (excluding Disabled Students' Allowances).

Attached is guidance for key delivery partners in the 2014/15 student finance implementation project: **Part-time Dependants' Grants** (excluding Disabled Students' Allowances).

This guidance is not exhaustive and is not a substitute for consulting The Education (Student Support) (Wales) Regulations 2013 which came into force on 10 January 2014.

This guidance does not cover every aspect of student support. The full details are contained in The Education (Student Support) (Wales) Regulations 2013 which are the legal basis of the student support arrangements for the academic year 2014/15. Nothing in this guidance can replace the Regulations and if there is any difference between this guidance and the Regulations, the Regulations prevail. This guidance is based on the Regulations as they stand at the time of publication and may change in future.

If you have any enquiries on this guidance, please contact:

Name	E-mail
Higher Education Division	studentfinancedivision@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please note that the following changes have been made:

 Universal Credit (UC) is due to be introduced in Wales from April 2014 and will gradually replace some existing benefits, including Working Tax Credit (WTC).
 References to Universal Credit have been added to the chapter where relevant.

Table of Contents

ntroduction	4
Policy	4
General eligibility	
Means-tested NHS bursaries	
Unpaid Service	
Students who become eligible during the course	
Eligibility for grants for living costs where students withdraw or suspend	
Part-time grants for dependants	
Definitions for part-time dependants' grants	
Determining where financial dependence lies	8
in a civil partnership)	Q
Students aged under 25 with a child and living with a partner	0
(including a same sex partner)	8
Part-time Adult Dependants' Grant (regulation 103)	8
Student's partner is an eligible student or holds a statutory award	
(regulation 107(1)(c)	
Dependant ordinarily resident outside the United Kingdom	
Part-time Childcare Grant (regulation 104)	
Qualifying childcare in Wales	
Qualifying childcare in ScotlandQualifying childcare in Northern Ireland	
Qualifying childcare outside the United Kingdom	13 13
Audit of Childcare Grant applications	14
Amounts of Part-time Childcare Grant	
Maximum PTCCG in the first and final week of the academic year	
PTCCG and retainer fees paid to childcare providers	
Assessing PTCCG where the student's partner is an eligible student	
Periods covered by the PTCCG	
PTCCG for final year students	
Students who have a partner with income	
PTCCG, early years education and free childcarePTCCG, Child Tax Credit and the Childcare Element of Working Tax Cr	
Universal Credit	
Part-time Parents' Learning Allowance (Regulation 105)	
The part-time dependants' grant income assessment	
Assessment of dependants' income	
Treatment of financial obligations incurred before the start of the course	
(Regulation 107(8))	
Applying the dependants' income	
Payment of part-time grants for dependants	
The number of dependants changes in an academic year	25
Administration – students continuing on courses starting before	
September 2014	
Administering Part-time Childcare Grant (PTCCG) applications	
Processing PTCCG applications on the single systemInforming students of the breakdown of dependants' grants	26
Childcare Grant leaflets and forms	
Form 'Application for help with childcare costs'	21
Confirmation that a childcare provider is registered or approved	
Student does not return form 'Application for help with childcare costs'	
Students who return form 'Application for help with childcare costs'	27
Confirmation of payments made to a childcare provider	28
Monitoring returns of 'Confirmation of childcare costs' forms	
Student does not send confirmation of registered or approved childcare	
Student does not send confirmation of childcare payments	
Finalising assessments in 2014/15	29

Students not in receipt of a PT Childcare Grant during longest vacation	29
Students in receipt of a PT Childcare Grant during the longest vacation	29
Underpayments and overpayments of PT Childcare Grants	30
Annex 1	30
TIMETABLE FOR LAs	30
Annex 2	
Student letters	. 31

Introduction

- This chapter explains the part-time dependants' grants, which some part-time students
 may be eligible for. This chapter should be used in conjunction with and is not a
 replacement for the Education (Student Support) (Wales) Regulations 2013.
- 2. The part-time dependants' grants are:
 - Part-time Adult Dependants' Grant (PTADG) (regulation 103);
 - Part-time Childcare Grant (PTCCG) (regulation 104); and
 - Part-time Parents' Learning Allowance (PTPLA) (regulation 105)

Policy

General eligibility

- 3. The general eligibility criteria for part-time student support can be found in the 2014/15 'Fee Support and Course Grants for Part-time Students' guidance chapter.
- 4. Students who are personally eligible for student support under paragraph 9 of Schedule 1 (i.e. nationals of member states of the European Union) but not under any other paragraph of that Schedule, are not eligible for part-time dependants' grants.
- 5. Regulation 101 (3) applies with regard to eligibility for part-time dependants' grants.

This has the effect of limiting support to a maximum of eight years.

No student who holds an Honours degree from a UK institution will be eligible for part-time dependants' grants (unless that student is topping up an existing degree to an Honours degree.)

No more than any one course at any one time can be supported (full or part-time)

- 6. Part-time dependants' grants are available to eligible students regardless of age.
- 7. A student can only receive part-time dependants' grant support for a designated part-time course (or a designated full-time distance learning course which the student started before 1 September 2012). Any student starting a full-time distance learning course on or after 1 September 2012 is not eligible for dependants' grants. Regulations 78 and 95 cover which courses are eligible for support.
- 8. Students are eligible for part-time dependants' grants while attending an overseas institution as part of their UK course, whether obligatory or optional (but see paragraph 51 in respect of the Part-time Childcare Grant).
- 9. New eligible Welsh domiciled students who start a designated part-time course on or after 1 September 2014 can apply for part-time Tuition Fee Loan, and the existing income assessed part-time course grant, part-time dependants' grants (ADG, PLA and CCG) and part-time Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs). EU students are eligible for fee support only and are therefore not eligible to apply for part-time course grant, dependants' grants or DSAs.
- 10. Due to the differences in minimum intensity of study requirements for part-time products a student may not be eligible for all part-time products in all years of their course. A minimum of 25% full-time equivalent (FTE) study intensity is required to be eligible for tuition fee and DSA products; however, where the student is applying for Course Grant and / or Dependants' Grants, the intensity of study must not be less

than 50% FTE, and the student must be able to complete the part-time course in no more than two times the length of an equivalent full-time course.

Means-tested NHS bursaries

- 11. Under regulation 93(3), students are not eligible for part-time support for any academic year during which they are eligible for NHS bursaries or similar awards bestowed under section 63 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968, article 44 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 or sections 73(f) and 74(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980. The all-Wales workforce functions previously carried out by National Leadership and Innovation Agency for Healthcare (NLIAH) have been transferred to the NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership, where it will fall under the remit of the newly created Workforce, Education and Development Service (WEDS). Students who are eligible for an NHS Bursary should be directed to the WEDS website which will be available at:
- 12. http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/955/page/66809

Students can also contact the NHS Student Awards Unit by phoning 029 2037 6854.

ITT Courses

13. Where a student begins a part-time or flexible ITT course on or after 1 September 2010, (including 2011 and 2012 cohort) the course will attract the part-time support package. Designated part-time first degree and postgraduate ITT courses of at least one academic year in length will attract the same part-time package of tuition fee loan or fee grant, course grant (see 'Fee Support and Course Grants for Part-time Students' guidance chapter) dependants' grants and DSAs as part-time non-ITT first degree courses. Students who are continuing on ITT courses that started before 1 September 2010 should continue to apply for the full-time support packages (see the 'Grants for Dependants' guidance chapter and 'Assessing Eligibility' guidance chapter for Travel Grants).

Unpaid Service

- 14. Students on certain specified unpaid placements in the public or voluntary sectors are eligible for DSAs and part-time dependants' grants.
 - Unpaid service in a hospital or in a public health laboratory or with a Clinical Commissioning group in the UK;
 - Unpaid service with a local authority in the UK acting in the exercise of their functions relating to health, welfare or the care of children and young persons or with a voluntary organisation providing facilities or carrying out activities of a like nature in the UK or a Local Authority acting in the exercise of public health functions;;
 - Unpaid service in the prison or probation and aftercare service in the UK;
 - Unpaid research in an institution in the UK or, in the case of a student attending an overseas institution as a necessary part of their course, in an overseas institution; (In the Department's view research in an institution must involve some activity within the institution but not all of the work or activity must take place within the institution's physical bounds. Some research work might require a student to undertake some research away from their institution but as long as their base is established at the institution, such work can be regarded as part of their work in the institution.)
 - Unpaid service with a Special Health Authority, the National Health Service Commissioning Board, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, the Health and Social Care Information Centre, Local Health Board, Health

Board, Special Health Board or Health and Social Services Board H in England or Wales, or their Scottish or Northern Irish equivalents.

Students who become eligible during the course

- 15. Under regulation 94(4), a student **may** qualify for part-time dependants' grants from, and including, the academic year during which:
 - The student's course becomes designated;
 - The student, his or her spouse, his or her civil partner or his or her parent is recognised as a refugee or becomes a person with leave to enter or remain;
 - The state of which he is a national, accedes to the European Union where the student has been ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and Islands throughout the three-year period immediately preceding the first day of the first academic year of the course;
 - The student acquires the right of permanent residence;
 - The student becomes the child of a Turkish Worker:
 - The student becomes an EEA migrant worker or a family member of an EEA migrant worker, or a person described in paragraph 6 of Schedule 1;
 - The student becomes the child of a Swiss national.
- 16. In these circumstances the student is eligible for Part-time Adult Dependants' Grant and Part-time Parents' Learning Allowance only for the quarters after the events in paragraph 15 above occur. For example, a course becomes designated during quarter 1. PTADG, PTPLA and PTCCG are awarded from the beginning of quarter 2 and continue for the remainder of the course (except the quarter in which the longest vacation falls). (Note that prior to AY 2014/15, the student would have been eligible for PTCCG for the whole year of the course in which they become eligible.)
- 17. Students are not eligible for part-time dependants' grants for academic years of the course falling **before** the academic year in which they become eligible in the circumstances described above.

