

#CutTheCosts

Maintenance grants: calling your MP

The debate and vote on Tuesday 19 January 2016 will be the last opportunity to save grants. Calling your MP's office is a great way of making sure they see your message and realise how important the issue is for students. Below is everything you need to know when calling your MP about the cuts to grants.

MP briefings

Below are full briefings for different types of MP. Follow up your conversation with your MP by emailing them the relevant briefing.

- Briefing for [Conservative MPs](#)
- Briefing for [opposition MPs](#)
- Briefing for MPs in [Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland](#)

Calling your MP

You can find out who your MP is by entering your postcode on the website www.theyworkforyou.com.

Call your MP's Westminster office by phoning the parliament switchboard on 020 7219 3000 and asking to be put through to your MP's office. You will most likely speak to a member of their staff rather than the MP themselves, but they will pass on your message.

Phone script

Use the script below as a guide when phoning your MPs office.

Hi, this is [Your Name] from _ Students' Union.

I'm calling to ask if [Name of MP] will speak at the debate in parliament this Tuesday on the scrapping of university maintenance grants and vote against the changes.

[I wrote to / met [MP] about this issue in or on].

[IF SIGNED EDM – check [here](#)] [Name of MP] has already signed EDM 829 to 'pray against' the measures.



The debate is an Opposition Day Debate which will be the only opportunity to debate the issue in parliament. It will be followed by a division and vote on the scrapping of maintenance grants.

The government has not consulted on the changes with the higher education sector or any of the half a million students that currently receive grants.

MP is not available to attend the debate: That's a shame. May I send you further information about how scrapping grants will affect the ambitions and choices of the poorest students, so that [MP] is well informed prior to the vote?

Will attend or look into it: Great! I'll send you a briefing with full details and evidence for how scrapping grants will affect the ambitions and choices of the poorest students.

Which email would be best for me to use?

I'll send that over immediately. If you wish to contact me further about the issue I can be reached at [your number or email].

Thank you very much for your time.

