**Student Case Study: Universal Credit**

**Leia is a lone parent over 25 years of age. She has one child, a son aged 13.  
She is a full-time student, lives in a rented property, and does not work.  
This is how her Universal Credit will be calculated.**

*Maximum Universal Credit (10 months / ‘Assessment Periods’: Sept to June) =*

Standard Allowance = £393.45 +  
1 Child Element (born before April 2017) = £333.33 +  
Rent = £434.52  
Total = **£1161.30 is the maximum Leia could receive**

*The maximum Universal Credit amount is reduced by any income Leia receives. This includes her Maintenance Loan, which is taken into account as follows.*

Maintenance Loan (£11,374 - £4,221 disregard) = £7,153 per year  
Divided by 10 Assessment Periods (Sept to June) = £715.30  
Minus £110 per month Student Loan Disregard = **£605.30 Student Loan Income**

*The amount of Universal Credit payable is the maximum Universal Credit amount minus the Income amount.*  
Therefore £1161.30 - £605.30 = **£556.00 per month Universal Credit**

This is payable each month for the ten month period Sept to June. For the two months over Summer, Leia’s maximum Universal Credit of £1161.30 per month should be paid, as her student loan income will not be taken into account to reduce her UC benefit.

**This information is intended as a guide only. It is not an official DWP entitlement letter. You will need to make a claim for Universal Credit in order to receive an official letter of entitlement from DWP and for them to make payments.**