Eligibility for grants for living costs where students withdraw or suspend study

18. LAs/SFW will have the discretion to pay part-time dependants' grants until the end of the term in which the student has withdrawn from a course and, further, the discretion to pay part-time dependants' grants if a student is absent from their course.

Part-time grants for dependants

- 19. The part-time dependants' grants in 2014/15 under regulation 101 are:
 - Part-time Adult Dependants' Grant; (PTADG) (regulation 103)
 - Part-time Childcare Grant; (PTCCG) and (regulation 104)
 - Part-time Parents' Learning Allowance. (PTPLA) (regulation 105)

Definitions for part-time dependants' grants

20. For the purposes of grants for dependants under regulations 101-105, the following definitions apply (Regulation 107):

- 'dependant' means, in relation to an eligible student, the student's partner, the student's dependent child or an adult dependant, who in each case is not an eligible student and does not hold a statutory award;
- 'partner' means any of the following:
- i. the spouse or civil partner of an eligible student;
- ii. the co-habiting opposite sex partner for a student who is aged 25 or over on the first day of the relevant year of a course that began on or after 1 September 2000 (excluding courses taken end-on to a course that started before 1 September 2000);
- iii. the co-habiting same sex partner for a student who is aged 25 or over on the first day of the relevant year of a course that began <u>on or after 1 September 2005</u> (excluding courses taken end-on to a course that started before 1 September 2005).

The definition of a partner does not include a partner of the student where the LA/SFW considers they have separated (in the case of a married student or a student in a civil partnership). This definition also does not include a partner who is ordinarily living outside the United Kingdom and is not maintained by the student.

- 'adult dependant' means, in relation to an eligible student, an adult person who is dependent on the student, other than the student's child, partner (including a spouse or civil partner from whom the LA/SFW considers the student is separated) or former partner;
- 'child', in relation to an eligible student, includes any child of the student's partner who is dependent on the student and any child for whom the student has parental responsibility and is dependent on the student;
- 'dependent' means wholly or mainly financially dependent;
- 'dependent child' means, in relation to an eligible student, a child dependent on the student.
- 21. A child or adult person can be considered to be 'dependent' on an eligible student if:
 - (a) he or she is wholly or mainly financially dependent on the eligible student alone; or
 - (b) he or she is wholly or mainly financially dependent on the eligible student and their partner together (i.e. where the child or adult person is equally financially dependent on the eligible student and their partner who together are providing all or most of his financial support).
- 22. The definition of 'dependant' means that an eligible student aged under 25 is not eligible for a Part-time Adult Dependants' Grant in respect of a co-habiting partner. Since 2005/06, a student's same sex partner has fallen within the definition of a 'partner' rather than adult dependant. Part-time students under 25 with a dependent same sex partner are no longer eligible for a dependants' grant for that partner. This brings the treatment of same sex partners of students aged under 25 into line with opposite sex partners of students under 25 (regulation 107(1)(j)). The definition of 'dependant' also means that an eligible student will no longer be eligible for a Part-time Adult Dependants' Grant in respect of a dependent child or an adult dependant who is also an eligible student and who holds a statutory award (regulation 107(1)(c)).
- 23. The following table summarises when the cohabiting same sex partner or civil partner of a student is a dependant.

	Students who started their course before September 2005		Students who started their course in September 2005 or after	
P/T Student	Cohabiting same sex partner (not in a civil partnership)	Civil partner	Cohabiting same sex partner (not in a civil partnership)	Civil Partner
Under 25 years old	Х	✓	X	✓
Aged 25 years or over	Х	√	✓	√

Determining where financial dependence lies

Students aged 25 or over (or under 25 if they are married or in a civil partnership)

24. We recommend that the dependants' grants means test is applied in all such cases to determine whether grants are payable.

Students aged under 25 with a child and living with a partner (including a same sex partner)

25. Where a student is under 25 and living with a partner, the partner is not a dependant of the student under regulation 107(1)(j). Therefore the partner's income should not then be used to assess the part-time dependants' grants under regulation 106. However, the income of the partner of a student under 25 should be considered for the purpose of deciding whether a child is mainly financially dependent on the student or the student and the student's partner together. This should be decided by comparing the estimated income that a student might have – maximum potential student support, the maximum applicable PTCCG, PTADG, PTPLA, plus any income from other sources – with the net income of the student's partner, except for any child tax credit. Any child tax credit received either by the student or their partner should be added to the student's estimated income.

Part-time Adult Dependants' Grant (regulation 103)

- 26. In 2014/15, the amount of Part-time Adult Dependants' Grant (PTADG) under regulation 103 is £2,732 (prior to calculation under regulation 110) for one only of:
 - an eligible student's partner (as defined in paragraph 20); or
 - an adult dependant of the student whose net income does not exceed £3,923.
- 27. The residual income of a partner (as determined by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 of the Regulations), whatever the amount, is always included in the dependants' grant income assessment because there is no maximum amount specified in regulation 103(2)(a) for a partner. A student is not eligible for a grant in respect of an adult dependant whose net income exceeds the maximum amount applicable and such dependants are not included in the dependants' grant income assessment. The income of a partner, a dependent child or an adult dependant any of whom is also a full-time eligible student or who holds a statutory award is not included in the income assessment.
- 28. There is no requirement for a student to apply separately for the PTADG. Provided they have indicated on the PTG1 form that they have a spouse/ dependent adult, there

- is no requirement for them to make any separate request to receive this grant (see also paragraph 101).
- 29. From AY 2014/15, partners and other adult dependants of new and continuing students who are applying for any grants for dependants will submit details of gross taxable income from all sources for the prior financial year. For child dependants the net income from the prior financial year will be used. Estimates of net income (as per Regulation 35(7) of the Education (Student Support) (Wales) Regulations 2013) of partners and dependants for the current academic year will no longer be used for the targeted support income assessment. The 'prior financial year' is the financial year immediately before the financial year that ended before the start of the academic year. For example, for AY 2014/15, the current financial year begins in April 2014. The previous financial year began in April 2013, and the prior financial year began in April 2012.
- For part-time students all partner income, and income of other adult dependants and child dependants that is declared must be supported by physical evidence of that income.
- 31. Note that part-time course grant and fee grant (the latter is available where the course started before September 2014) are income assessed using the previous financial year income of the student and their partner, so the income used in the assessment of part-time dependants' grants will not be aligned with the income assessment of part-time course and fee grant following this change.
- 32. To ensure that students are not disadvantaged where there has been a significant drop in income from the prior financial year, where income in the current financial year (i.e. the financial year which begins immediately before the start of the current academic year) has fallen by 15% or more as compared to the prior financial year, students will be able to request a current year income assessment. This applies to income assessment of targeted grants for full-time and part-time students in Wales from AY 2013/14.

Student's partner is an eligible student or holds a statutory award (regulation 107(1)(c)

33. An eligible student may not claim PTADG in respect of the student's partner, or for another adult dependant, if that partner or adult dependant is also a full-time eligible student or holds a statutory award. An eligible student who cannot apply for the PTADG in respect of his or her partner because the partner is also an eligible student or holds a statutory award can still apply for the PTADG in respect of an adult dependant instead.

Where an amount of PTADG is being calculated in respect of an adult dependant it is to be reduced by one half if the eligible student's partner is also an eligible student or holds a statutory award, and account is taken of the partner's dependants in calculating the amount of support for which that partner qualifies or the payment to which that partner is entitled to under his or her statutory award.

Dependant ordinarily resident outside the United Kingdom

34. Where a student maintains a dependant who is ordinarily resident outside the United Kingdom, the LA/SFW has discretion to determine the basic amount of PTADG payable, if any, to a maximum of £2,732 (regulation 103(3)(b)).

Part-time Childcare Grant (regulation 104)

- 35. The Part-time Childcare Grant (PTCCG) broadly mirrors the childcare element of Working Tax Credit (WTC) administered by HM Revenue & Customs. The PTCCG is available to students with dependent children (subject to income assessment) who incur "prescribed childcare charges". Prescribed childcare charges means childcare charges of a description prescribed for the purposes of section 12 of the Tax Credits Act 2002. In other words a charge incurred is a prescribed childcare charge if it is one that potentially attracts the childcare element of Working Tax Credit (WTC).
- 36. The childcare element of WTC is payable in respect of registered or approved childcare. The types of childcare that can potentially attract the childcare element of WTC, and therefore also potentially attract the PTCCG, are set out at paragraphs 43-50.
- 37. The PTCCG also broadly mirrors the childcare element of WTC in circumstances where the registered or approved childcare provider is a relative of the child or the childcare is considered to be compulsory education (see paragraphs 43 50).
- 38. Students who are potentially eligible for the PTCCG are:
 - lone parents:
 - student couples with children; and
 - student parents with partners, including partners with income. (Entitlement is subject to the level income and the amount of childcare costs).
- 39. The PTCCG is available in respect of an academic year in which the student incurs prescribed childcare charges for:
 - a dependent child who is under the age of 15 immediately before the beginning of the academic year, including a dependent child who is born after the start of the academic year; or
 - a dependent child who has special educational needs within the meaning of section 312 of the Education Act 1996 and is under the age of 17 immediately before the beginning of the academic year, including a dependent child who is born after the start of the academic year.
- 40. A child with special educational needs within the meaning of the Education Act 1996 is a child who has a learning difficulty which calls for special educational provision to be made for them. A learning difficulty is defined in the Act as a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of their age or a disability that prevents or hinders a child from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of their age in schools within the LA's area.
- 41. The definition of 'dependant' given at paragraph 20 (regulation 107) also applies to the PTCCG).
- 42. The PTCCG is not counted as income by Job Centre Plus or local authority Housing Benefit sections, when assessing a student's entitlement to income related benefits.

