

These guidance notes should be read in conjunction with application and the 2025-2026 Student Support Fund Policy and Procedures, which can be obtained from our website or Student Services. The College is given specific allocations of funding to provide assistance to learners studying on a course funded by the Education & Skills Funding Agency. Learners should apply early as the funds do run out. Applications will be dealt with on a strict date received basis and this is dependent on all applications being fully completed with all the required evidence. Incomplete applications will be marked as incomplete/awaiting evidence on the online portal.

Please note that eligibility does not mean that an award will be made as the funds are limited and will close when fully allocated. No guarantee can be given that funds will be available when you apply. If there is a high demand on the funds, awards may be made at a reduced rate. Subsequent payments (where paid) may be at a lower rate if there is a high demand.

Funds will only be released once learners have enrolled and started their course. Initial awards will normally be made within 4 weeks of the course start date or from date of receipt of application whichever is the latter. For loan students, awards will only be made once an approved loan is in place and student has passed the loan liability point (2 weeks).

Please be aware that if learners leave their course early, the college may ask for the return of any payments made or kit/uniform that has been purchased with the funds.

Learners on 2-year courses will need to re-apply for subsequent years and criteria and awards may differ.

## Free Further Educations Meals

Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As at 31 August 2025 be over 16 and under 19 years of age or aged 19 – 24 and have an Education, Health and Care Plan or aged 19 and continuing on a study programme they began aged 16 to 18 (19+ continuers) AND</li> <li>Be studying on a funded course funded and leads to a qualification (up to Level 3) that is accredited by Ofqual AND</li> </ul> <p>Student or parents in receipt of eligible benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Income Support</li> <li>Income – based Jobseekers Allowance</li> <li>Income – related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)</li> <li>Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999</li> <li>The guarantee element of State Pension Credit</li> <li>Child Tax Credit (provided that they are not entitled to working tax credit) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190-00, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Custom.</li> <li>Working Tax Credit run – on – paid 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit</li> <li>Universal Credits with net earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400 per annum (after tax and not including any benefits you get)</li> </ul>
How much can I get?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meal to the value of £2.61 per day you are in college</li> </ul>
What does the funding cover?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meals whilst in college</li> </ul>
How is it paid?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You will be able to use you Student ID card to purchase food in the various college outlets</li> </ul>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change will be given if you spend less than £2.58. You can choose to spend more than £2.61 – you will need to pay the difference</li> </ul>
How do I apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Apply online from 25 June 2025</b> at <a href="https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/">https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/</a> or click on the link from our website <a href="http://www.escg.ac.uk">www.escg.ac.uk</a> and upload all the required evidence</li> <li>You will be notified by email the outcome of your application or if we need more information</li> </ul>

## 16-18 Discretionary Bursary Support Funds

Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As at 31 August 2025 be over 16 and under 19 years of age or aged 19 – 24 and have an Education, Health and Care Plan or aged 19 and continuing on a study programme you began aged 16 to 18 (19+ continuers) AND</li> <li>Be studying on a funded course funded and leads to a qualification (up to Level 3) that is accredited by Ofqual AND</li> <li>In receipt of eligible benefits (See free meals)/Household income (Earned Income &amp; Income related benefits) of £38,500 or less</li> <li>Demonstrate a financial need to help with participating in education</li> </ul>
How much can I get?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amount awarded depends on individual costs of attending college. It is important to note that the fund is limited. See summary of awards table/policy.</li> </ul>
What does the funding cover?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support students towards the cost of travel including work placements, compulsory books, equipment, uniforms, compulsory visits, and materials.</li> <li>For travel you must live more than <b>1.5</b> miles from the campus you are studying at and take advantage of all discounts and concessions. (Calculated using Google maps walking distance)</li> </ul>
How is it paid?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Payments direct to student's bank account or credit to college account where applicable. Full details will be on the award letter</li> <li>Travel is usually paid in 6 instalments</li> </ul>
Additional Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Payment will be based on 85% attendance at College or at work placements and acceptable behaviour and conduct. Payments may be withheld or reduced if attendance falls below 85%</li> </ul>
How do I apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Apply online from 25 June 2025</b> at <a href="https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/">https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/</a> or click on the link from our website <a href="http://www.escg.ac.uk">www.escg.ac.uk</a> and upload all the required evidence</li> <li>You will be notified by email the outcome of your application or if we need more information</li> </ul>

## 16-18 Priority Bursaries

Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 16 and under 19 years of age on 31 August 2025 AND</li> <li>Be studying on a funded course funded and leads to a qualification (up to Level 3) that is accredited by Ofqual AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>in care or leaving care OR</li> <li>in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit in their own name OR</li> <li>in receipt of <b>BOTH</b> ESA/UC <b>AND</b> Disability Living Allowance/ Personal Independence Payments in their own name</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
How much can I get?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to a maximum of £1,200 per year, calculated on actual need &amp; cost</li> </ul>
What does the funding cover?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support students towards the cost of travel, compulsory books, equipment, uniforms, visits, and materials</li> <li>For travel you take advantage of all discounts and concessions. (Calculated using Google maps walking distance)</li> </ul>
How is it paid?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly payments direct to student's bank account or credit to college account where applicable. Full details will be on the award letter</li> </ul>
Additional Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Payment will be based on 85% attendance at College or at work placements and acceptable behaviour and conduct. Payments may be withheld or reduced if attendance falls below 85%</li> </ul>
How do I apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Apply online from 25 June 2025</b> at <a href="https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/">https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/</a> or click on the link from our website <a href="http://www.escg.ac.uk">www.escg.ac.uk</a> and upload all the required evidence</li> <li>You will be notified by email the outcome of your application or if we need more information</li> </ul>

