

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Stephen Kerr MSP
Convener
Education, Children and Young People Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

14 April 2022

Dear Convener

Support for Ukrainian students

I am writing to confirm the steps that we have put in place to support displaced Ukrainian nationals who wish to undertake a course of study in Further or Higher Education during their time in Scotland.

From the new academic year, Ukrainian nationals who apply to the Homes for Ukraine, Ukraine Family or Ukraine Extension scheme and wish to undertake a new course of study in FE or HE will be eligible to home fee status and living cost support for the duration of their studies.

These changes are subject to parliamentary approval with regulations due to be laid in early May.

In addition, we have announced the creation of the International Students' Emergency Fund which is a £1 million fund to support students who are facing financial hardship as a result of a significant change in their circumstances and are at risk of not being able to continue with their studies. Ukrainian students who have previously chosen to study in Scotland and have applied to the Ukraine Extension scheme would also be eligible for support from these funds.

Officials are currently finalising the guidance for the new fund and monies expected to be issued shortly for immediate use by colleges and universities.

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I would be happy to meet with you to discuss the Scottish Government's approach to the support we are offering for these students.

JAMIE HEPBURN

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