

# Money and Banking

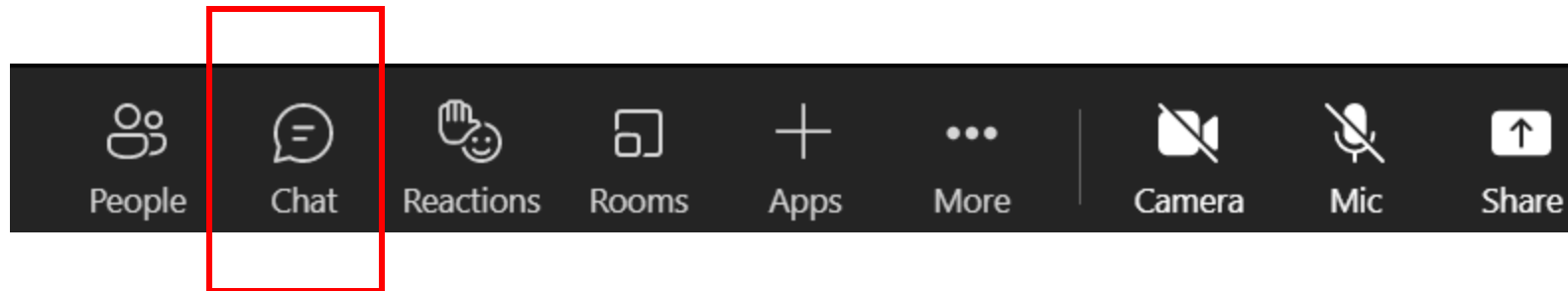
International Orientation

*Brought to you by the International Student Office and Student  
Information Service*



# Before we start

- Your video and microphone are switched off, please use the chat



- Time for questions at the end of the presentation
- You'll be asked to interact with us during the presentation – use the chat function
- Click on the weblinks or use the QR codes on the slides, or after the webinar go to our [International Orientation Resources webpage](#)

# Opening a bank account

# Digital banks

- Traditional banking services but only app-based
- Online and telephone customer support
- Lock, unlock and cancel your card through the app
- No fees for overseas transactions (within certain limits) and limited cash withdrawals
- Transfer money between your home country bank account and your UK bank account at very low interest rates
- Normally open to international students and quick to set-up

## Check that the bank is

Regulated by the  
[Financial Conduct Authority \(FCA\)](#)

Protected by the  
[Financial Services Compensation Scheme \(FSCS\)](#)

# Digital banks: what documents do I need?

- Verify your identity by taking a photo of your passport with your phone
- Provide evidence of a UK address

## Advantages

Similar offer to a traditional bank

Easier/faster to set up

## Disadvantages

No physical branch in the city

Savings accounts are not always protected

Not all digital banks have an overdraft function and may charge for it.



# 'High street' banks

- Traditional banks that have a physical presence in the city
- Offer online banking solutions
- Offer more services than a digital bank
- No limits on free cash withdrawals
- More regulated than digital banks
- Can take longer to set up an account



**High street  
banks**



[High street banks](#)

# Can I open a bank account?

Many banks require you:

- to be in the UK for at least six months
- to be over 18

**BUT**

There are some accounts you can open if you are here for fewer than six months or if you are under 18

Make sure you check the account requirements before applying to open an account with a specific bank



[High street banks](#)

# High street banks

The University can't recommend any particular bank accounts but we do have [information on high street banks](#) to help you make a start.

## Some things to consider when choosing a bank are:

- What fees you will be charged for opening an account
- What cards you can get (Visa/Maestro, credit cards/debit cards)
- If the bank will stamp printed internet banking statements
- How long it takes to open an account



[High street banks](#)



# What documents will I need?

1. **Your passport**
2. **A home and term-time address**
3. **A bank letter from the University**

**We'll send you your bank letter by email when you've completed the first three steps of your online registration.**

The standard bank letter produced by the University won't be addressed to a specific person.

The following banks accept the standard University of Leeds bank letter:

**Lloyds**

**HSBC**

**Santander**

[Banking documents](#)



# How do I get a bank letter?

Follow this process to receive the University standard bank letter

Complete the first three steps of the [online registration process](#)

[Banking documents](#)



## Faculty Services and Student Services

Sign in with your University Account  
([username@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:username@leeds.ac.uk))

Sign In

# Online registration: check name

When completing online registration, check your details appear in the correct format on Minerva.

