



The Open
University

SCOTLAND

A **DEGREE** IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

If you have an HNC or HND
you could count it towards an
Open University degree



Make the most of your college qualification

Every year around 900 people with an HNC or HND take the next step towards a degree with The Open University in Scotland. 'Open Learning' means they are able to fit study around work or other commitments.

Improve your career prospects

Whether you're about to leave college, or you're already in work, upgrading your college qualification with the OU is the flexible way to develop your career and improve your job prospects, as well as your earnings potential.

Studying part time, while managing work and personal commitments, demonstrates special qualities such as determination, adaptability, motivation, organisation and problem solving skills which are highly valued by employers.

If you live in Scotland and your personal income is below £25,000 per year

**YOU COULD
STUDY FOR FREE**

on any undergraduate course

BUILD ON **YOUR HNC/HND**

Credit transfer means you are already on the way to your degree

Getting your college qualification is a great achievement and gives you a valuable qualification that will help you build for the future. Depending on your qualification you may be able to transfer credit towards an Open University degree. If you have a HNC or HND, for example, you could qualify for credit transfer towards an Open University honours degree.

I'm currently studying, what credit can I get for my college qualification?

Anyone studying with an HNC, HND or a range of other eligible courses at college will be able to count credit from their studies towards an Open University degree.

How much credit you can be awarded will depend upon the qualification that you wish to study for. For example, towards a BA or BSc (Honours) Open degree, an HNC might allow for up to 120 credits, whilst an HND might allow for up to 240 credits. The credit permitted towards degrees in a named subject will differ.

I've had a break from study, can I use credit transfer?

Maybe you are in work already or your next step might be to get a job and earn some money, either in an area you've worked in before or a completely new career. Either now or at a later date, the chances are you'll want to develop your skills even further to improve your job prospects. Even if you have been away from study for a while you may still be able to apply for credit for eligible college qualifications.



Open University degrees

You can choose to study for a BA or BSc Open degree with Honours, which allows you to explore a wide range of subjects. You're not restricted to the subjects you studied at college, so you can tailor your degree content to meet your current needs.

Honours degrees in many named subjects are also available, including **Business, Computing and IT, Engineering, Social Sciences, Childhood and Youth Studies, Natural Sciences, Sports, Fitness and Coaching** and many more. Check our College Routes website for the full range of degree programmes available. The level of credit transfer awarded for your previous study will differ depending on your college qualification and the degree you're working towards.



FIND OUT MORE

www.open.ac.uk/courses/college-routes/

When should I apply for credit transfer?

You should think about applying as soon as you've got a good idea of which Open University qualification you want to do. This way, you'll be able to plan out your actual course of study knowing how much credit you can take forward.

The Open Degree

The OU's most popular degree programme, the Open BA/BSc (Hons) degree allows you to:

- **Tailor qualifications to suit your needs**
- **Choose modules from a wide range of subjects**
- **Fit your study around your career ambitions or personal interests**
- **Count previous study towards your qualification using credit transfer**

How do employers view the Open degree?

Graduates of the Open degree programme take many skills with them into the workplace. These include:

- **Problem solving**
- **Effective and accurate communication**
- **Critical evaluation**
- **Effective ICT skills**
- **Planning, monitoring and evaluating skills**

All of these skills are highly regarded by employers and many employers say that they value the overall skills and competencies developed during study in higher education over subject-specific knowledge. It is estimated that roughly 70% of vacancies for graduates will accept a degree in 'any' subject.



Financial help whatever you're earning

The financial support offered to students in Scotland means it's never been a better time to opt for the OU.

Part-time fee grant

If your personal income, including replacement living-cost benefits, is £25,000 a year or less and you plan to study 30 or more credits (at undergraduate level), you may be entitled to a Part-Time Fee Grant.

You can apply for a Part-Time Fee Grant once per academic year. You should submit your grant application to SAAS and return your completed registration agreement to us on or before the final enrolment date of your course. For more information about the grant, please contact the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS).

www.saas.gov.uk

Alternatively, you can visit the Fees and Funding section of our website or call us on 0131 226 3851 to speak to an advisor.

www.open.ac.uk/courses/fees-and-funding/fee-grant-scotland-finance

Please note that it can take up to 28 days for SAAS to process your application. So, to secure your funding, we strongly recommend that you submit your application as soon as possible.

Open University Student Budget Account (OUSBA)

The OUSBA offers a convenient 'pay as you go' option to pay your OU fees, which is a secure, quick and easy way to pay.

Register now, pay later – OUSBA pays your module fee direct to the OU. You then repay OUSBA interest-free and in full just before your module starts. 0% APR representative.

Pay by installments

OUSBA calculates your monthly fee and number of instalments based on the cost of the module you are studying. APR 5.1% representative.

www.ousba.co.uk/

Sponsorship

If your study relates to work, your employer may be prepared to pay some or all of your fees.

Pay up front

You can use a credit or debit card when you sign up for each module.

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How to apply

It can take around six weeks for a credit transfer application to be assessed. You need to apply before you register for a qualification. However, you can start study on a standalone module basis and apply for credit transfer at a later date. If you are considering this route, please contact us for advice.

1. Check that your previous study is eligible for credit transfer by visiting:
www.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer
2. Choose The Open University qualification that you want to claim towards and find out how much credit transfer it allows from the qualification factsheet.
3. Download the application form available on the credit transfer website.



FIND OUT MORE

Visit www.open.ac.uk/courses/college-routes/
Call 0131 226 3851
Email scotland@open.ac.uk