

Financing Your Study - Students Aged under 19

Don't let finance worries stop you from applying!

Don't be put off applying because you are worried about how you are going to cover Travelling costs – We can help you access different types of financial help.

Students under 19 from low-income families can apply to the Discretionary Learner Support Fund for help with Travel Costs

Don't worry and don't let it stop you from applying as there is a 'Discretionary Learner Support Fund' which you can apply for which is designed to help 16, 17 and 18 year old students who struggle with the costs of full-time education or training. Students aged 19 or over are only eligible to receive a discretionary bursary if they:

- are continuing on a study programme they began aged 16 to 18 ('19+ continuers') or
- have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

These 2 groups of students can receive a discretionary bursary while they continue to attend education (in the case of a 19+ continuer, this must be the same programme they started before they turned 19), as long as their eligibility continues and their institution considers they need the additional support to continue their participation. Students aged 19 or over are not eligible for the vulnerable student bursary.

To be eligible for the vulnerable bursary, students must be under 19 and in one of the defined vulnerable groups;

- in care
- care leavers
- in receipt of Income Support, or Universal Credit in place of Income Support, in their own right
- in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit and Disability Living or Personal Independence Payments in their own right

The Care to Learn scheme can help with childcare costs while you study

You must be under 20 years old at the start of your course.

The scheme is available for publicly-funded courses in England.

You can get Care to Learn if:

You're a parent under 20 at the start of your course

You're the main carer for your child

You live in England

You're either a British citizen or a national of a European Economic Area (EEA) country

Your course qualifies

Your childcare provider is Ofsted Registered and qualifies

The Student Fare Card Scheme

In addition if you live in Surrey please visit the Surrey County Council website for student bus and rail fare cards for discounted travel within Surrey: bus and train passes or Surrey Student Transport Partnership. If you live in the transport for London area please visit the Transport for London student website: 16-18 Transport for London 18+ Transport for London.

Financing Your Study - Students Aged 19 and Over

Don't let finance worries stop you from applying!

There is a **'19+ Discretionary Learner Support Fund'** for studies up to Level 2

To get Discretionary Learner Support (DLS) you must be:

- 19 or over
- studying at a learning provider funded by the Skills Funding Agency

You must be 20 or over to get help with childcare costs.

If you're 19, apply for Care to Learn instead.

There is also an **"Advanced Learning Loan Bursary"** for Level 3 or above

You may apply to get money from the Loan Bursary Fund after you've received a letter approving your Advanced Learner Loan.

If you're 19 or older and studying at Level 3 or above, you can apply for an "Advanced Learner loan" to help with the costs of a college or training course.

Repayments start the April after you complete or withdraw from your course.

You pay back your loan (plus interest) when you finish your course and earn more than £25,000 a year. Your repayments will stop if your income drops below £25,000 a year.

For more information visit; <https://www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan/eligibility>

You can apply for help towards;

- Travel Costs
- Books
- Equipment
- Materials/Equipment
- Childcare – You must not be receiving funding for this childcare from any other source e.g. free early education places (childcare) or Childcare Tax Credits or these hours should be deducted from your claim for Bursary Childcare funding
- It may also be possible to obtain tuition fee remission – this is limited, but please talk to Admissions for more information
- Higher Education students should contact; www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance for financial support.

Please note that all information on this page is subject to Government legislation. Please check with Admissions to see if you may be eligible to apply.

CHARITIES OFFERING HELP

You may also like to make enquiries to local Charities (some are designated only to local residents within the borough so please enquire directly)

Charities are not affiliated with the College and are completely independent and therefore the College has no responsibility or liability in relation to any support you may be offered, financially or otherwise. The College is however able to refer you to a Charity initially if you would prefer?

If you would like us to assist you in applying or would like an informal chat about any Charity and what it can provide please pop in and speak to the Admissions Department.

The Lawrence Atwell's Charity

<https://www.theskinnerscompany.org.uk/grants-and-trusts/atwell/>

The Walton Charity

<http://www.waltoncharity.org.uk/Walton/Pages/Home.asp>

The Weybridge Charity

<http://weybridgecharity.org.uk/>

The Egham Charity

www.eghamunitedcharity.org