Qualifying childcare in Wales

- 43. A Welsh domiciled student who incurs charges for the following types of childcare in Wales is potentially eligible for the PTCCG.
 - Care provided by Registered childcare including childminders, nurseries, playgroups, children's centres and holiday play schemes for children aged under eight. Only childcare for children under eight has to be registered, but

children aged eight and over who are in childcare that is also for children under eight years are also eligible for the grant because they are attending registered childcare childminders. Nurseries and play schemes registered by the National Assembly for Wales through the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CSSIW). A registration number will be supplied and the carer is required to display their registration certificate on the premises.

- Out-of-school hours clubs provided by a school on school premises or by a
 local authority. Some schools provide day care for very young children and
 for children outside normal school hours. PTCCG may be paid for this type of
 childcare as long as the school is registered as a day care provider by
 CSSIW.
- Childcare provided in the child's own home by a domiciliary care worker or nurse from an agency registered by CSSIW.
- Care provided by an approved foster carer (the care must be for a child who
 is not being fostered by the foster carer).
- The PTCCG may also be available for a nanny or child carer registered under the Childcare Approval Scheme Wales providing care in the student's home or other domestic premises.

Qualifying childcare in England

- 44. A Welsh domiciled student who incurs charges for the following types of Ofsted Registered childcare in England is potentially eligible for the PTCCG.
- 45. From September 2008, childcare providers who care for children aged under eight in England are no longer registered under the Children Act 1989, but are instead registered under the Childcare Act 2006. Ofsted operates two registers; the Early Years Register (EYR), which is compulsory for most childcare providers who care for children up to the end of the foundation stage (31st August after the child's fifth birthday) and the General Childcare Register (GCR), which is compulsory for most childcare providers who care for children from the end of the foundation stage to seven.
- 46. Childcare providers who care for children aged eight and over, or who provide activity based care, or care in the child's own home for children of any age, are not required to be registered by Ofsted. However since April 2007 they have been able to apply to be registered on the voluntary part of General Childcare Register. Childcare offered by a provider on the voluntary part of the General Childcare Register counts as qualifying childcare for the purposes of the Childcare Grant.
- 47. Registered childcare providers can include registered child-minders, nurseries, play groups, children's centers, holiday play schemes, sports, arts or language clubs and nannies. Registration requires providers to demonstrate that the premises, people and provision are all suitable for the delivery of childcare. All childcare providers registered by Ofsted have a registration number and are required to display their registration certificate on the premises.

Additional qualifying childcare in England

- 48. A Welsh domiciled student who incurs charges for the following types of childcare in England which are currently eligible for Working Tax Credit (WTC) purposes will also potentially be eligible for the PTCCG:
 - Childcare that takes place on school premises or on other premises that may be inspected as part of an inspection of a school by OFSTED, or by the equivalent inspection body appointed by the Secretary of State to inspect certain independent schools:
 - Childcare provided for children aged under five must be on the Ofsted Early Years Register.
 - Childcare provided for children aged five or over must be out of school hours.
 - If the child's school uses an external childcare provider, they must be on the Ofsted register appropriate to the child's age.
 - Childcare provided in the child's own home by a domiciliary care worker or nurse from an agency "registered" with the Care Quality Commission (under the Domiciliary Care Agencies Regulations 2002).
 - Care provided by an approved foster carer (the care must be for a child who is not being fostered by the foster carer) who is also registered with Ofsted either on the EYR or the GCR. (please note 'an approved foster carer' under the Fostering Services Regulations does not replace the requirement for foster cares who look after children, who are not their foster children, to register with Ofsted as a childcare provider on either the EYR or the GCR. This is in line with the tax credits legislation which provides support for childcare costs only in circumstances where the foster carer is registered with Ofsted.

Qualifying childcare in Scotland

- 49. A Welsh domiciled student who incurs charges for the following type of childcare in Scotland which is currently eligible for WTC purposes, will also potentially be eligible for the PTCCG.
 - Care provided by childminders, nurseries and play schemes registered by the Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care.
 - Out-of-school hours clubs 'registered' by the Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care.
 - Care provided by an approved foster carer or a kinship carer, but the childcare must be for a child who is not being fostered by the foster carer. The foster carer must be registered with the Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care as a child-minder or a daycare provider.
 - Childcare provided in the child's own home by (or introduced through) childcare agencies, including sitter services and nanny agencies registered by the Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care.

Qualifying childcare in Northern Ireland

- 50. A Welsh-domiciled student who incurs charges for the following type of childcare in Northern Ireland which is currently eligible for WTC purposes, will also potentially be eligible for the PTCCG.
 - Care provided by childminders, nurseries and play schemes registered by a Health and Social Services Trust.
 - Out-of-school hours clubs provided by a school on the school premises or by an Education and Library Board or 'registered' by the Health and Social Services Trust.
 - Care provided by an approved foster carer but the care must be for a child who is not being fostered by the foster carer. The foster carer must be registered with the Health and Social Services Trust if the child is under the age of 12, or approved under the Approval of Home Child Care Providers (Northern Ireland) Scheme, if the care is in the child's home and the child is under the age of 16.
 - Childcare provided in the child's own home by a child carer approved under the Approval of Home Child Care Providers (Northern Ireland) 2006 Scheme.

Qualifying childcare outside the United Kingdom

51. Students attending an overseas institution as part of their course will not generally be eligible for a PTCCG to cover childcare costs incurred abroad. The only qualifying overseas childcare providers are those approved under the Ministry of Defence accreditation scheme, which is currently eligible for WTC / UC purposes. The scheme approves providers who care for the children of personnel based overseas.

Where the childcare provider becomes registered or approved

52. Some students may use a childcare provider who is not registered or approved but becomes registered or approved then at some stage during the academic year. In such instances, the PTCCG may only be paid from the point at which the provider's application for registration has been successful and their registration or approval confirmed.

Where the registered or approved childcare provider is the student's partner or a relative of the child

- 53. Childcare charges in respect of which an eligible student may qualify for the PTCCG will not include:
 - charges incurred in respect of childcare provided by a relative of the child wholly or mainly in the child's home even if the relative is registered or approved;
 - charges incurred in respect of childcare provided by a relative of the child approved under the Childcare Approval Scheme Wales, CSSIW (or Childcare Approval Scheme in England or the Approval of Home Child Care Providers Scheme in Northern Ireland) wholly or mainly in the relative's home where the care is usually provided solely or mainly in respect of one or more children to whom the provider is a parent or relative;
 - charges paid by the student to their partner in respect of childcare for the student's child or a child of the student's partner even if the partner is registered or approved.

- 54. A relative of the child means a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother or sister whether by blood, half-blood, marriage or affinity. Affinity means a person with a strong relationship to the child, for example someone in a parental position regarding their partner's children and includes step parents.
- 55. This broadly reflects the childcare element of WTC / UC, in that a person who is the parent or relative of a child, or who has parental responsibility for a child, is not generally acting as a child minder when looking after that child. The PTCCG is not intended to pay for care that any parent or relative of a child might be expected to provide.

Compulsory education charges

56. Childcare charges in respect of which an eligible student may qualify for the PTCCG will not include charges that are considered to be compulsory education charges. The PTCCG is not intended to pay for costs related to compulsory education (school fees, for example) which again reflects the WTC / UC position.

Audit of Childcare Grant applications

- 57. There is presently no facility on the single system for LAs/SFW to identify a selection of PTCCG applications for audit. LAs/SFW should consider a sample check of applications, using a manual list of applicants, to confirm that the childcare provider is registered or approved. It would be advisable to conduct such checks after the grant has been paid to avoid delaying any payment of PTCCG. However, if there are doubts or concerns about a provider, it is recommended that such checks are carried out prior to payment. The number of applications selected for audit will depend on the number of applications received, but a sample check of 10-15% of applications would be appropriate. The checks should involve confirming that the provider is registered or approved, the student's child is being cared for by that provider, the amount of care provided and the cost of the care. The process should also include checking that childcare has been provided for the whole period for which the student has received a PTCCG and that the student has not received a PTCCG for a period when they have not paid for childcare or for a period covered by a free early learning place (refer to the form 'Application for help with childcare costs'). The Welsh Government expects LAs/SFW to pursue any application upon which there is a doubt about its veracity.
- 58. In carrying out the sample check, LAs/SFW will wish to confirm with the relevant body that the childcare provider detailed on the forms 'Application for childcare costs' and 'Confirmation of childcare payments' is registered or approved. Ofsted took over the registration of new providers and the regulation of existing providers from 1 September 2001. In carrying out their sample checks, LAs/SFW should contact their local Children's Information Services (CIS) in the first instance to check the registration status of a childcare provider. Ofsted supply CIS with updated information on childcare providers on a daily basis. This will enable CIS to maintain an up-to-date list of registered childcare providers and their registration status, i.e. whether their registration status is current, cancelled or suspended. In Wales the regulation of Childcare Services is the responsibility of Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW).
- 59. When information is not easily forthcoming from CIS, or where there is concern or doubt about a provider's registration that the CIS cannot answer, LAs/SFW could contact the relevant Ofsted regional centre by calling the national help line on 0845 640 4040. The call will be automatically diverted to the closest regional centre.

Amounts of Part-time Childcare Grant

60. The amount of PTCCG payable is based on the actual childcare costs. The PTCCG pays 85% of the actual cost of registered or approved childcare on a pro-rated basis in

accordance with intensity of part-time study (regulation 110). The maximum amounts of PTCCG payable are as follows.