## 1. Your name

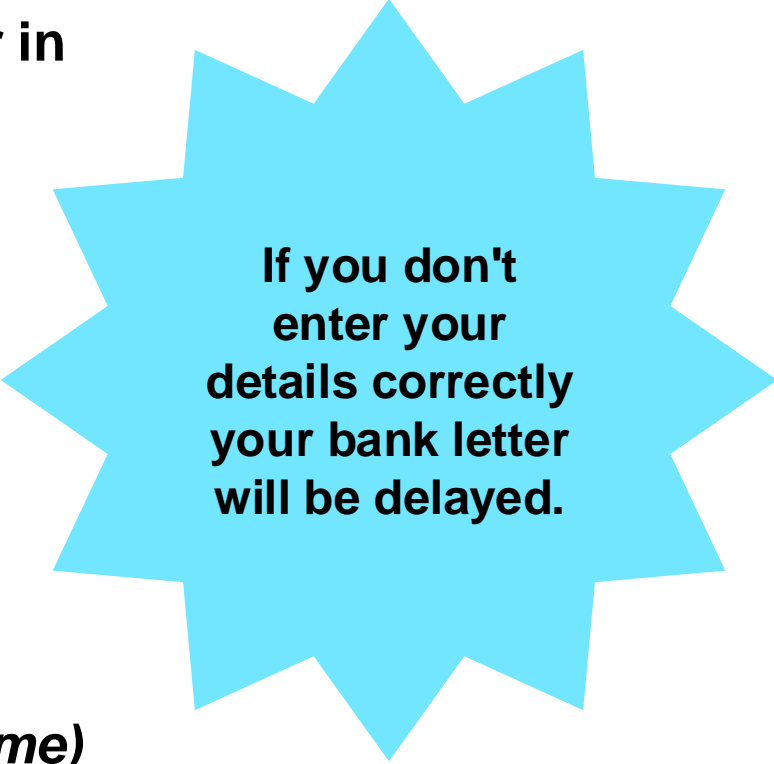
Your full name must match the information you have on your passport.

- **First name, last name** (for example, *Jonathan Smith*)

OR

- **First name, middle name, last name** (*if you have a middle name*)

(for example, *Jonathan James Smith*)



**If you don't enter your details correctly your bank letter will be delayed.**

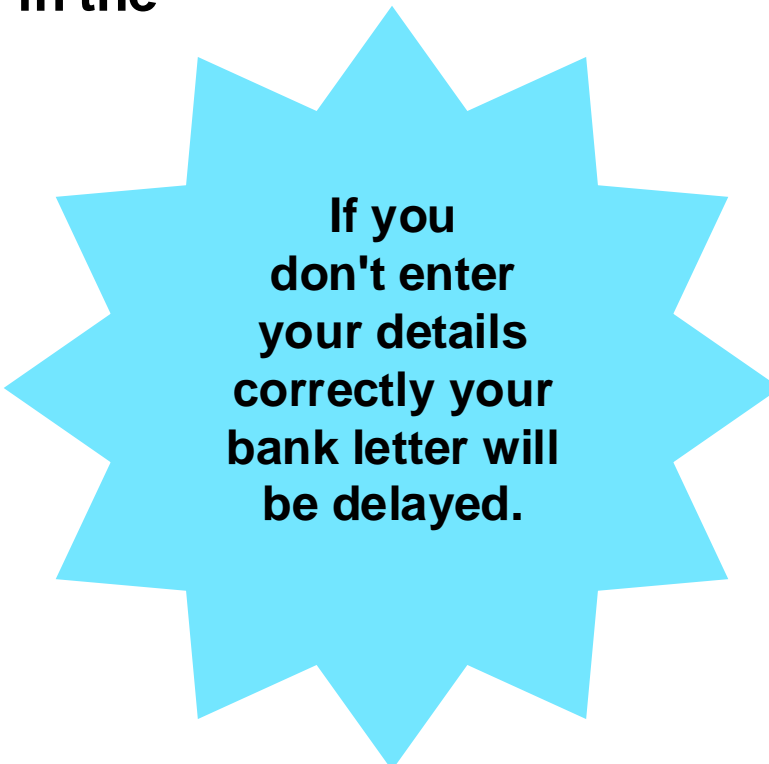
# Online registration: check address

When completing online registration, check your details appear in the correct format on Minerva.

