



### **Some Helpful Tips for the MArch Student Loan Application Process**

1. Start the application process as early as you can.
2. For the sake of Student Loan entitlement all full-time Architecture courses are classified as a professional undergraduate course, **not postgraduate study**.
  - You may be eligible for a postgraduate masters loan (PGL) if you are ineligible for the undergraduate loan and if you're taking the course via our part-time route. (The PGL option would only be available to students applying through Student Finance England & you would need to look at the Postgraduate Loan Tipsheet for help with your application).
3. Students without a Part 1 should say they are **new** students.
4. Students with a Part 1 should say they are **continuing** architectural students although they should make clear that they are **new to CAT**.

Although you can apply for the maximum £6000 a year, the Part 2 is considered a continuation of your Part 1 so your entitlement will be capped as per the rules of the year in which you started your Part 1 loan/grant.

- Normally if you have a gap of 3 or more years between your Part 1 and Part 2 architecture studies the SLC will not consider this a planned continuation for your Part 1, which would mean you would not be eligible for a tuition fee loan. In these circumstances if you have individual circumstances which you feel the SLC should take into account, please contact them directly.
5. The Student Loan Company recognise the "Full tuition fee amount for this academic year" as £6000 – this is the total of all the Month's Tuitions over the two year course (£12,000) divided by two.
  6. The undergraduate loan must be applied for in **CAT's** name and **not** in the name of UEL. Select Centre for Alternative Technology from the drop down menu on the SLC online application form.
  7. The MArch is a **full time** course studied over **2 years**.
  8. The course is recognised and prescribed by **ARB** and is recognised by the EU.



9. Your offer letter from CAT should be adequate confirmation that you will be a student for SLC purposes. If however there are any queries from the SLC concerning this, please contact CAT Student Finance [student.finance@cat.org.uk](mailto:student.finance@cat.org.uk).
10. If for any reason you have to contact someone at the SLC please take their details (name and staffing ref number) and keep a record of what they tell you.
11. Always ask the SLC to follow up any telephone calls with a written email or letter. They do not do this automatically.
- 12.

**Course enrolment:**

The £50 non-refundable enrolment deposit is due before you can be enrolled. Once we receive the deposit we can then confirm you as a student at CAT with the SLC. Your non-refundable enrolment deposit will be used towards the first modules tuition fee.

**Student Loan Confirmation:**

Once you have received an entitlement confirmation letter from Student Finance, please scan it or take a photo which is clear enough to read and send it to [student.finance@cat.org.uk](mailto:student.finance@cat.org.uk).

If you do not receive the full tuition fee loan the Student Finance Officer will then supply you with a personalised explanation of how your funding will be allocated towards your future modules fees and what will be remaining for yourself to pay.