- For one dependent child, 85% of the actual cost of registered or approved childcare, paying up to a maximum grant of £161.50 per week (i.e. a maximum of 85% of £190 actual childcare costs) pro-rated based upon intensity of study. The maximum annual PTCCG for a student with one dependent child using childcare for the whole year is £8,398 (subject to pro rata calculations undertaken in regulation 110).
- For two or more dependent children, 85% of the actual cost of registered or approved childcare, paying up to a maximum grant of £274.55 per week (i.e. a maximum of 85% of £323 actual childcare costs) pro-rated based upon intensity of study. The maximum annual PTCCG for a student with two or more dependent children using childcare for the whole year is £14,276.60 (subject to pro rata calculations undertaken in regulation 110).
- 61. The PTCCG pays 85% of actual childcare costs, but the amount of weekly PTCCG paid should not exceed £161.50 per week for one child or £274.55 per week for two or more children.
- 62. From AY 2014/15, where a childcare provider has **not** been identified, the amount of childcare grant payable will be based on 85% of actual childcare costs, subject to a maximum grant of £115 per week (regulation 104 (7)). This lower rate payment will be made until details of the childcare provider have been submitted but subject to a maximum of one academic quarter (usually a term). Once a childcare provider has been identified, the Childcare Grant entitlement should be reassessed using the appropriate maximum amount for one or more children.

These amounts are subject to a pro rata calculation undertaken at regulation 110. See also paragraph 90 for the part-time dependants' grant assessment.

Number of children in prescribed childcare	Total weekly cost of childcare	Total amount of PTCCG per week
Student A – 1 child	£90	£76.50 (85% of actual childcare costs) Pro-rated under regulation 110 in accordance with intensity of study level – student receives: Intensity of study 50-59% £38.25 Intensity of study 60-74% £45.90
Student B – 1 child	£200	Intensity of study 75% or more £57.38 £161.50 (as the PTCCG pays 85% of actual costs of up to £190 per week) Pro-rated under regulation 110 in accordance with intensity of study level – student receives: Intensity of study 50-59% £80.75 Intensity of study 60-74% £96.90 Intensity of study 75% or more £121.13 Where the student does not name a childcare provider, the first term

Number of children in prescribed childcare	Total weekly cost of childcare	Total amount of PTCCG per week
		payment of PTCCG is capped at the following amount:
		Intensity of study 50-59% £57.50 Intensity of study 60-74% £69
0. 1 . 0 . 0	0000	Intensity of study 75% or more £86.25
Student C – 2	£220	£187.00
Ciliaren		(85% of actual childcare costs)
		Pro-rated under regulation 110 in accordance with intensity of study level – student receives:
		Intensity of study 50-59% £93.50
		Intensity of study 60-74% £112.20
		Intensity of study 75% or more £140.25
		Where the student does not name a childcare provider, the first term payment of PTCCG is capped at the following amount:
		Intensity of study 50-59% £57.50 Intensity of study 60-74% £69
		Intensity of study 75% or more £86.25

Maximum PTCCG in the first and final week of the academic year

- 63. The system calculates childcare costs on a weekly basis. A week begins on a Monday and ends on a Sunday. This reflects the requirements of regulation 104(6). The Regulations provide for a maximum grant of £161.50,,£274.55, or £115 where the details of a childcare provider have not been submitted, to be paid for each week (subject to pro rata calculations undertaken in regulation 110) i.e. Monday to Sunday. The final period of the academic year 2014/15 for which the PTCCG may be paid is a full week (ending on Sunday30 August 2015), so the maximum PTCCG will be paid for the week ending 30 August 2015.
- 64. Where the final week of an academic year is less than seven days (i.e. where it ends on a day which is not a Sunday) the system will pro-rata the appropriate maximum weekly PTCCG payable for this week only. This is done so that the maximum PTCCG is not applied to days which fall outside the academic year. LAs/SFW should note that there is no requirement to pro rata the maximum PTCCG payable in other weeks of the academic year even if a student uses childcare for part of a week (subject to pro rata calculations undertaken in regulation 110).

PTCCG and retainer fees paid to childcare providers

65. Some childcare providers request a retainer fee to be paid by the student to retain a childcare place for the following term or academic year, even if the student is not using childcare for the period. As a retainer fee is part of childcare costs, the PTCCG may be used to pay for retainer fees charged by childcare providers. Childcare providers

usually include the cost of meals they provide in their overall childcare cost. If a childcare provider makes a separate charge for the meals they provide during the periods of childcare, these may be paid as part of the PTCCG.

Assessing PTCCG where the student's partner is an eligible student

66. The amount of PTCCG is reduced by one half if the eligible student's partner is an eligible part-time student (qualifies for support for a designated course) or holds a statutory award (see definition of statutory award) and account has been taken of the partner's dependants when calculating the partner's support or statutory award (regulation 106(9)).

LAs/SLC should where appropriate use their discretion in awarding PTCCG to ensure that households with two eligible students are not disadvantaged e.g.

- Where a household contains eligible full and part-time students it would usually be more beneficial for the full-time student to claim PTCCG solely.
- In addition, in a household which contains eligible students of varying intensity levels it would usually be more beneficial for the student with the higher intensity of study level to claim PTCCG solely.

Periods covered by the PTCCG

67. The grant for childcare costs can be paid from the first day of the academic year, provided that the student, whether a first year student or a continuing student, incurs childcare costs for the period from the beginning of the academic year. An illustrative example of the payments of the PTCCG over the academic year is shown in the following table. In this example the first day of term is taken to be 1 October and assumes the student pays for childcare every week during the academic year.

,	6 July 2015 – 30 August 2015 (long vacation)
85% of childcare costs for 44 weeks	85% of childcare costs for 8 weeks

68. The example above is based on a student claiming PTCCG for the long vacation and whose academic year begins on 1 September 2014. The PTCCG payments start on 1 September even though the first day of term one is 1 October 2014. The PTCCG in respect of the months of July and August 2015 is paid in advance with the third instalment of support. The grant for childcare costs incurred in September 2015 is paid in arrears with the first instalment of support in the following academic year.

PTCCG for final year students

69. The PTCCG is not payable to final year students for the period between the end of the course and the end of the academic year in which the course ends (regulation 104(5)). An illustrative example of the PTCCG payments to final year students over the academic year is shown in the table below. In this example the first day of term is taken to be 1 October 2014 and the final term of the course ends on 5 July 2015. The illustration assumes the student pays for childcare each week in the period given.

1 September 2014 – 5 July 2015
85% of weekly childcare costs for each week childcare is used

Students who have a partner with income

70. Some students with a partner in receipt of income may still receive a PTCCG but this depends upon the number of dependent children, the cost of the childcare, and the number of weeks that the childcare is used, as well as the level of the income of the partner (if treated as a dependant under regulation 103(2)(a)).

PTCCG, early years education and free childcare

- 71. Students cannot receive Part-time Childcare Grant for any childcare that is provided free of charge and should only include in their applications, childcare for which they have to pay a childcare provider.
- 72. Additionally, all three and four year olds have been able to access a free, part-time early learning place since April 2004. Data from the January 2007 census confirmed that around 96% of three year olds and virtually all four year olds are now benefiting from some form of free provision. The free minimum entitlement consists of twelve and a half hours per week of early learning over 38 weeks a year. From September 2010 the free entitlement was increased to 15 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year, and access made more flexible. Parents may arrange the early learning place entitlement to suit the needs of their children depending on the ability of the provider to deliver.
- 73. Local Authorities will provide funding to the early learning providers to enable them to make free places available to eligible children. Therefore, our advice is that the higher education PTCCG cannot be paid for a period covered by a free early learning place. The Code of Practice on the provision of free nursery education places for three and four year olds makes clear that early learning place providers should not charge parents up-front for an early learning place to be refunded at a later date.
- 74. However, providers can charge for services provided outside of the free entitlement this is a private matter between parents and providers. These services usually take place before and/or after the early learning place and is sometimes referred to as wrap around or out of school care. The PTCCG may be paid to cover the cost of childcare charged to the student as long as the provider is registered or approved. Students should only include in their applications childcare for which they have to pay a childcare provider. If they include a free early learning place in their application, providers will be unable to confirm that the student has made payments.

PTCCG, Child Tax Credit and the Childcare Element of Working Tax Credit / Universal Credit

- 75. Child Tax Credit (CTC) is administered by Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC) and provides income-related support for families with children. If a student receives CTC, this does not affect their entitlement to the PTCCG.
- 76. Working Tax Credit (WTC) / Universal Credit (UC) tops up the earnings of low paid working people whether or not they have children, and is made up of several elements, for example a disability element, a childcare element (i.e. the childcare element of WTC / UC) etc. A student cannot receive Childcare Grant at the same time as receiving the childcare element of WTC / UC. (Other elements of WTC / UC do not preclude a student from claiming Childcare Grant.)
- 77. The childcare element of WTC / UC can meet up to 70% of the cost of registered or approved childcare up to a maximum cost of £175 a week for families who pay childcare for one child and £300 a week for families who pay childcare for two children or more. The maximum amount of childcare element of WTC / UC someone could have is £140 a week for one child or £240 a week for two or more children, although the actual amount a family receives in childcare element of WTC / UC is subject to the family's gross income.

