



Financial Support

This guidance explains the eligibility criteria to be able to receive support from the 19+ hardship fund.

For all Discretionary Bursary Funds, due to the limited nature of the fund, meeting the criteria does not guarantee funding. Discretionary Bursaries are income assessed and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

All bursaries are provided with a view to supporting you to complete your course by helping you to overcome any financial barriers. Therefore, all bursaries are linked to attendance and punctuality of your course. You must attend all lessons on time. The college reserves the right to not make a payment/provide support if your weekly Percentage of Learning (POL – Attendance and Punctuality) drops below 85%.

19+ Discretionary Bursary

To be eligible for the 19+ Discretionary Bursary you will be at least 19 or over on the 31st of August at the start of the academic year and able to evidence a gross household income of less than £30,000 per annum.

If eligible you may be awarded*:

Travel	Up to £16 per week
Books/Equipment	Up to 50% of the total cost
Childcare	Up to £50 per week towards costs [must be an Ofsted registered provider]
Exam fees	100% of exam fees
Registration Fees	50% of registration fees
ICT support	For online learning and based on individual assessment

*The support is subject to availability of funds. This is regularly reviewed by the college. The college reserves the right to change the support provided by informing you of a minimum of two working weeks before the change.

It is the responsibility of the applicant [you the student] to inform the Department of work and pensions [DWP] about any learner support you receive, as this may affect your eligibility to some state benefits.

Eligible evidence required: You will need to provide this on application.

Universal Credit:	Log onto Universal credit Online and search for the last 3 payments . Evidence must show break down of costs. You must also supply the bank statements for the last 90 Days.
Tax Credits:	Tax Credit Notice (TGO2) For the year 2024/25 ALL PAGES NEEDED (4-6 pages normally) Tax credit Award Notice. This statement must show the benefit being received. (Showing an income of less than £24,000 per annum) You will need to evidence payments into your bank account.
Income Support	A Letter from the Job centre dated within the last 3 months along with bank statements showing the Income Support still being received for the LAST 60 Days.
Jobseekers Allowance (Income based):	A Letter from the Job centre dated within the last 3 months along with bank statements showing the Job Seekers Allowance still being received for the LAST 60 Days.
Employment Support Allowance:	A Letter from the Job centre dated within the last 3 months along with bank statements showing the Employment and Support Allowance still being received for the LAST 60 Days.
Free School (college) Meals	A letter from the Local Authority confirming that you are eligible for free school meals for 2023/24. For students who were receiving free school meals previous academic year are protected until March 2024. You need to provide evidence from their previous institutes that you were in receipt of free school meals.
Pension Credit (Guaranteed Element):	Parent(s) in receipt of Pension Credit. Letter from DWP dated within last 3 Months. You MUST also show a bank statement showing payment being received for the last 90 DAYS.
PIP (Personal independent payment)	Personal Independence Payment letter dated 24/25. You MUST also show a bank statement showing payment being received for the last 3 months.
Self-Employment	Last year's Tax calculations along with bank statements for the past 3 months.