## 2. Your address

- Home address**      your address in your home country
- Term time address**      your address in the UK, including postcode in the format of XXX XXX (*for example LS2 9JT*)

***Complete all fields in full, including the 'Nation' field.***



**If you don't enter your details correctly your bank letter will be delayed.**

# I need my bank letter to have more information

Some banks do not accept the University of Leeds standard bank letter.

Complete a [Registration Status Certificate](#) request  
(allow up to 10 working days for the request to be processed)

You'll still need to have:

1. Completed the first three steps of your online registration
2. Entered your name and surname correctly
3. Entered your home and term-time address information correctly

[Banking documents](#)



# When will I receive my bank letter?

## If you have:

1. Completed your online registration correctly
2. Entered your name and addresses correctly in Minerva

You'll be sent your bank letter by email:

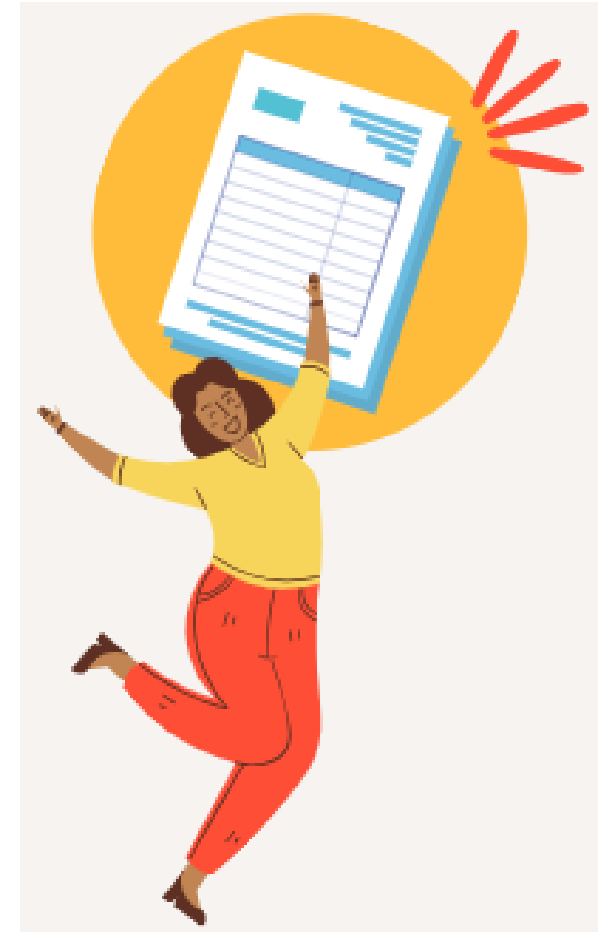
### **If you're staying in private accommodation**

After the start date of your term-time (UK) address  
After completing the first three steps of online registration

### **If you're in University accommodation**

After the start date of your accommodation contract  
After completing the first three steps of online registration

[Banking documents](#)



# I've not received my bank letter

## What do I do?

### **Have you waited 5 working days?**

A working week is from Monday to Friday. Make sure you don't count weekend days.

### **Check your personal information on Minerva**

Have you entered your full name correctly?

Have you entered your home and term time address correctly?

### **If you're in University accommodation, check your accommodation contract**

Has your contract started yet? You need to wait until after the start date.

### **Everything seems fine! What do I do?**

Check your spam/junk folder in both your personal and Leeds email address

Contact the Student Information Service – [studentinfo@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:studentinfo@leeds.ac.uk)

# Opening an account

Visit your chosen bank's website to find out more about how you can book an appointment to open your bank account

Many banks are now starting applications for new accounts online

Check what documents you'll need and bring them with you to your appointment (if the bank gives you one)

[Opening a bank account](#)





# Fraud and scams

# Fraud and scams

A scam is when someone tries to **take your money** by:

- pretending to help you
- offering you something which they are not going to give you
- getting information that will help them to take your money

Specific scams target international students

We can all be vulnerable to scams

**Stop and think** before you share information or pay money

# Visa scams

“A fraudster told me there was a serious problem with my visa and that I was **at risk of being deported**. They appeared to be **genuine and convincing**, and gave a false name and return phone number. They told me to send money **as soon as possible** using MoneyGram to stop any further action.”