- 78. To qualify for the childcare element of WTC / UC a lone parent must work at least 16 hours a week. If you're a couple, your joint paid working hours need to be at least 24 hours a week with one working at least 16 hours a week. So if you're a couple and only one of you is working, that person will need to work at least 24 hours a week (unless one member of the couple is disabled or incapacitated, i.e. as an in-patient in hospital or in prison then the other partner must work at least 16 hours a week. Students who satisfy the entitlement rules for the childcare element of WTC / UC can choose either to claim the childcare element of WTC / UC or the PTCCG. They cannot claim the childcare element of WTC / UC if they or their partner are also receiving the PTCCG.
- 79. Similarly regulation 104(3) of the Education (Student Support) (Wales) Regulations 2013 provides that an eligible student shall not be eligible for a PTCCG if the eligible student or their partner has elected to receive the childcare element of WTC / UC. This provision reflects the policy intention that an eligible student should not receive childcare support from the PTCCG and the childcare element of WTC / UC at the same time.
- 80. If a student indicates that they or their spouse/ partner are in receipt of an award from WTC / UC and applies for a PTCCG under the Student Support Regulations, LAs/SFW may also consider using their powers under Schedule 3 to request evidence to confirm that the eligible student's or their partner's WTC / UC award does not include the childcare element of WTC / UC. This should involve requesting that the eligible student produces a WTC / UC award notification that should indicate if the student or their partner is in receipt of the WTC / UC childcare element. If the student or partner is not in receipt of the childcare element of WTC / UC there will be no mention of it in the WTC / UC award notice. This information should also help LAs/SFW determine the start/termination dates for PTCCG payments.
- 81. It is possible that a student or their partner's circumstances may change resulting in a request to receive the PTCCG instead of the WTC / UC childcare element, or vice versa. There is no statutory bar within the Student Support Regulations or the Tax Credit Act preventing a student from changing the source of their childcare support. If they are receiving the WTC / UC childcare element and they wish to change over to the PTCCG they should notify the Tax Credit Office / DWP and give the date when they want the WTC / UC childcare element to cease. This should be the day before the PTCCG comes into payment. Parents will be issued with a new awards notice which can be used as evidence that the WTC / UC award no longer includes the childcare element.
- 82. LAs/SFW are asked to accept a declaration from the student confirming that the student or their spouse/partner is no longer in receipt of childcare support through WTC / UC in order to prevent unnecessary delays in payment of the PTCCG. This declaration must be subsequently confirmed. Students may be assessed for a PTCCG from the first day after their last payment of the childcare element of WTC / UC.
- 83. For more information on tax credits:
 - visit http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/individuals/tmatax-credits.shtml;
 - call the Tax Credits Helpline (telephone 0345 300 3900); or
 - call the nearest HMRC Enquiry Centre (listed under 'HM Revenue & Customs' in the telephone directory).

Part-time Parents' Learning Allowance (Regulation 105)

84. A Part-time Parents' Learning Allowance (PTPLA) of up to £1,557, subject to income assessment and the pro-rated calculation under regulation 110, is available to students with one or more dependent children regardless of the age of the children. It can be paid whether or not student parents use registered or approved childcare.

- 85. The PTPLA is intended to cover some of the additional costs incurred by students with dependent children, such as higher travel costs, and books and equipment needed for the course. PTPLA is not treated as income when students are assessed for incomerelated benefits, including Housing Benefit / the housing element of Universal Credit.
- 86. Where a student starts a course before 1 September 2014, the student should indicate on the PTG1 form that they have dependent children; there is no requirement for them to make any separate request to receive this grant. Where a student starts a course on or after 1 September 2014, a separate dependants' grants application form will be provided.
- 87. Subject to an assessment of income, the PTPLA will be paid to:
 - a) Part-time students with dependent children who are assessed to receive at least £1 of PTCCG and/or £1 of PTADG. Such students are entitled to receive the full amount of PLA (£1,557) pro-rated in accordance with regulation 110.
 - b) Part-time students with dependent children who are eligible in principle for the PTADG and/or the PTCCG but are not entitled to receive any payments of those grants because the income of their dependants is sufficiently high to offset them. After applying the dependants' net income against the PTADG and the PTCCG, any remaining income is set against the PTPLA on a £ for £ basis;
 - c) Part-time students with dependent children who have no adult dependants and are not eligible for the PTCCG because they are not using registered or approved childcare. Dependants' net income is set against the PTPLA on a £ for £ basis.
- 88. If the aggregate amount of PTPLA determined is between £1 and £49 then the student will be entitled to a minimum amount of PTPLA payable of £50 (regulation 106(10)).
- 89. Where the eligible student has a partner who is also an eligible student and a dependent child who is wholly or mainly financially dependent on him and his partner together, the student and the partner may each receive the amount of PTPLA due after the application of the dependants' grant income assessment. The PTPLA entitlement should not be divided between the eligible students.

The part-time dependants' grant income assessment

Assessment of dependants' income

- 90. Income information provided by the student is used by the LA/SLC to determine the amount of PTCCG, PTADG and PTPLA due.
- 91. To determine a student's eligibility for part-time dependants' grants it is necessary to calculate the dependants' income. From AY 2014/15, the income of partners and adult dependants that is used in the dependants' grants income assessment is the gross taxable income from all sources for the prior financial year (regulation 106), minus certain allowable disregards. For child dependants the net income in the prior financial year is used. Estimates of net income in the current academic year are no longer used in the dependants' grant income assessment. (However, they are still used where adult or child dependency is being established.) This change applies to all new and continuing students who apply for dependants' grants in AY 2014/15 or later.
- 92. To ensure that students are not disadvantaged where income has fallen since the prior financial year, partners and/or dependants whose income in the current financial year (i.e. the financial year which begins immediately before the start of the current academic year) has fallen by 15% or more will be able to request that dependants' grants are assessed on an estimate of income for the current financial year instead.

93. Where the student receives maintenance payments under an agreement that expressly or implicitly requires that these payments are to be applied for the benefit of the student's child, this income should be treated as the child's income and taken into account in the dependants' grant income assessment. This might include maintenance payments received by the student under a court order, through the CSA or by way of a voluntary agreement.

Treatment of financial obligations incurred before the start of the course (Regulation 107(8))

- 94. Regulation 107(8) allows recurrent payments made by the student or the student's partner in respect of obligations incurred by the student before the start of the course to be deducted from the partner's net income where such obligations were reasonably incurred, LAs/SFW have agreed to the following obligations:
 - Mortgage Payments
 - Mortgage Protection
 - Maintenance Payments
 - Rent
 - Council Tax
 - Life Insurance
 - Home Insurance
 - Home Improvement Loans
 - Endowments
- 95. However, LAs/SFW have the discretion to decide which types of recurrent payment to deduct, and this list is not binding but intended purely as a guideline as to what might be regarded as permissible items. If the LA/SFW considers that a lesser obligation could reasonably have been incurred in the circumstances, a correspondingly lesser sum may be disregarded. Where a partner is making payments in respect of an obligation for which payments are shared by the partner and the student, the full obligation (i.e. the amount being incurred by the student and the amount being incurred by the partner) should be taken into account.

Applying the dependants' income

- 96. The dependants' aggregated net income for the academic year less one of the following applicable thresholds (regulation 106(2)):
 - £1,159 for a student with no dependent children;
 - £3,473 for a couple with one child;
 - £4,632 for a couple with two or more children;
 - £4,632 for a lone parent with one child;
 - £5,797 for a lone parent with two or more children;

reduces the student's entitlement to dependants' grants where applicable $\mathfrak L$ for $\mathfrak L$ in the following order (regulation 106(1)):

- 1. Adult Dependants' Grant;
- 2. Childcare Grant; and
- 3. Parents' Learning Allowance.
- 97. The dependants' aggregated income less the applicable threshold is first applied to the PTADG (if applicable). Any remaining income is then applied to the PTCCG (if applicable) and any remaining income is then applied to the PTPLA (if applicable). If the income (less the relevant threshold applied) exceeds or equals the aggregate of

the basic amounts of the grants for dependants, the amount payable for grants for dependants is nil (regulation 106(7)).

Calculation of Part-time Dependants' Grant

98. The total amount of dependants' grants payable under regulation 106 is subject to the main income assessment at regulation 109 and pro-rated based upon intensity of study at regulation 110 and must be calculated as follows.

Regulation 106 - Initial calculations.

Regulation 109 - Application of contribution (calculated under schedule 6)

Regulation 110 - Final calculation

N.B. Failure to apply these calculations in the correct order will result in an incorrect student assessment.

Example 1

Student A has a spouse/civil partner with income (after deductions and/or obligations) of £3,070 and two children under 15 with net income of £1,125 each. The childcare costs are £150 per week for the whole of the academic year.

Step 1: Establish dependants' income.

Dependants	Income
Spouse/Civil Partner	£3,070
Child 1	£1,125
Child 2	£1,125
A. Total dependants' income	£5,320

Step 2: Choose the threshold which applies to the student's circumstances (regulation 106(2)).

Student's circumstances	Applicable threshold
B. 2 parents and 2 children	£4,632

Step 3: Calculate the dependants' residual income

A. Total dependants' income	£5,320
B. Applicable threshold	£4,632
Dependants' residual income (A - B)	£688

Step 4: Add together all the dependants' grants the student may be eligible to receive.

Grant	Amount
PTADG	£2,732
PTCCG	£6,630
(85% of actual costs - 52 x £127.50)	
PTPLA	£1,557
Total	£10,919

Step 5: Calculate the amounts of dependants' grants to be paid

A. Total dependants' grants	£10,919
B. Dependants' residual income	£688

Step 6: Breakdown of individual dependants' grants to be paid.

Grant	Amount
PTADG	£2,044
(full grant reduced by contribution of £688)	
PTCCG (85% of actual costs - 52 x £127.50)	£6,630
PTPLA	£1,557
Total part-time dependants' grant paid	£10,231

Step 7 (regulation 109)

Determine the contribution payable under **Schedule 6 Financial Assessment – Part- Time Grants for Dependants**

Assessments will be calculated as follows:

Household income £39,778 or less: no contribution

Household income of more than £39,778:

contribution of £1 for each additional £8.97 of household income

The maximum contribution is £6,208. In calculating the household income.

See table Annex 3

Any assessed contribution will be applied in order to

PTADG

PTCCG

PTPLA

With total household income assessed at £5,320, student A has no contribution to be applied.

Step 8 (regulation 110)

Payment of the part-time dependants' grants will be made based upon intensity of study as follows.

Part-time students studying at an intensity level of 50-59% will receive 50% of the calculated part-time grants for dependants.

