

Financial Support Information for Students and Parent/Carers

2016/17



Please read this document in full before making an application for the Bursary Fund.

The following information applies to students aged 16 to 18 on 31st August 2016 taking a full-time further education course in 2016/17. For more information and advice go to: www.direct.gov.uk/16-19bursary

£1200 bursary

The government has announced that some students will be entitled to a grant or bursary of £1200. You could get this if you are in one of the following categories:

- > You are living in care
- > You are a care leaver
- > You are receiving income support
- > You are disabled and receiving both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance

16-19 Bursary Fund

Is your gross annual household income less than £25,000 a year? If so, you could get extra financial support. Apply now to the 16-19 Bursary Fund and you could get assistance towards the costs of: Transport, books, trips, meals, exam re-sits, etc.

16-19 Bursary Fund Policy 2016/17

What is the 16-19 Bursary Fund?

The fund is made available from the government for 16-18 year olds, to provide assistance to students whose access to, or completion of, education is inhibited by financial constraints or barriers. The new 16-18 year old bursary scheme has been put in place as a partial replacement for the previous EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance).

Who is eligible to apply for 16-19 Bursary Funding?

Students following government funded full time or part-time courses, who are 16 years and over and satisfy one or more of the following criteria:-

- Students aged at least 16 and under 19 years of age on 31/08/16 who are in care, are leaving care, are in direct receipt of Income Support or are disabled and in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance
- Students who are economically or socially disadvantaged and at risk of not taking up or continuing in their education. This group includes students with physical or other disabilities, medical conditions and/or learning difficulties
- Students who have been in care, on probation, are young parents or are otherwise considered at risk
- Asylum seekers
- Refugees (who will have access to 16-19 Bursary Funding if they are in receipt of supportive evidence from DWP)
- Lone parents

Who is not eligible for 16-19 Bursary Funding?

- Students under 16 years of age or over 19 years of age on 31/08/16
- Students who do not meet the residency qualifications

How does the Academy assess applications and allocate 16-19 Bursary funding?

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a limited fund and the Academy will prioritise allocation. There will be 3 priority groups, categorised as high, medium and low:

High priority group

Students aged under 19 on 31/08/16 and who fall into one of the following categories:

- Are currently in care (as defined by social services)
- Are leaving or have recently left care
- Are in receipt of Income Support in their own name
- Are disabled and in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance

Eligible students will be guaranteed a £1200 bursary and could have support for other costs such as transport, equipment etc.

Payments will be made on a termly basis at the start of each term.

Medium priority group

Students who fall into this category have a gross annual household income of below £20,000.

Eligible students in this group may be eligible for a contribution towards:

- The cost of transport, essential course equipment, trips, uniforms, materials, etc
- Financial support towards childcare costs and exam re-sit fees if aged 19 or under on 31/08/16

A cash bursary, if aged under 19 on 31 August 2016 is available dependant on meeting agreed target attendance and behaviour criteria. This will be subject to availability of funds.

Payments will be made on a termly basis at the start of each term in respect of the previous term. Advance payments can be made upon request and are discretionary.

Low priority group

Students who fall into this category have a gross annual household income of between £20,000 and £25,000.

Those in the low priority group will be considered for funding based on the Academy allocation and subject to available funding after those in the high and medium priority groups have been awarded. In some cases awards may not be made until after 31 December of the academic year. Students in this group may get a contribution towards the cost of essential course equipment, uniforms and transport costs (they may also receive a cash bursary if aged under 19 on 31/08/16, if funds permit).

Payments will be made on an as-needed basis.