# Impersonation scams

“The police called me to say my ID had been used to commit crimes and that **I needed to pay legal fees** to the courts to get help and assist with their investigation. They had **a lot of information about me** and told me that I **shouldn't tell anyone** I knew as they may have been involved in the crime.”

“My bank called me saying that I had been the victim of fraud and I needed to **move my money to a new account urgently** to keep my money safe”



# Accommodation scams

"A fake profile reached out to a student with an **accommodation offer**.

This person introduced the student to a "landlord" who **provided ID to identify themselves** and offered private accommodation.

The **student paid a deposit** for the accommodation. After realising something wasn't right, the student asked for their money back. They were told they had to **pay a fee** to get the money back."



# Tuition fee scams

- Beware of people contacting you by social media including WeChat, in English or another language, offering to make tuition fee payments to the University on your behalf for a reduced amount or better exchange rate.
- They may tell you this is how most international students pay their fees.

**Always use the official University payment process.**

# Too good to be true

"An individual **approached me on WeChat claiming she had surplus Great British Pounds she wanted to exchange. I transferred 4,500 Chinese Yuan to her Chinese bank account. In return, she provided me with a screenshot of a transfer from her UK bank account. However, I did not receive any funds.**"



# Stop and check

**STOP**

- Stop and think before you pay money or share information
- It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore requests, even if they say its urgent
- Only criminals will try to rush you or stop you from seeking advice

**CHECK**

- Contact the [Harassment and Misconduct team](#)
- Ask [Student Visa Advice](#)
- Contact the [police](#) (dial 101) or [Action Fraud](#)



# If you think you've been scammed

- Contact your bank straight away**
- Police
- University IT Service Desk team
- Harassment and Misconduct Team
- Action Fraud

# Fraud and scams: resources

- [Fraud, phishing and scams](#)
- [Scam quiz 1](#)
- [Scam quiz 2](#)



# Managing your money

# TV licence

In the UK, you need to pay for a TV Licence to:

- a) watch or record **live** TV programmes on any channel (including non-UK satellite channels)
- b) download or watch BBC programmes on iPlayer

For up-to-date information about cost and details on the many ways you can pay, visit the [TV Licensing website](#).

# Money saving tips

- [Cost of living hub](#)
- [LUU online saving information](#)
- [LUU online budgeting information](#)
- Read our [Link to Leeds blogs](#) on managing your finances in Leeds



# LUU Help & Support

Leeds University Union Help & Support Advisers can help with:

Budgeting and your finances

Wellbeing and your mental health

Living in Leeds,  
private-sector accommodation  
and staying safe

Exam support, appeal procedures and  
studying in Leeds

Student life

**Meet in person**

**Email**

**Phone**

Foyer of the Students' Union building

[advice@luu.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:advice@luu.leeds.ac.uk)

+44 (0)113 3801 400



# Student Information Service (SIS)

Get help with questions relating to registration, identity checks, and a range of other matters around university life, your studies and more throughout your studies.

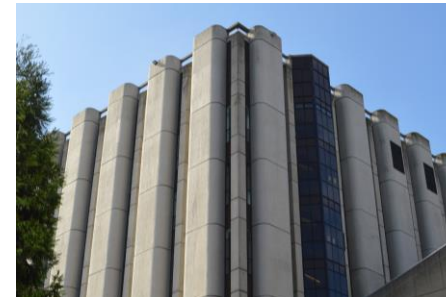
- Available Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm  
in person at our **Student Information Points** on campus.
- Email: [studentinfo@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:studentinfo@leeds.ac.uk)
- Phone: 0800 9150402 (Inside the UK)  
+44 (0)113 3437000 (Outside the UK)



Maurice Keyworth



Parkinson Building



Worsley Building



# Thank you!

## Any questions?

### [International Orientation programme](#)

- Upcoming talks, sessions and events
- Orientation resources and links from today's session

### [Feedback form](#)



**Contact the Student  
Information Service**

[Student Information Service](#)