

SCHEDULE 6

Requirements

PART III

MAINTENANCE OF DEPENDENTS

11.—(1) The requirements referred to in regulation 12(1)(a) shall include the student's requirements for the maintenance of dependants during the year and the amount of any such requirement ("dependants' requirement") shall be determined in accordance with this Part.

(2) Where a student's requirements for the maintenance of dependants are different in respect of different parts of a year, his dependants' requirement for that year shall be the aggregate of the proportionate parts of those differing requirements.

12.—(1) In this Part—

"adult dependant" means, in relation to a student, an adult person dependent on the student not being his child, his spouse or a person living with him as his spouse or his former spouse, subject however to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3);

"child", in relation to a student, includes a person adopted in pursuance of adoption proceedings, a step-child and any child for whom the student has parental responsibility and who is dependent on him;

"dependant" means, in relation to a student, his dependent child, his spouse or an adult dependant, subject however to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3);

"income" means income for the year from all sources (reduced by income tax and social security contributions) but disregarding—

- (a) any pension, allowance or other benefit paid by reason of a disability or incapacity to which the person is subject which is not subject to income tax under the Income Tax Acts or, where the income is subject to the tax legislation of another member State, which would not be subject to tax under that legislation if it made provision equivalent to those Acts;
- (b) child benefit payable under Part IX of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992⁽¹⁾;
- (c) any allowance payable to his spouse by an adoption agency in accordance with regulations made in pursuance of Article 59A of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987⁽²⁾;
- (d) any guardian's allowance to which his spouse is entitled under section 77 of the Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992;
- (e) in the case of a spouse with whom a child in the care of a Health and Social Services Board or a Health and Social Services Trust⁽³⁾ is boarded out, any payment made to him in pursuance of Article 27 (2)(a) of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995⁽⁴⁾;

(1) 1992 c. 7

(2) S.I.1987/2203 (N.I. 22); Article 59A was inserted by paragraph 164 of Schedule 9 to the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 (S.I. 1995/775 (N.I. 22)); the relevant Regulations are S.R. 1996/438

(3) Health and Social Services Trust (HSST) means an HSS trust established under Article 10 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 (S.I. 1991/194 (N.I. 1)) by which functions are exercisable by virtue of an authorisation for the time being in operation under Article 3(1) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order (S.I. 1994/429 (N.I. 2))

(4) S.I. 1995/755 (N.I. 2)

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- (f) any payments made to his spouse in pursuance of an order made under Article 15 of and Schedule 1 to the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, or any assistance given by a Health and Social Services Board or a Health and Social Services Trust pursuant to Articles 35 and 36 of that Order, in respect of a person who is not the spouse's child;
- (g) where the spouse holds an award in respect of a course of teacher training specified in paragraph (c) in the definition of "course of initial teacher training" in regulation 3(1), being a part-time course or a course which is partly full-time and partly part-time, the payments in respect of maintenance made to the spouse in pursuance of regulation 11(1) (b) or so much of those payments as relates to the part-time part of the course;
- (h) where the spouse or the student makes any recurrent payments which were previously made by the student in pursuance of an obligation incurred before the first year of his course—
 - (i) if, in the opinion of the board, the obligation had been reasonably so incurred, an amount equal to the payment in question;
 - (ii) if, in its opinion, only a lesser obligation could have been reasonably so incurred, such correspondingly lesser amount (if any) as appears to it appropriate;

"relevant award" means a statutory award in respect of a person's attendance at—

- (a) a full-time course of higher education or a comparable course outside Northern Ireland;
- (b) a course of teacher training specified in paragraph (b) in the definition of "course of initial teacher training" in regulation 3(1);
- (c) the full-time part of a course of teacher training specified in paragraph (c) in the definition of "course of initial teacher training" in regulation 3(1), which is partly full-time and partly part-time;

"spouse", except in the definition of adult dependant, shall not include a student's spouse if they have ceased ordinarily to live together whether or not an order for their separation has been made by any court.

