

I'm not a bot

























about it: While searching for full-time jobs after university, I worked as a freelance writer to make money. I decided not to keep it as a freelancer as it's very flexible and varied. The part of freelancing that I found hardest was finding consistent work. However, if you can find regular work through ongoing commissions from the same company this helps a lot. In hindsight, I wish if I had used sites like Fiverr and Upwork to find more work as it would have made it easier, but I wasn't aware of them as options at the time. Instead, I mostly found paid work through a combination of connections I'd made as a student journalist and by getting in touch with a local business who offered me regular writing commissions for their blog. I also secured one particularly big freelance commission that had been advertised via the place where I'd studied a postgraduate journalism diploma. If you haven't already, I recommend asking the careers department at your uni to notify you about any freelance opportunities they hear about. Parents of students will always be concerned about what their children are eating. They can worry a little less once they've sent them one of your hampers. Aim to fill it with cupboard essentials like long-life foods (pasta, rice, baked beans etc.). You can also add some healthy stuff that they're probably not getting enough of. Dating apps are all well and good. But, for many, it's hard to beat meeting someone in the real world. For students looking for a slightly less virtual matchmaking service, organise a speed dating night and charge a small fee for entry. Use a site like Lulu.com to produce professionally printed books or magazines. You can make each one unique by adding hand-crafted touches or notes. To find customers, you could start a website, create a professional social media account and maybe launch an Etsy store. If you have some graphic design skills, why not offer to produce handouts for your tutors? It would be a great way for you to study their subject in more detail, and will likely save them a lot of time. Likewise, if any of your friends work as private tutors, see if they need help with creating study resources for their lessons. Clothes, services, bikes, books - people are always looking to borrow all of these and more. A swapping site is a great small business idea to help match those wanting to borrow something with those who have something to offer. Or you could maybe start a site that matches students who want to see the UK with those who live in other towns. You'll also like these weird ways students have made money. Not much to explain here. Our guide has all the details on becoming a babysitter. The most important thing is to actually enjoy the company of children. Otherwise, what's the point (other than the money, of course)? Scout out some popular festivals or cities (either in the UK or Europe) and organise a trip for yourself and a few dozen other students. Booking for a bigger group is more likely to get you a discount (on top of our tips for saving money at festivals). It's only fair that you charge your mates a little commission for setting the whole thing up. Matched betting is a way of gaining profit from free bet promotions offered by betting companies. You need to be over 18 to do it. It isn't gambling. However, if you drop the ball, you could end up losing money. Having said that, if you are confident at it, talking your family and friends through it in exchange for a small cut of their earnings is a potential way to make money. Just make sure they're also over 18, are familiar with the potential risks and understand that it isn't an alternative to employment - rather a way to make some extra money in their spare time. If you're keen to find out more, here's our guide to getting started with matched betting. Credit: ImageBySutipond - Shutterstock The beauty of stock photos is that you don't need to look like a typical model to feature in them. After all, they're meant to be more realistic. That said, if you don't feel comfortable getting in front of the camera, you could help photographers find models instead. Or, completely cut out the middleman. Simply grab a camera and have a go at shooting and selling your own snaps. Check out our guide to selling photos online for some tips. We also share how much money you could make. If you're making a newsletter, you'll save on costs (and environmental impact) by going for an email newsletter rather than an old-fashioned paper copy. To make money, you can sell advertising space to local businesses, organise exclusive deals and discounts to offer readers or run some competitions. Always find yourself forgetting people's birthdays? Yeah, us too. Save yourself (and everyone else) a world of embarrassment by setting up a service that not only reminds people of important dates but also sorts the gift and a card. Keep in mind that anniversaries and Valentine's Day are just as lucrative as birthdays! And when you do, let us know so we can sign up. Despite students famously not having much money, companies are still absolutely desperate to sell to them. As a student, you can offer them some invaluable insight into how their brand and products are perceived by young people. And it's only fair that they pay you for your services. Head over to our guide to the best product testing websites for tips on making money this way. Yearbooks are always great fun, but it's unlikely that your university will be publishing one. Why not take up the responsibility yourself and be the hero of your course? There are loads of print-on-demand publishers that will help you do this. If you want to maximise your profits (or keep the costs low for your buyers), you could sell advertising space to local businesses. Everyone has some unused home gym equipment sitting in the garage, right next to a pile of good intentions. Look