

University Students to Win Higher Grants

News Story

Page2/2

National Union of Students vice president Wes Streeting said: "Some students may well want to consider deferring entry this year to take advantage of the new support available next year. NUS advises students to look very carefully at the differences in support available, in light of their own circumstances, and weigh up their options.

"Taking the decision to defer entry at this stage is not one that students will make lightly. It is important that all providers of information, advice and guidance are on hand to provide accurate and independent information to empower students to make the correct, informed decisions about their future."

DIUS said there was no automatic entitlement for students to defer their university or college place for a year or more. Students can apply to their institutions for a deferment, but it will be for the individual institution to agree such an arrangement.

Students and their parents are underestimating the level of debt they will run up, according to a survey by the the Association of Investment Companies (AIC) published today. Parents estimated their child would be £10,000 in debt by the time of graduation, compared with the average debt of over £13,000 for students graduating in 2006.

27/07/07

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