



Factsheet 7 – Money and costs



1. Costs

- Please be aware that there will be many costs before arriving in Ipswich and in the first few days after you arrive.
- These costs may include: travel costs from the airport to Ipswich (£50?); damage deposit for accommodation (£100-200); either your full rent or at least the first month's rent depending on your provider; bedding and kitchen utensils (£20-40); food!

2. Living costs

Estimated cost of living 2015/16	Per week (£)
Food	30-40
Books, printing, stationery	10
Socialising (e.g. Mobile phone, entertainment, sports etc.)	10-30
Rent and bills	75-120
Total per week	125-200

3. Transport costs

- Ipswich is a mid-sized town and most things can be done on foot.
- Ipswich is 70 miles from London (1 hour 10 minutes by train). A single ticket to London can cost between £9-38 (depending on the time of year, and how in advance you book the ticket).
- For ticket options and fares on local buses see:
<http://www.ipswichbuses.co.uk/tickets/fares/>

4. Bank account

- Bank opening hours vary but many branches will be open from 9.00-17.00 during the week and some open on Saturdays.
- It can be difficult for non-UK residents to open a bank account in the UK and it can take a long time so you should make sure you are able to use your home account when you get here.
- For more information on opening an account please contact Erasmus@uos.ac.uk for advice.



5. Working in the UK

- EU students are free to work in the UK with no limit on the number of hours. This information is subject to change.
- If you wish to work you should apply for a National Insurance (NI) number. You can apply when you have arrived in the UK see <http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/> for more information.
- **WARNING** – although for EU students no limit is set on the hours you work most universities and colleges recommend less than 15 hours a week. It is important that you leave plenty of time for your studies.
- EU students are able to stay in the UK after completing university and can continue to work without limitations (This information is subject to change)

5. Top tips from Erasmus+ students

- Bring some cash with you to cover initial costs on arrival such as bus fares and taxis to Ipswich/your accommodation.
- Either change your money to Pounds Sterling before setting off for the UK or on arrival at the airport.
- Debit cards work well for most purchases but always have some cash with you in case your card doesn't work.
- Remember that exchange rate variations may mean that your money won't go as far as you had intended. Write down all known outgoings and try to work to a budget.
- Some students have used transferwise to transfer money from their home account to a UK bank account. The fees are very low for this service:
<https://transferwise.com/>