

Hartlepool College of Further Education: 19+ Adult Skills Fund/Advanced Learner Loans Bursary 26/27

Policy Statement

We know that college costs can be expensive across the year. We will use 19+ support funds to support those students who face the greatest barriers to continuing in education or training.

All applications will be assessed equally and fairly. Awards reflect individual circumstances. Comparison with other students will not be considered during a decision. All funding is distributed in accordance with the 26/27 guidance published by the Department for Education (DFE).

Eligibility

Support is available to both full-time and part-time eligible students on accredited courses. Students enrolled to higher education courses or waged apprenticeship programmes are not eligible for financial support from these funds.

Funding Available/Application Process

A bursary is to help eligible students with essential costs of participating such as travel to and from college or to buy essential books, equipment, or specialist clothing that are required for their individual study programme.

Once your application has been submitted, we will do an assessment and contact you if we require income/benefit evidence by email. We'll then let you know what support you have been approved for.

Support Available

Students with a household income below £40k can apply for help with:

Meals – £6.00 daily credit pre-loaded onto your college ID card to use in any of the college food outlets. This allowance can only be used on days you are timetabled into lessons.

Travel costs – Students living over 1.5 miles from the college can claim help with travel costs. Students travelling from areas where there are no direct public transport links within reasonable distance should contact student services at the college to discuss bespoke travel options. This may include petrol costs paid at £0.45p per mile.

Placement Travel Costs – We can help with the costs of placement travel. Please contact us to discuss.

Uniform – We can pay for the cost of one essential uniform (Hair, Beauty, Travel & Tourism and Catering courses).

Equipment - Essential equipment that is not already provided in lessons.

Books - Essential books for your course that are not already provided.

Course trips (must be an essential part of the course) and other course-related costs.

Help with the cost of **attending University interviews/open days**.

Childcare costs for registered childminders, nurseries and after-school clubs which are Ofsted-registered.

Additional Travel Support

If you are unable to use public transport due to registered disabilities/health conditions, you may be eligible for further assistance. For more information, please contact student services.

Childcare 20+

Please note that the college does not have its own childcare provision and we are not permitted to recommend childcare providers. However, the below site can provide accurate, up-to-date information to parents and carers regarding childcare and children's services in Hartlepool

<https://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/early-education-childcare>

Students will be expected to use any free Government entitlements before applying for college support funds.

Care To Learn (C2L)

Learner support funds may also be used to provide further help with childcare costs for 19-year-old students in receipt of Care to Learn whose costs exceed the weekly maximum rates for that scheme

<https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn>

Application Information

All approvals for financial support are based on household income and availability of funds. You are advised to apply for support as soon as possible.

Conditions of Funding

All support offered is subject to satisfactory feedback from course tutors and an attendance record of at least 85% across all lessons. We understand that some students may not be able to achieve 85% attendance due to exceptional circumstances and therefore eligibility regarding attendance may be looked at on an individual basis. If attendance falls below 85% across all timetabled sessions or if there is an extended period (more than 2 weeks) of non-authorised absence, we may temporarily suspend support.

Where young adults live with parent(s)/carer(s) at home, we do not include parent(s)/carer(s) income/benefits in our application assessments. It is based solely on the student's income/benefits,

Appealing a Decision

If your application is rejected, you will be notified by email with reasons for the decision. You have the right to appeal any decision. This appeal will be forwarded to the Head of Student Support for consideration. Please explain in detail the reasons for your appeal. This will be dealt with in accordance with the college's appeals procedures.

The HCFE 19+ Support Fund policy is reviewed annually.

Contact Information

If you have any questions/comments, please contact us at any of the below:

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