

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is to support learners in full time further education by providing a contribution towards the cost of attending the college such as travel, meals, equipment and other course related costs. Learners will be eligible for bursary support if they meet one of the criteria listed in the table below.

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is available to learners aged 16-18 (under 19 on 31st August 2025) that have an annual household income of less than £30,000. Learners aged 19+ can apply for the Tier 1 or Tier 2 categories if they either have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or they are continuing on a study programme which began when aged 16-18.

The value of the award will vary depending on criteria including household income, personal circumstances and college course. Learners must maintain a minimum of 80% attendance. All awards will have a total capped amount.

For other learners aged 19+ on 31st August 2025, please refer to the 19+ Learner Support Fund Guidance.

An applicant is placed in one of the following categories based on the criteria:

Category	Criteria	Bursary Support Available
Vulnerable Bursary	A learner is either: – Living in local authority care – A care leaver – Claiming Universal Credit or Income Support – Claiming both Employment & Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit and Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or PIP	• Free School Meals • iPad deposit • Up to £1200 towards support, which includes: Travel costs Essential course related costs UCAS application fee Educational visits
Tier 1	A learner living in a household that is in receipt of one or more of the following benefits: - Universal Credit (with net earnings not exceeding the annual equivalent of £7,400) - Child Tax Credit (with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190 and not receiving Working Tax Credit) - Income Support - Income-based Jobseekers Allowance - Income-related Employment & Support Allowance - the guarantee element of State Pension Credit - support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999	• Free School Meals • iPad deposit • Travel costs • Essential course related costs • UCAS application fee • Educational visits
Tier 2	A learner living in a household that has an annual income, including means-tested benefits, of less than £30,000 per year.	• Reduced travel costs • iPad deposit • Essential course related costs • UCAS application fee • Educational visits - 50% Contribution

Travel costs

- Tier 1 – Free travel (a maximum cap will apply).
- Tier 2 – Subsidised travel.
- Non bursary learners – discounts available on local bus routes (subject to area).

Course related costs

- Essential course costs can include equipment, uniform and text books.
- Course costs vary depending on the course and some courses have no essential costs.
- Bursary does not cover non-essential course costs.

Free School Meals

- Awards for meals will be credited to the student ID card on a weekly basis to the value of £6.00 per timetabled day of College.

All awards are discretionary and are subject to the availability of funds. Information is subject to change.

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