

PRESS RELEASE**21st May 2019****London, UK****New Peer-to-Peer lender Lendwise to offer education finance to postgraduates and professionals**

- *FCA regulated, London-based P2P platform offers competitively priced loans of up to £100,000*
- *Provides investors with strong returns while also diversifying risk by focusing on a range of high-quality borrowers with future earnings potential*
- *The platform fills a market niche currently neglected by high-street banks and other lenders*

[Lendwise](#), a Peer-to-Peer (P2P) lender authorised by the FCA, today announces it has launched to market following a successful pilot period. The London-based platform pairs investors with students and professionals seeking to borrow money to fund their postgraduate education or professional qualifications.

At the moment, would-be borrowers are ill-served as lending from high street banks specifically for Higher Education is non-existent. A loan for education at a reasonable rate gives the opportunity for graduates and professionals to enhance their skills and augment their earning capability without burdening them with punitive loan rates or terms.

Lendwise offers borrowers loans of up to £100,000 at competitive, tailored rates of between 7.5% and 12%. Pricing is based on a broad range of factors, going beyond the applicant's financial profile and credit record, to include a range of education and career-related variables including the specific postgraduate or professional qualification course they are taking, the length of study and their repayment period.

Crucially, applicants who are in full-time education do not need to start repaying their loans until they finish their course, meaning they are able to concentrate on their studies, and there are no penalties for repaying their loan early.

Meanwhile, investors are currently achieving estimated returns of around 7.5% a year on average, with investments in individual loans going up to 10% a year. Prior to a loan request, all prospective borrowers undergo a rigorous credit assessment to reduce the risk of defaults. This process involves Lendwise conducting sophisticated analysis of the individual's financial background and credit history, while also forecasting their potential future career earnings by drawing on data from third party sources such as student employability reports.

By lending to a range of individuals in different study fields and universities graduating over a number of years investors can diversify their lending portfolios and reduce risk. Additionally, the Lendwise AutoLend and loan filter features allow them to create a portfolio that matches investors personal lending criteria, risk appetite and investment objectives.

Lendwise was founded by Ioannis Georgiou, Kypros Mouzouros, Evangelos Skianis and Rishi Zaveri who have all spent large parts of their careers working for leading banks and together have more than 80 years of banking, finance and IT experience.

Co-founder and CEO of Lendwise Rishi Zaveri, said:

“We have pooled our expertise in Banking, Finance and IT to bring together lenders and borrowers in the education finance sector and offer them a superior product and service. Whether borrowers are seeking to fund their MSc, MBA or any other professional qualifications there is currently a significant gap in the market and ambitious individuals have a limited number of places to turn to seek funding. That is where Lendwise can help. We offer a personalised financing solution that is competitive and student-friendly.

Zaveri concludes:

“In many ways education finance is unique in that it is funding borrowers as they seek to fulfil their academic and career aspirations which in turn leads to higher future income. That means that our borrowers are more likely to be in a better position to repay over time. Education finance is not an afterthought for Lendwise. We are a specialised platform created to serve aspiring individuals. At the same time, Lendwise offers investors access to a socially responsible and impact investment opportunity in the future prospects of the best and brightest individuals.”

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