

Welcome to Huddersfield

An international students guide



WWW.HUDDERSFIELD.SU/ADVICE

WELCOME TO HUDDERSFIELD!

Coming to study in a new country can be a stressful experience. This leaflet has been prepared to help answer some of the general questions you may have in the first few days following your arrival. If you do not find the information you need or have any further queries there are plenty of people on hand to help so please do not be afraid to ask.



1. Finding accommodation

If you have not pre-booked your student accommodation before arriving in Huddersfield then you may want some help finding a suitable property. There are a variety of accommodation options in the local area ranging from halls of residence to flats or shared student houses. It really depends on what you are looking for and your budget. The Students' Union Advice Centre runs an online accommodation service and is on hand to help you with the search. The Advisers will be available during International Week between 10am – 4pm. You can find their contact details on the back page of this booklet.

2. Contacting home in those first few days

It can feel strange at first being in a new place and you may want to contact home during the first few days to let them know that you have arrived safely. You can buy a prepaid phone card or you may want to use your mobile phone. If you are bringing your own phone from home and using the existing SIM card it could work out to be very expensive. You may want to consider either buying a new SIM card or a new phone package with the SIM card included. This will either be a contract or a pay as you go basis. Whatever you decide it is best not to rush into it and shop around to find the best deal for you. You should consider the following points:

- How much does it cost?
- What is the reception like in the area you will be using it most?
- What do calls and texts cost?
- How much does it cost to call overseas?
- What sort of contract is it?
- How long is it for and what is the notice required to cancel?

Once you complete your University registration you will be able to access the computer facilities on campus but until then the Students' Union has a computer you can access to email home. You can also access the internet at the main library in the town centre.

3. Opening a bank account

One of the first things you will probably need to do when you arrive is to open a bank account. The main banks and building societies all have branches in the town centre and before deciding it may help to consider the following points:

- Is there a branch locally and what are their opening hours?
- What facilities does the account offer e.g. how can you withdraw your cash, make bill payments etc?
- If you will be receiving payments from overseas, ask

how the bank will deal with this and what charges would apply.

Once you have chosen a bank or building society, you will need to go through the account opening procedures. You will usually need to provide the following details as a minimum to open the account:

- Proof of identification (a passport or national identity card).
- The original offer letter from the University addressed to your permanent address back at home.
- Proof of your local address for example a utility bill, letter from your accommodation provider or letter from the University. Some banks will need this to be addressed directly to them. Once you have enrolled you can request a letter for banking purposes from the University. This can be done at the Help Desk in enrolment or Student Admissions and Records Desk in the Student Centre, Level 4, CSB.



For more useful information on opening a student bank account visit the British Bankers' Association at www.bba.org.uk

4. Settling in

Coming to study in a different country can be a stressful experience. The following tips may help you settle in over the first few days:

- Meet other international and European students. The University runs a Welcome Programme which includes induction sessions on the University services and facilities, trips and events to help you settle in. Check out the programme in your welcome pack.
- Visit the Students' Union and find out about the various clubs and societies that are on offer. Speak to a member of their iZone Team.
- Ask for help. If you have any problems or questions contact one of the University or Students' Union Support Services.
- Go to the Freshers Fayre



5. Looking for work

Before you start to look for work you should check out if there are any restrictions on your eligibility to work whilst studying. You can get further information on this through Student Services or UKCISA. (details at the end of the leaflet)

The University Job Shop is a good place to start and has a list of vacancies for current students. This can be accessed online at: www2.hud.ac.uk/jobshop. Further information on this service will be available during the induction week so make sure that you come along to the sessions.

6. Getting a National Insurance number

If you do work in the UK then you may have to pay national insurance contributions depending on the amount you earn. You will need to get a national insurance number which is used to record your NI contributions. You do not need to have this before you start work but once you get a job you will need to obtain one.

To apply for a national insurance number you will need to telephone **HM Revenue and Customs on 0845 6000 643** and

make an appointment. This will usually take place at your local JobCentrePlus office. You will be told what documentation to bring with you to the appointment usually your passport, pay slips and letter from an employer confirming that you are working for them.

You can find more information on this through HM Revenues and Customs or UKCISA. Details at the end of the leaflet.

7. Insurance

It is a sensible idea to consider taking out some insurance to cover your personal possessions from theft, loss, fire or accidental damage whilst you are studying here. Some of the halls of residence may already include the cost of insurance with the rent so it is a good idea to check before making your own arrangements.