Part-time students studying at an intensity level of 60-74% will receive 60% of the calculated part-time grants for dependants.

Part-time students studying at an intensity level of 75% or more will receive 75% of the calculated part-time grants for dependants.

Student A is studying at an intensity of 50%, therefore the amounts payable for part-time dependants' grants will be:

PTADG	£1,022.00
PTCCG	£3,315
PTPLA	£778.50
Total Grant	£5,115.50

Example 2

Student has a spouse/civil partner with income (after deductions and/or obligations) of £10,850 and one child under 15 with no income. The childcare costs are £115 per week for the whole of the academic year.

Step 1: Establish dependants' income.

Dependants	Income
Spouse/Civil Partner	£10,850
Child 1	£0
A. Total dependants' income	£10,850

Step 2: Choose the threshold which applies to the student's circumstances (regulation 106(2)).

Student's circumstances	Applicable threshold
B. 2 parents and 1 child	£3,473

Step 3: Calculate the dependants' residual income

A. Total dependants' income	£10,850
B. Applicable threshold	£3,473
Dependants' residual income (A - B)	£7,377

Step 4: Add together all the dependants' grants the student may be eligible to receive.

Grant	Amount
PTADG	£2,732
PTCCG	£5,083
(85% of actual costs - 52 x £97.75)	
PTPLA	£1,557
Total	£9,372

Step 5: Calculate the amounts of dependants' grants to be paid

A. Total dependants' grants	£9,372
B. Dependants' residual income	£7,377
Amount of dependants' grant to be paid (A – B)	£1,995

Step 6: Breakdown of individual dependants' grants to be paid.

Grant	Amount
PTADG	£0
(full grant reduced by contribution of £2,732)	
PTCCG (85% of actual costs - 52 x £127.50),	£438
reduced by contribution of £4,730	
PTPLA	£1,557
Total part-time dependants' grant paid	£1,995

Step 7 (regulation 109)

Determine the contribution payable under **Schedule 6 Financial Assessment – Part- Time Grants for Dependants**

Assessments will be calculated as follows:

Household income £39,778 or less: no contribution

Household income of more than £39,778:

contribution of £1 for each additional £8.97 of household income

The maximum contribution is £6,208. In calculating the household income,

See table Annex 3

Any assessed contribution will be applied in order to

PTADG PTCCG PTPLA

With total household income assessed at £10,850 student A has no contribution to be applied.

Step 8 (regulation 110)

Payment of the part-time dependants' grants will be made based upon intensity of study as follows.

Part-time students studying at an intensity level of 50-59% will receive 50% of the calculated part-time grants for dependants.

Part-time students studying at an intensity level of 60-74% will receive 60% of the calculated part-time grants for dependants.

Part-time students studying at an intensity level of 75% or more will receive 75% of the calculated part-time grants for dependants.

Student A is studying at an intensity of 75%, therefore the amounts payable for parttime dependants' grants will be:

PTADG	£0
PTCCG	£328.50
PTPLA	£1167.75
Total Grant	£1496.25

N.B. Calculations under schedule 6 will include any student income earned during the academic year – this does not follow the calculation for full-time students.

Payment of part-time grants for dependants

99. Dependants' grants are paid in three instalments, each instalment being paid in the three quarters of the academic year that do not include the longest vacation. Where the first instalment of grant is paid in the first quarter of an academic year, the grant is payable in three instalments of 33% for the first quarter, 33% for the second quarter and 34% for the third quarter. Where the first instalment of grant is paid in the second quarter, it is paid in two instalments of 66% and 34% and where the first instalment is paid in the third quarter, the whole amount of grant for the academic year is paid in one instalment.

The number of dependants changes in an academic year

100. The number of a student's dependants may change during an academic year. When this occurs, the LA/SFW is responsible for determining who the student's dependants

- are for each of the three quarters for which the grant is payable (regulation 106(12)). The dependants' grants should be reassessed on a pro rata basis from the date the number of dependants changes.
- 101. The amount of grant for each quarter so determined is one third of the grant for the academic year, bearing in mind the 33%, 33%, 34% split described above. The amount of dependants' grant for the academic year is the aggregate of the amount of grant calculated for each of the three quarters (regulation 106(13)).

Administration – students continuing on courses starting before 1 September 2014

Administering Part-time Childcare Grant (PTCCG) applications

- 102. LAs should also refer to the guidance chapter 'Change of Circumstances' which provides guidance on reassessments and stopping payments.
- 103. LAs need to assess an applicant's eligibility and entitlement to the PTCCG. The PTCCG and the PTPLA are paid to the most vulnerable students and therefore assessments should be carried out as early as possible.

Processing PTCCG applications on the single system

- 104. The single system now has the facility to calculate the amount of PTCCG to which a student is entitled. Using the information on the CCG1 form, the LA enters the weekly childcare costs for term-time weeks and non term-time weeks, along with any exceptions to these standard amounts on the Childcare Estimates screen. The system will first apply a pro-rata to any amounts falling in non Monday to Sunday weeks (normally this will be for the first and last weeks of the academic year). Where amounts are entered in the 'Exceptions' section, no pro rata is applied. The system will then apply the 85% calculation. The LA still has the facility to override the automatic assessment of Childcare Grant if it is deemed appropriate. Any manual override of the automatic Childcare Grant assessment should be fully explained on the system Notes facility to assist other staff when dealing with student enquiries.
- 105. If the student receives a Childcare Grant the assessment should be provisional until all their childcare costs for the academic year have been evidenced and the student's entitlement checked accordingly. At that point the entitlement may be finalised. This may only be possible at the start of the next academic year if childcare is required for the long vacation.
- 106. LA assessors should indicate that the assessment is provisional in one of two ways:
 - by selecting the Provisional flag on the Validate Evidence screen; or
 - in SFA or SC cases, by selecting the Childcare Grant drop-down menu at the bottom of the screen and selecting the 'provisional' option.
- 107. Where the LA assessor chooses to enter a manual override of the Childcare Grant they should use the system Notes facility to detail the basis of the calculation or reasons for the override. This should assist other LA staff and SLC Customer Services Officers when dealing with any student enquiries.
- 108. Annex 1 includes a summary timetable showing what actions LAs should take during the course of the academic year.

Informing students of the breakdown of dependants' grants

109. The financial notification letter produced under the single system details the breakdown of the various elements of the grants for dependants'. Students should be advised to show the financial notification letter to their institutions when applying for discretionary support from the Access to Learning Fund and to Job Centre Plus and/or the local authority Housing Benefit section if applying for income related benefits.

Childcare Grant leaflets and forms

110. LAs will be sent supplies of the forms 'Application for help with childcare costs for part-time students' (PTCCG1) and 'Confirmation of childcare payments for part-time students' (PTCCG2). Where a student indicates on the PTG1 form that they would like information on receiving the Childcare Grant, the LA/SFW user should raise a task 'Send Information Pack' see Annex 2. This task is to be dealt with by the LA/SFW. The information pack should be sent to the student for them to complete and return to the LA.

Form 'Application for help with childcare costs'

111. The student should apply for a Childcare Grant by completing a form 'Application for help with childcare costs for part-time students' (PTCCG1) and sending it to their LA. The applicant may provide an estimate of their likely childcare costs on their application form given that they are unlikely to be aware of their childcare requirements at the time of application. The applicant should be assessed on the basis of the estimated childcare costs provided on the PTCCG1. Where a childcare provider has not been identified, the amount of childcare grant payable in 2014/15 will be based on 85% of actual childcare costs, subject to a maximum grant of £115 per week. This lower rate payment will be made until details of the childcare provider have been submitted but subject to a maximum of one academic quarter (usually a term).

Confirmation that a childcare provider is registered or approved

112. Childcare providers are asked to complete Section 2 of the PTCCG1 confirming they are either a registered or approved provider. However, if a student has not found a childcare provider at the time of their application, Section 2 of the PTCCG1 may be left blank and a Childcare Grant may still be paid. The student will need to provide confirmation they are using a registered or approved childcare provider when they provide confirmation of their payments made to a childcare provider in the middle of term 1, using the form 'Confirmation of childcare payments for part-time' (PTCCG2). On receipt of this form, the LA will need to assess whether they need to complete a reassessment of grant for the applicant.

Student does not return form 'Application for help with childcare costs'

113. If a student does not return the PTCCG1, but has a dependent child, the LA should assess the student's entitlement to the PLA grant. If the applicant subsequently sends a PTCCG1 at least three months before the end of the academic year the LA will need to carry out and send a revised assessment.

Students who return form 'Application for help with childcare costs'

114. LAs who receive a PTCCG1 should consider the student's entitlement for the PLA and Childcare Grant. The LAs should base their assessments on the amounts the applicant has stated on the childcare application form, subject to the limits set out in The Education (Student Support) (Wales) Regulations 2013.

Confirmation of payments made to a childcare provider

- 115. Students are requested to provide evidence of payments made to their childcare provider on a termly basis, using form PTCCG2. Students are required to complete Section 1 of the form and then arrange for their childcare provider to complete Sections 2 and 3, confirming the payments received from the student each week during the period. Applicants must send a separate PTCCG2 to their LA/SFW by each of the following dates:
 - 31 October 2014 this form should confirm payments made each week between 1 September 2014 and 19 October 2014.
 - 30 January 2015 this form should confirm payments made each week between 20 October 2014 and 18 January 2015.
 - 11 September 2015 this form should confirm payments made each week between 19 January 2015 and 31 August 2015. It is recommended that students in the final year of their courses and students not using childcare during their long vacations are requested to return their PTCCG2 by 17 July 2015.
- 116. If the applicant indicates in Section 4 of the PTCCG2 that their weekly childcare costs will change during the rest of the year, the LA should reassess the applicant's entitlement, and include the estimated childcare costs for the long vacation in the third instalment of grant. The applicant will need to confirm these costs at the beginning of the following academic year. If the applicant is uncertain whether they will need childcare for the long vacation, the LA can carry out a reassessment to include the long holiday period at a later date. If the reassessment is completed after the third instalment, the SLC will make an additional payment for the extra amount to the applicant via BACS, automatically.