on the likes of Facebook Marketplace or Gumtree and buy the kit at a bargain rate (or ask to take it away for free). After that, re-sell it to an individual, school, gym, office or personal trainer. This one's pretty similar to number 13. Save someone else the time or cost of rearranging a missed package by offering to wait for them. You could also collect it on their behalf. Create a portfolio website for bands and musicians. You can use the site to promote bands to local events and businesses. They'll then have a go-to resource for booking acts in the area. Call local businesses first thing in the morning and get them to place some orders for later in the day. Then, make the smoothies and sandwiches at home (we've got some great sandwich ideas) and deliver them to their door at lunchtime. Like Deliveroo, but much, much cheaper. Credit: Oxy\_gen - Shutterstock This should be an especially good seller at the start of term. Students will be starting uni or moving into a new home, and as such will be looking for ways to decorate their rooms on a budget. Sound like something you could hack? Check out Snapfish and start printing your masterpieces. We know of plenty more ways to make money from selling your artwork. Have you got a great eye for detail and an excellent track record of revising for exams? If so, your skills will be very useful to other students. By creating revision resources for students, you can put your organisational skills to good use. Essentially, think about what techniques help you to prepare for exams, and see if you can create tools based on these that guide students through their revision. One idea is to design a revision planner. Perhaps you could create it in a calendar format with pointers to help students manage their time and keep track of upcoming exams. Once you've made your resources, you could sell them as printable PDFs on sites like Etsy. A website, a magazine, an app - whatever you settle on, use your knowledge of the area to create a resource that helps freshers make the most of their new town. Include the best cafés, cheapest deals and some hidden gems. You can sell the guide, or give it away for free and ask businesses to pay a small fee to be included. Put together packages of budget flights, accommodation and events and coordinate them between your own university and one based abroad. If it's easier, try starting with a university that yours is already affiliated with. For example, think about which universities offer a year abroad. When we say 'essentials', we're talking stationery, kitchen utensils, discount vouchers and more. Basically, think about anything from our what to take to uni checklist that can be delivered to freshers' rooms ahead of their first day. Private tutors get paid seriously good money. Naturally, you can market yourself as a tutor for school students in whichever subject you're studying as a degree, but don't limit yourself. If you're studying English but did well in Maths at school, offer to help kids with this, too. As we explain in our guide to becoming a tutor, you can tutor online to expand your customer base. Credit: Piranhi - Shutterstock If you have an unused parking space outside your house, see if you can rent it out for some extra cash. This idea's especially lucrative if you live near a train station, airport or high street, or if the area is largely permit parking only. Basically, anywhere where parking's at a premium. Pretty simple. If you're good at a sport, or just have a knack for teaching it, get paid to be a coach for one of the local teams (or the uni team, if they pay). We're probably not helping to fight the whole 'lazy students' stereotype here. But, if your fellow students can't be bothered to take their washing to the laundrette (or don't know how to use a washing machine), why not do it for them? You only need to charge a couple of quid per person. Depending on the size of the flats in your halls, you could be making upwards of £20 from each one. Along with some inspirational messages, make sure the app can log things like lecture and seminar attendance. It can then award users points, vouchers or gifts for sticking to their targets (or exceeding them!), and give penalties for slacking. People are always looking for ways to keep fit without paying for a gym membership. Outdoor fitness trails are among the most popular alternatives. Set up a trail on Meetup and lead groups of people to unusual locations, or places off the beaten track, all the while working out without any gym equipment. Most people feel a bit uncomfortable putting a CV together, especially when it's their first time. Read our guide to CV writing to brush up on your expertise. You could then offer your services as a résumé reviewer. Have you ever seen tins of beans that are actually secret containers for your valuables? This is the same principle but for all your favourite gadgets. Think phone covers that look like pencil cases or laptop cases that look like ring binders. Essentially, anything that's so worthless, no thief would ever think to steal it. There are bonus points on offer (from us and the customers of your small business) for using recycled materials. Customers can sign up at the start of the year and let you know whenever they expect to have an intense period of revision or deadlines. Then, whenever they need it, you can deliver them a study survival kit to their house or the library. Pack it full of things like teabags, scented candles and a few brain foods, and they'll be ready to go. Anyone can have a weird or wonderful idea, but very few turn their dreams into concrete reality. Whether you've got a world-changing concept or just want to make some extra cash, you've got to make a start before you can have a startup business! Listen to this interview with Save the Student's founder about how he started a business in his first year of university.