- (2) A person, including the student's spouse, shall not be treated as a dependant of the student during any period for which that person—
 - (a) holds a relevant award; or
 - (b) (save for the purposes of paragraph 15) is ordinarily living outside the United Kingdom.
- (3) A person shall not be treated as a student's adult dependant or as his dependant child—
 - (a) in the case of a person other than a child of the student, if his income exceeds by £930 or more the sum specified in paragraph 13(4)(a);
 - (b) in the case of a child of a student who either has a spouse who is, or but for sub-paragraph (2) would be, his dependant or has an adult dependant, if the child's income so exceeds the sum specified in paragraph 13(4)(b) as applicable to his age;
 - (c) in the case of a child of a student not falling within head (b), unless either—
 - (i) the child is the only or eldest child dependent on the student whose income does not so exceed the sum specified in paragraph 13(4)(a); or
 - (ii) the child's income does not so exceed the sum specified in paragraph 13(4)(b) as applicable to his age.

13.—(1) This paragraph shall apply in the case of all students with dependants.

(2) Subject to paragraphs 14 to 16, the dependants requirement of the student shall be—

- (a) if the student's spouse holds a statutory award and in calculating payments under it account is taken of the spouse's dependants requirement, one half of the amount determined in accordance with sub-paragraphs (3) and (4);
 - (b) in any other case, the whole of the amount so determined.
- (3) The amount referred to in sub-paragraph (2) shall be the amount which is $X-(Y-Z)$ where—
- (a) X is the aggregate of the relevant sums specified in sub-paragraph (4);
 - (b) Y is the aggregate of the income of the student's dependants;
 - (c) Z is so much of the sum ascertained by multiplying £930 by the number of his dependants as does not exceed Y.
- (4) The relevant sums referred to in sub-paragraph (3) are—
- (a) except where the student has a spouse who is the holder of a relevant award, £2,125; and
 - (b) in respect of each dependent child—
 - (i) under the age of 11 years immediately before the beginning of the academic year, or born during that year, £445;
 - (ii) then aged 11 years or over, but under 16, £890;
 - (iii) then aged 16 years or over, but under 18, £1,180;
 - (iv) then aged 18 years or over, £1,700,except that the only or eldest dependent child shall be disregarded for the purposes hereof if the student has neither an adult dependant nor a spouse who is, or but for paragraph 12(2) would be, a dependant.

14.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), this paragraph shall apply in the case of a student with a dependent child where an amount is included in respect of the child in determining the dependants requirement under paragraph 13 and the child is either—

- (a) aged 3 or 4 during the relevant school year, or
 - (b) attends a grant-aided school during the relevant school year.
- (2) The dependants requirement of the student (determined in accordance with paragraph 13(2) (a) or (b)), shall be increased by—
- (a) £245 for each dependent child (whether or not he attends a grant-aided school) aged 3 or over on 31st December in the relevant school year, but under the age of 11 immediately before the beginning of the relevant school year;
 - (b) £163 for each dependent child (whether or not he attends a grant-aided school) whose 3rd birthday falls after 31st December but on or before 31st March in the relevant school year ;
 - (c) £81 for each dependent child (whether or not he attends a grant-aided school) whose third birthday falls after 31st March but before the end of the relevant school year;
 - (d) £265 for each dependent child of compulsory school age who is aged 11 or over immediately before the beginning of the relevant school year.
- (3) Paragraph (1) shall not apply where the dependent child receives school meals free of charge under arrangements approved by the Department of Education in accordance with Articles 58 and 59 of the Order.
- (4) In this paragraph—
- “grant-aided school” has the meaning assigned to it by the Order;
 - “relevant school year” means:

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- (a) in the case of a child who attends a grant-aided school, the school year whose beginning is closest to the beginning of the academic year in respect of which the dependants requirement under this Part is being assessed; and
 - (b) in the case of a child aged 3 or 4 who does not attend such a school, the period of twelve months beginning on 1st September, falling closest to the beginning of the academic year in respect of which the dependants requirement under this Part is being assessed; and
- “school year” means the period from 1st August to 31st July.

15.—(1) This paragraph shall apply in the case of a student with dependants who maintains a home for himself and a dependant at a place other than at which he resides while attending the course.

(2) The student’s dependants requirement (determined in accordance with paragraph 13(2)(a) or (b)) shall be increased by £740.

16.—(1) This paragraph shall apply in the case of a student who maintains a dependant outside the United Kingdom.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing paragraphs of this Part, the student’s dependants requirement shall be such amount, if any, as the board considers reasonable in all the circumstances, not exceeding the amount determined in accordance with those paragraphs.