Monitoring returns of 'Confirmation of childcare costs' forms

117. Currently, there is no facility (other than Notes) on the system to indicate that the Childcare Grant is provisional pending receipt of a completed (PTCCG2) for Term 1, Term 2 and Term 3 and the long vacation. The system is able to provide a list of students in receipt of Childcare Grants. LAs should use the Notes facility on the single system to record when reminders are sent out. This will assist LAs and SLC Customer Service Officers when dealing with student enquiries. There is also no suite of Childcare Grant letters on the single system although LAs have worked with the Assembly Government to produce a standard suit of letters which should be produced locally, updating student support system records to show where this has been done. Agreed text is provided at Annex 2.

Student does not send confirmation of registered or approved childcare

118. Most students include details of their childcare provider at the time of their Childcare Grant application. However, if the student does not include details of their childcare provider on their application form the amount of childcare grant payable in 2014/15 will be based on 85% of actual childcare costs, subject to a maximum grant of £115 (pro rated according to intensity) per week. This lower rate payment will be made until details of the childcare provider have been submitted but subject to a maximum of one academic quarter (usually a term). If the applicant does not provide confirmation of the registered or approved childcare being used on the PTCCG2 form confirming childcare payments for their first term, the LA should send a reminder letter to the applicant. If the LA does not receive confirmation, the LA should reassess the applicant's entitlement to support as necessary, removing the Childcare Grant (payment of the PLA should continue). If the LA cannot complete this reassessment by the middle of December then they should stop all future payments of grant. The LA should then carry out a revised financial assessment showing the amount of grant that the LA knows that

the applicant is entitled to and send this to the applicant and the SLC. This reassessment should be completed as soon as possible so that the student continues to receive any other payment of grant they are entitled to. The SLC will then deduct the amount of grant the applicant has already received from the amount of grant shown on the latest assessment and pay the outstanding amount in two payments. If a student then provides confirmation of their childcare provision, LAs have the discretion to reinstate the Childcare Grant, depending on the student's reasons for failing to produce the evidence by the original deadline.

Student does not send confirmation of childcare payments

- 119. Students should send evidence of payments made to a childcare provider on form PTCCG2 by each of the dates in paragraph 115 above. LAs should consider sending reminder letters to the student in advance of these dates (see Annex 2). The dates for confirming childcare payments have been selected to allow LAs time to make any adjustments to the next Childcare Grant instalment if the student has under or overestimated their childcare costs at the beginning of the year. There is also a greater incentive for students to return their form by the required dates given that their next Childcare Grant instalment will not be paid unless a completed PTCCG2 has been returned to the LA.
- 120. If a student has not returned their form PTCCG2 by the required dates, LAs should send a reminder letter advising that if the form is not received the student will lose their Childcare Grant and arrangements will be made to recover the Childcare Grant monies already paid (see Annex 2). If the applicant fails to confirm their childcare payments, the LA should reassess their entitlement to support as necessary, removing the Childcare Grant (payment of PLA should continue) and send a revised and finalised assessment showing the amounts that the LA knows the applicant is entitled to receive. The assessment should be completed as soon as possible so that the applicant continues to receive any other payments of grant they are entitled to receive. LAs should take account of specific applicants' circumstances in deciding whether to remove the Childcare Grant entitlement if evidence is not received. If a student then provides confirmation of their childcare costs, LAs have the discretion to reinstate the Childcare Grant, depending on the student's reasons for failing to produce the evidence by the original deadline.

Finalising assessments in 2014/15

Students not in receipt of a PT Childcare Grant during their longest vacation

121. Once a student has confirmed their actual childcare costs for the final term of academic year 2014/15 and indicated they will not require a Childcare Grant for their longest vacation, the student should be reassessed and a revised student finance entitlement letter for 2014/15 sent to show that their assessment is now final.

Students in receipt of a PT Childcare Grant during the longest vacation

- 122. Most academic years begin on 1 September and the longest vacation is the summer vacation. Childcare Grants for the longest vacation are paid up until 31 August, the payment covering the months of July and August. Childcare Grants in respect of September are paid with the first instalment of the following academic year's Childcare Grant.
- 123. If a student receives a Childcare Grant for the longest vacation they need to confirm their actual childcare costs by 11 September 2015, just after the start of the 2015/16 academic year.

Underpayments and overpayments of PT Childcare Grants

124. SLC will identify any overpayments from the revised 2014/15 notifications and deduct the overpayment from the 2015/16 grants. If a student's Childcare Grant has been underpaid in 2014/15, SLC will pay the outstanding amount. If the SLC receive a reassessment after the third instalment has been paid, the balance will be made to the student as opposed to adding the outstanding balance onto the following year's grant.

Annex 1

TIMETABLE FOR LAS

From July 2014 onwards By 17 October 2014	LAs to enclose the publications 'Childcare Grant and other support for student parents in higher education 2014/15 and the forms 'Application for help with childcare costs for part-time students' (PTCCG1) and 'Confirmation of childcare payments for part-time students' (PTCCG2) to students who have indicated they will incur childcare costs. Send a reminder letter to students. The
2y 17 33.0307 2011	letter will remind them they need to return the form 'Confirmation of childcare payments for part-time students' by 31 October 2014.
By 7 November 2014	Send a 2nd reminder letter to students. The letter will remind them they need to return the form 'Confirmation of childcare payments for part-time students' or they will lose their Childcare Grant.
By 21 November 2014	LAs will need to reassess students as appropriate.
By 16 January 2015	Send a reminder letter to students. The letter will remind them they need to return the form 'Confirmation of childcare payments for part-time students' by 30 January 2015.
By 13 February 2015	Send a 2nd reminder letter to students. The letter will remind them they need to return the form 'Confirmation of childcare payments for part-time students' or they will lose their Childcare Grant.
By 20 February 2015	LAs will need to reassess students as appropriate including childcare costs for the summer vacation.
By 3 July 2015 (or 21 August 2015 if receiving a Childcare Grant in the long vacation)	Send a reminder letter to students. The letter will remind them that they need to return the form 'Confirmation of childcare payments for part-time students' ' by 17 July 2015 (or 11 September 2015 if receiving a Childcare Grant in the long vacation).
By 17 July 2015 / 11 September 2015	Obtain confirmation of childcare costs for term 3 and the summer vacation. Finalise assessments for 2014/15 if a Childcare Grant was received.

Annex 2

(PTCC1)

PART-TIME CHILDCARE 2014/15

You recently indicated on PTG1 application form that you wished to claim the extra support available for student parents who have to pay for childcare.

I am enclosing the application form PTCCG1 - 'Application for Help with Childcare Costs for part-time students 2014/2015' and 3 PTCCG2 forms - Confirmation of Childcare Payments for part-time students 2014/15.

In order for me to determine your entitlement please do the following:-

1) Complete section 1 of form PTCCG1 with estimates of your weekly childcare costs for the period 01/09/2014 to 31/08/2015.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU DO NOT OVERESTIMATE AS THIS WILL RESULT IN YOU HAVING TO REPAY SOME OF THE CHILDCARE GRANT PAID TO YOU.

- 2) Make sure you sign the student declaration on page 5 of the form.
- 3) Take the form to your childcare provider and ask them to complete section 2. If you have not arranged a childcare provider at this stage please leave section 2 blank.
- 4) Return the form to this office and, **if you have not already done so**, you should enclose your child(ren)'s birth certificate(s) and a copy of the most recent Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit / Universal Credit notification which you would have received from HM Revenue and Customs / DWP. **Failure to send these documents may result in your payments being delayed.**
- 5) Complete and return form CCA. We need this form as it an ongoing responsibility of the Local Authority to detect and prevent fraud so we may need to contact your childcare provider or HMRC / DWP to check your figures.

We will use the estimated figures on form PTCCG1 to assess your provisional childcare grant entitlement and we will send you a notification of the amounts and dates of the instalments.

Then, 3 times during the academic year, on the dates specified on page 1 of form PTCCG2, you should:-

- 1) Complete sections 1 and 2 of form PTCCG2.
- 2) Pass the form to your childcare provider who should complete sections 3 and 4 to confirm the amounts which they have actually received from you up to the relevant date.
- 3) If it was not provided on form PTCCG1, we will also require, on this form, confirmation that you are using a childcare provider who is registered or approved by an accredited organization.
- 4) Return form PTCCG2 to this office no later than the dates on the front of that form. Failure to return the form will affect payment of future instalments of your childcare grant.

If the completed PTCCG2s show differences between the estimated and actual amounts we will send you a notification of the revised amounts and make adjustments to future instalments.

Finally, you **must** notify us of any change in your circumstances or childcare costs for any reason immediately.

(PTCC2)

RE: Part-time Childcare and Dependants' Grants 2014/15

Thank you for submitting forms PTG1 and PTCCG1 which have enabled us to estimate your entitlement to following grants for the current academic year.

Please find below a breakdown of your *provisional* entitlement, including your childcare entitlement based on the details you have submitted to date:-

Adult Dependants' Grant £
Childcare Grant £
Parents' Learning Allowance £

Total £

The amounts are based upon your income of £, your estimated outgoings of £ between 01.09.14 to 31.08.15 and the intensity of study of your part-time course which is 50-59% / 60-74% / 75% or more.

You will shortly receive an updated schedule of payments confirming the amount of grants you will be paid each term.

As this assessment is based on estimates it is essential that you provide me with:

1. Certification of the actual costs incurred each term. You must therefore ask your childcare provider to complete a **form PTCCG2** three times in the academic year and return them to us no later than the dates shown below.

