

16-19 Bursary Funding

Overview

A young person could get a bursary to help with education-related costs if aged 16 to 19 and:

- studying at a publicly funded school or college in England - not a university or on a training course, including unpaid work experience
- A publicly funded school is one that doesn't charge for attending it.

Eligibility

The person must:

- be at least 16 and under 19 on 31 August 2018
- study at a publicly funded school or college, or be on an unpaid training course
- meet the residency requirements - your school or college can check this

Vulnerable student bursary

The young person could get up to £1,200 if at least one of the following applies:

- they're in or have recently left local authority care
- they receive Income Support or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves
- they receive Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in their name and either Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit
- they receive Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in their own name and either ESA or Universal Credit

The young person may get the full amount if they have expenses and study full-time on a course of at least 30 weeks.

Young people may receive less than the full amount, or no bursary, if one of the following apply:

- the course is shorter than 30 weeks
- they study part time
- they have few expenses

Discretionary bursary

A school or college will have their own criteria for discretionary bursaries. They will look at individual circumstances and this usually includes family income.

Young people can apply for a discretionary bursary if they are over 19 and either:

- continuing on a course they started aged 16 to 18 (known as being a '19+ continuer')
- have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

How to claim

A young person should apply to their school, college or training provider. This needs to be done once the young person knows where they will be studying or training.

It may be necessary for a young person to reapply for a bursary for each year of their course.