## Care to Learn

Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be under 20 years old on the first day of your course</li> <li>• Is the main carer for the child</li> <li>• Living and studying in England &amp; Course qualifies</li> <li>• Childcare provider qualifies and is OFSTED registered</li> <li>• If you have more than one child, you can get help for each of them</li> <li>• Other Conditions may apply</li> </ul>
How much can I get?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to £180 per child per week if you live outside London</li> </ul>
What does the funding cover?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childcare while you are learning, on work experience and industry placements which are part of your programme of study or doing private study as agreed</li> <li>• Childcare deposit and registration fees (T &amp; Cs apply)</li> <li>• Summer retainer if you are returning to the college in the next academic year to study an eligible FE course. (T &amp; Cs apply)</li> <li>• Additional travel costs you have to pay so you can take your child from home to the childcare provider</li> </ul>
How is it paid?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childcare paid monthly direct to childcare provider on receipt of invoice</li> </ul>
Additional Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment for travel and childcare will be based on 85% attendance at College or at work placements and acceptable behaviour and conduct. Payments may be withheld or reduced if attendance falls below 85%</li> <li>• Confirmation from childcare provider that child is attending</li> </ul>
How do I apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Apply from 25 June 2025.</b> Contact the college for the application pack.</li> <li>• You will be notified by email the outcome of your application or if we need more information</li> <li>• More information can be found at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn">https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn</a></li> </ul>

## 19+ Adult Education Bursary Funds (20+ Childcare Support Funding)

Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be over 19 on 31 August 2025 AND</li> <li>• Be enrolled to an Adult Skills funded course. For level 3 courses, student must be 19 – 23 studying their first full level 3 qualification on the list of entitlements or 19+ studying a L3 course which is part of the Free Courses for Jobs L3 adult offer <b>AND</b> under the Earnings threshold. AND</li> <li>• In receipt of eligible benefits (see free meals)/Household income (Earned Income &amp; Income related benefits) £38,500 or less AND</li> <li>• Demonstrate a financial need to help with participating in education</li> </ul>
How much can I get?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount awarded depends on individual costs of attending college. It is important to note that the fund is limited. See summary of awards table/policy.</li> </ul>
What does the funding cover?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support students towards the cost of travel, compulsory books, equipment, uniforms, compulsory visits, and materials.</li> <li>• To help with the cost of Childcare for the hours you are timetabled to be in College (must be OFSTED registered)</li> <li>• For travel you must live more than <b>1.5</b> miles from the campus you are studying at and take advantage of all discounts and concessions. (Calculated using Google maps walking distance)</li> </ul>
How is it paid?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payments direct to student's bank account or credit to college account where applicable. Full details will be on the award letter</li> <li>• Travel is usually paid in 6 instalments</li> <li>• Childcare paid monthly direct to childcare provider on receipt of invoice</li> </ul>
Additional Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment will be based on 85% attendance at College or at work placements and acceptable behaviour and conduct. Payments may be withheld or reduced if attendance falls below 85%</li> </ul>

How do I apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Apply online from 25 June 2025</b> at <a href="https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/">https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/</a> or click on the link from our website <a href="http://www.escg.ac.uk">www.escg.ac.uk</a> and upload all the required evidence</li> <li>• You will be notified by email the outcome of your application or if we need more information</li> </ul>
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### Advanced Learner Loan Bursary

Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be over 19 on 31 August 2025 AND</li> <li>• Be studying on a that leads to a qualification (Level 3 or above) that is accredited by Ofqual</li> <li>• Be in receipt of an Approved Advanced Learner Loan for the fees for all or part of your fees for your course.</li> <li>• In receipt of eligible benefits (See free meals)/Household income (Earned Income &amp; Income related benefits) of £38,500 or less AND</li> <li>• Demonstrate a financial need to help with participating in education</li> </ul>
How much can I get?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount awarded depends on individual costs of attending college. It is important to note that the fund is finite. See summary of awards table/policy.</li> </ul>
What does the funding cover?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support students towards the cost of travel, compulsory books, equipment, uniforms, compulsory visits, and materials.</li> <li>• To help with the cost of Childcare for the hours you are timetabled to be in College (must be OFSTED registered)</li> <li>• For travel you must live more than <b>1.5</b> miles from the campus you are studying at and take advantage of all discounts and concessions. (Calculated using Google maps walking distance)</li> </ul>
How is it paid?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payments direct to student's bank account or credit to college account where applicable. Full details will be on the award letter</li> <li>• Travel is usually paid in 6 instalments</li> <li>• Childcare paid monthly direct to childcare provider on receipt of invoice</li> </ul>
Additional Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment will be based on 85% attendance at College or at work placements and acceptable behaviour and conduct. Payments may be withheld or reduced if attendance falls below 85%</li> </ul>
How do I apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Apply online from 25 June 2025</b> at <a href="https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/">https://escg.paymystudent.com/portal/</a> or click on the link from our website <a href="http://www.escg.ac.uk">www.escg.ac.uk</a> and upload all the required evidence</li> <li>• You will be notified by email the outcome of your application or if we need more information</li> </ul>

**Correct as at 11/6/2025 but subject to change**