31 October 2014

This form should confirm payments made each week between 1 September 2014 and 19 October 2014.

30 January 2015

This form should confirm payments made each week between 20 October 2014 and 18 January 2015.

17 July 2015

If this is your final year

This form should confirm payments made each week between 19 January 2015 and the last day of your summer term

OR

11 September 2015

If this is NOT your final year and you are including the costs for the summer vacation

This form should confirm payments made each week between 19 January 2015 and 31 August 2015.

Failure to submit a fully completed form PTCCG2 by the deadlines could lead to the reduction of any outstanding childcare instalments or possibly the loss of childcare provision altogether. We have already sent you 3 PTCCG2s for this purpose but if you require another please let me know.

2. Confirmation of income and outgoings – we will write to you later in the year to request this information.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - FINANCIAL RE-ASSESSMENT

It is possible that your actual costs may vary significantly from your initial estimates and as a result it may be necessary to revise your childcare entitlement. This may result in either an underpayment or an overpayment of grant. Should you have been underpaid then your subsequent childcare grant instalments will be increased accordingly with the possibility of you receiving additional termly payments if the original payment has already been made.

If you have been overpaid then this may have a more significant effect. An overpayment of childcare grant can be reclaimed from any subsequent grant entitltment you may have, including additional depandants' grants such as Parents' Learning Allowance and Adult Dependants' Grant.

In the first instance we will attempt to reduce your subsequent child care grant payments by the required amount. If for whatever reason you do not have an entitlement to childcare grant the overpayment will then be offset against any other grant entitlement. If you have already received all your original termly grant payments or if it is not possible to adjust your current annual grant entitlement it might be necessary for the outstanding overpayment to be offset against your following year's grant entitlement. If, however you have completed your studies and have no further grant entitlement then you will be contacted directly by the Student Loans Company to negotiate a means of repayment.

NB: please note that in accordance with your signed agreement made on form CCA details of your Childcare Grant may be forwarded to your childcare provider.

(PTCC3)

<u>Part-time Childcare Grant – 2014/15 Academic Year</u> <u>RE:</u>

Miss/Mrs/Mr , parent of the above child/children is currently a part-time higher education student who has applied for a grant in respect of childcare costs.

Student Finance Wales can provide parents with an income assessed grant to cover all or some of the cost of childcare and in 2014/15 the weekly maximum that we can pay to a part-time student is £121.13 for 1 child and £205.91 for 2 or more children.

The grant is paid directly to the student in termly instalments.

In order to ensure that both parent and childcare provider receive the correct amount, the student (*or put name*) has agreed that I can provide you with details of the amount of grant paid to them.

You should note that the child care grant for Miss/Mrs/Ms/Mr ($insert\ name$) for the whole of 2014/15 is £ (amount) and is based on the estimate of the weekly charges which were supplied previously.

During each term Miss/Mrs/Ms/Mr (*insert name*) should provide you with a form PTCCG2 which you need to complete to confirm the actual amounts paid to you for a period specified on the front of that form.

Miss/Mrs/Ms/Mr (*insert name*) will return the form to this office where we will compare the actual costs to the estimated costs and revise their entitlement if necessary.

We will advise you of any revision to their entitlement

(PTCC4)

PTCCG2 FORM CONFIRMATION OF CHILDCARE COSTS

You have not returned the form PTCCG2 -'Confirmation of Childcare Payments for part-time students' which we originally sent to you on (INSERT DATE) so I am sending you another copy in case you have mislaid it

You need to complete section 1 and also section 2 of the form if the weekly childcare costs provided in your application form PTCCG1 -'Application for Help with Childcare Costs' will, or are likely to, change in the remainder of your academic year.

You should then ask your childcare provider to complete section 3 to show actual childcare payments received from you each week between (*INSERT DATES*) and also to complete section 4.

If the amounts you actually paid are different to the estimated amounts provided on your original application form your next payment of childcare grant will be adjusted.

You need to return the form PTCCG2 - 'Confirmation of Childcare Payments for part-time students' to this office.

Your next Childcare Grant payment will not be made unless you have returned the completed form by (INSERT DATE).

If your form is returned after this date, your next childcare grant payment may be delayed or, if you do not return your form at all, you will lose your childcare grant and any uncertified monies already paid to you for childcare will be recovered.

(PTCC5)

Part-time Confirmation of Childcare Payments 2014/15

You may recall that I wrote to you on (INSERT DATE) asking you to contact your childcare provider for them to confirm the actual payments received from you for the period (INSERT DATE) to

I sent you a form PTCCG2 'Confirmation of Childcare Payments for part-time students for this purpose and you should have asked your childcare provider to complete sections 3 and 4 of the form and then you should have returned it to me by.......

My records show that we have not received a reply to date.

Therefore if you have not returned this form by (INSERT DATE) I will have to reassess your entitlement to childcare grant.

This means that you will not be paid any further grant and any monies already paid to you for childcare will be recovered.

(PTCC6)

Re: Part-time Childcare Grant 2014/15

Thank you for submitting form PTCCG2 –'Confirmation of Childcare Costs' for the period insert relevant period.

I have reassessed your entitlement and provide below a breakdown of your revised grant entitlements based on the details contained in that form.

Total £

This amount is based upon the intensity of study of your part-time course which is 50-59% / 60-74% / 75% or more.

EITHER

Please note that your childcare grant has decreased because your actual costs for the first period were lower than estimated *and/or* you have revised the estimates for the rest of the year.

OR

Please note that your childcare grant has increased because your actual costs for the first period were higher than estimated *and/or* you have revised the estimates for the rest of the year.

OR

The intensity of study level of your part-time course has increased/decreased to 50-59% / 60-74% / 75% or more.

(PTCC7)

Dear (Childcare Provider)

<u>HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT for -student's name- ACTUAL CHILDCARE PAYMENTS</u> 2014/15 -

The above named student has applied and been granted childcare costs in respect of the child/children named below.

Please can you confirm, on the enclosed form that you have received a payment of £ from Mr/Ms/Mrs/Miss (INSERT NAME) for the period from (INSERT DATE) for the following child/children:

```
«Child_Name_1» «DOB_1» 
«Child_Name_2» «DOB_2» 
«Child_Name_3» «DOB_3»
```

«Child_Name_3» «DOB_3» «Child Name 4» «DOB_4»

Kindly return the completed form in the enclosed envelope as soon as possible.

If you have any queries in connection with this matter please contact me on the telephone number or email address above.

(PTCC8)

<u>Part-time Childcare Grant – 2014/15 Academic Year</u> <u>RE:</u>

You may recall me writing to you on (INSERT DATE) about Miss/Mrs/Ms/Mr (INSERT NAME) , parent of the above child/children who is receiving a grant in respect of childcare costs.

In that letter I told you the amount that the student would receive towards their childcare costs and this amount was based on estimates supplied at the beginning of the year.

Since then you kindly completed form PTCCG2 which certified actual costs and the student has returned it to us to enable us to reassess their entitlement.

You should note that the childcare grant for Miss/Mrs/Ms/Mr (INSERT NAME) for the whole of 2014/15 has been revised to £

Please continue to complete the CCG2 forms when requested by the student so that we can ensure that all parties are paid the correct amounts in a timely manner.

(PTCC9)

PART-TIME GRANTS FOR DEPENDANTS 2014/15

I regret to inform you that, as you have failed to return the first, second and third of the PTCCG2 forms required to confirm your childcare costs for the period I have no alternative other than to revise your entitlement to Childcare Grant/Parents' Learning Allowance for the first, second and third term(s) whole year.

The new amounts you are entitled to are as follows:

Adult Dependants' Grant £
Childcare Grant £
Parents' Learning Allowance £

The Student Loan Company will shortly be in touch to arrange for the recovery of any overpayments you may have received.

(PTCC10)

RE: Part-time childcare and dependants' grants academic year 2014/15

As you are aware your entitlement to financial support for 2014/15 was assessed on a provisional basis as it was based on your husband's / wife's / partner's estimated income for the period 01/09/2014 to 31/08/2015.

We have now received certification of his / her actual income for that period and reassessed your entitlement to supplementary grants as below:-

Adult Dependants' Grant £
Childcare Grant £
Parents' Learning Allowance £

Total £

This means that there is no change to your entitlement / you have been overpaid / underpaid ADG/CCG/PLA.

An official notification will follow shortly from SFW with details of how the overpayment will be recovered / the amount due to you will be paid.

Annex 3

ASSESSED CONTRIBUTION FOR ILLUSTRATIVE LEVELS OF INCOME

39,793	0	59,000	2,071	79,000	4,229
40,000	22	60,000	2,179	80,000	4,337
41,000	130	61,000	2,287	81,000	4,445
42,000	238	62,000	2,395	82,000	4,553
43,000	345	63,000	2,503	83,000	4,660
44,000	453	64,000	2,611	84,000	4,768
45,000	561	65,000	2,719	85,000	4,876
46,000	669	66,000	2,827	86,000	4,984
47,000	777	67,000	2,934	87,000	5,092
48,000	885	68,000	3,042	88,000	5,200
49,000	993	69,000	3,150	89,000	5,308
50,000	1,101	70,000	3,258	90,000	5,416
51,000	1,208	71,000	3,366	91,000	5,523
52,000	1,316	72,000	3,474	92,000	5,631
53,000	1,424	73,000	3,582	93,000	5,739
54,000	1,532	74,000	3,690	94,000	5,847
55,000	1,640	75,000	3,797	95,000	5,955
56,000	1,748	76,000	3,905	96,000	6,063
57,000	1,856	77,000	4,013	97,000	6,171
58,000	1,964	78,000	4,121	97,350	6,208

For residual incomes below £39,793, no contribution is assessed. For residual incomes above £97,350 the assessed contribution is £6,208