There are many companies that offer insurance and we suggest that you get a couple of quotes so that you can compare. Endsleigh Insurance specialises in student insurance and offer competitive rates on a variety of packages. You can get further information and quotes through their website at:

www.endsleigh.co.uk

8. Immigration issues

The Students' Union cannot provide advice and information on immigration matters however the International Office in the Student Centre are on hand to help with such issues. Their contact details are on the back page.

9. Registering with a doctor

The University Health Centre is located at the bottom of the Huddersfield campus and can be used by students living within a three mile radius of campus or at Storthes Hall. If you are studying at Barnsley or Oldham you will need to register with a local doctor. The Students' Union Advice Centre can provide further information on this. You will receive information about registration during the induction period and it is important that you follow the procedures outlined in this documentation.

10. Police Registration

Many, but not all, international students will need to register with the Police when they arrive. Further information on this is available through the International Office in the Student Centre, level 4, Central Services Building.

Local Hotels and B&Bs in Huddersfield

If you or your family are in need of short term accommodation then here is a selection of local hotels, Bed & Breakfasts, Guest houses and other accommodation.

This list is provided for guidance only and is not a recommendation.

For further information we advise visiting Kirklees Council visitors' website: www.kirklees.gov.uk/visitors

The George Hotel

7 minute walk from Uni
St. Georges Square.
Huddersfield, HD1 1JA

Tel: 01484 515444

Single £55 - £85

Twin/Double £65 - £95

Rates include breakfast.

Check website for special offers.

Briar Court Hotel

15 minute bus ride from Uni
Halifax Rd, Birchencliffe,
Huddersfield, West Yorkshire
HD3 3NT

Tel: 01484 519902

www.briarcourt.co.uk

Single £65. Double/Twin £75

Rates Include Breakfast and VAT

Cedar Court Hotel

20 minutes bus ride from Uni
Ainley Top, Huddersfield, HD3
3RH

Tel: 01422 375431

www.cedarcourthotels.co.uk

Prices from £80

Check website for special offers.

Rates include breakfast

Cambridge Lodge

10 minutes walk from Uni
4 Clare Hill, Huddersfield.

Tel: 01484 519892

Single £40. Twin/Double £50



Huddersfield Central Lodge

5 minute walk from Uni

11-15, Beast Market,
Huddersfield, West Yorkshire
HD1 1QF

Tel: 01484 515551

www.centralodge.com

Single £52

Twin/Double £34 pp

Triple £28pp

Rates include breakfast & VAT

Elm Crest Guest House

15-20 minute walk from Uni

2, Queens Rd, Edgerton,
Huddersfield, West Yorkshire
HD2 2AG

Tel: 01484 530990

Prices from £35 to £59.50
depending on the size of room
and facilities.

Rates include breakfast.

Cambridge Guest House

15 minute walk from uni

86, New North Rd, Huddersfield,
West Yorkshire HD1 5NE

Tel: 01484 423995

Single £40

Twin/Double £50

Family £70

Rates include a continental
breakfast

Woods End Bed and Breakfast

10 min bus / 25 min walk from Uni
Inglewood Avenue, Huddersfield,
HD2 2DS

Tel: 01484 513580

www.the-woods-end.co.uk

Prices from £25

(some self catering facilities)

Thornes Farm

10 mins from M1 & M62

20 minutes bus ride from Uni.

Knotty Lane. Lepton,
Huddersfield. HD8 0ND

Tel: 01484 604024

janet.woodhead@googlemail.com

Prices: £50 to £75

Premier inn

2 minute walk from Uni

Huddersfield Central

St Andrews Way,
Huddersfield. HD1 3AQ

Tel: 08715278528

www.premierinn.com

Prices: £70 (family)

Rates quoted as at July 2011 but depend on availability and can be subject to change. Please contact the hotel/B&B direct for further information.

Contacts

Immigration Team

International Office
Level 4, Central Services Building
Telephone: 01484 472383
Email: immigration@hud.ac.uk

International Office

Tel: +44 (0)1484 472383
Skype: internationalhuddersfield
Email: international.office@hud.ac.uk
Website: www.hud.ac.uk/international

UKCISA

UK Council for International Student Affairs
www.ukcisa.org.uk

HM Revenues & Customs

Information on national insurance and tax
www.hmrc.gov.uk/students

STUDENTS' UNION ADVICE

The Students' Union Advice Centre can provide information on a range of student issues. You can access further information online at www.huddersfield.su/advice

Opening Times Monday to Thursday - 10am - 4pm • Friday - 10am - 1pm

For further information or to **arrange an appointment** with an adviser email advice-centre@hud.ac.uk or telephone 01484 473446

The Advice Centre services are also accessible to students based at **Barnsley or Oldham Campus**. Please speak to the SU staff at your campus or contact the Advice Centre direct by email (above).