UK Mobile Phone - Pay as You Go Guide

Summer Engineering London Program

Summer 2014

WHAT'S THE POLICY?

For safety and security reasons, students must possess an operational UK mobile phone during their time in London and while travelling. Students must keep their phones charged, turned on at all times (except in class or other places where prohibited), and maintain sufficient call credit. You must notify your RA of your UK-operational phone number as soon as possible, but by no later than Thursday May 22, 2014.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

You have **THREE** options:

- 1. **Purchase a Pay as you Go UK mobile phone with SIM.** These can be bought for as little as £20, which includes call credit.
- 2. Get your US phone unlocked and purchase a UK Pay as you Go SIM (without the phone). These are available from £10, which includes call credit.
- 3. Notify your US phone carrier that you will be in London and continue to use your US phone. This is the most expensive option. Check with your individual carrier, as cost vary and there different choices for data, text and voice. You need voice and text to comply with this policy.

The Summer Engineering Program will reimburse all students £20, which can help cover the cost of any of the three options. This amount covers the full cost of options 1 and 2.

WHAT IS PAY AS YOU GO?

On pay as you go, you buy your phone up front and then purchase call minutes in set blocks, usually referred to as 'top-ups'. Essentially, you pay for calls or texts before you make them by putting money into your mobile phone account. Once you reach the limit of your account, you can't make any more calls or send any more text messages until you top up the account again (although you can still receive calls and texts).

You can buy top-ups from a range of places, including local shops and cash machines, online or over the phone from your operator.

MAIN UK NETWORKS

We recommend you purchase a pay as you go phone and/or SIM card directly from one of the main UK mobile phone network providers. You can buy in advance online or in person in London at one of their shops (there are many along the Strand, just a 10min walk from Conway Hall, across the river). Our RA's will help you go to one of these shops and purchase your phone.

- 1. Vodafone: http://www.vodafone.co.uk/shop/pay-as-you-go/index.htm
- 2. O2: https://www.o2.co.uk/shop/phones/?payGo=true#page=1
- 3. T-mobile: http://www.t-mobile.co.uk/shop/pay-as-you-go/
- 4. Orange: http://shop.orange.co.uk/mobile-phones/pay-as-you-go

COMPARISON WEBSITE

http://www.carphonewarehouse.com/price-plans/pay-as-you-go/compare-networks