



THE
BEDFORD
COLLEGE
GROUP

FINANCIAL SUPPORT



FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AGED 16-19

The Bedford College Group offers a range of financial support through our 16-19 bursaries to help young people where household income is £30,000 or less. Students must be aged 16-18 on 31 August 2021 or aged 19 and on the second year of a two-year course.

Funding is provided by the government and enables the Group to make discretionary awards to those young people assessed as facing the greatest financial barriers to participation in their college study programme.

We have four bursary schemes:

- Course Cost Bursary
- Meals Bursary
- Travel Bursary
- Vulnerable Learner Bursary

Care To Learn

Care To Learn can help with childcare while you study. You must be aged under 20 at the start of your study programme.

HOW TO APPLY: If you're applying for the first time, apply online at www.gov.uk/care-to-learn

If you have received Care to Learn in 2020/21 you can log in to apply for the new academic year.

Course Costs Bursary

Some courses have essential costs for books, materials, equipment or uniform. Where these costs present a barrier to participation in learning, we offer a discretionary bursary of up to 75% of costs, subject to a household income of £30,000 or less.

PLEASE NOTE: Students on second year of a two-year course will not be eligible for this unless specific costs are specified for the second year.

Discretionary Hardship

If you are experiencing a sudden change of circumstances which places you in hardship, please speak to your Personal Achievement Tutor or a member of the Student Services team.

Meals Bursary

The Meals Bursary entitles eligible students to £4.00 to spend on a variety of healthy meal options at College on days they are timetabled to attend.

This bursary is only available to students who qualify for the Vulnerable Learner Bursary or those whose parents are in receipt of the following qualifying benefits:

- Income Support income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC))
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after someone stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit with net earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400 per annum (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Aged 19-24 with a valid EHCP and qualifying benefit

Travel Bursary

The Travel Bursary is a means tested bursary of up to £600 available to students studying a Full-time study programme (Level 3 or below) who:

- Are aged 16-18 on 31 August 2021 or aged 19 and on the second year of a two-year study programme
- Live more than three miles walking distance from the campus you will be studying at
- Have an annual household income of £30,000 or less
- Are not eligible for financial support for travel from your Local Authority

The Shuttleworth College Bus Pass can be purchased at a fee of either £100 or £700 depending on your eligibility for the Travel Bursary.

Vulnerable Learner Bursary

Students aged 16-18 could get up to £1,200 if at least one of the following applies:

- You're in or recently left Local Authority care
- You get Income Support or Universal Credit in your name
- You are in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit as well as Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in your own name

PLEASE NOTE:

- You will be asked for documentation to evidence your individual circumstances e.g. tenancy agreement, child benefit letter, Social Worker letter, etc
- Where your course is less than 30 weeks, you'll usually receive less than the full amount (pro-rata)
- Funds are paid monthly, directly into your bank account and are subject to 90% attendance

FURTHER INFORMATION

Applications for Course Cost, Travel and Vulnerable Learner bursaries are considered as a priority and are normally processed first.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ADULTS

The Bedford College Group offers a range of financial support schemes for students aged 19 or over on 31 August 2021. Students aged 19 on the second year of a two-year study programme need to apply to the 16-19 bursaries.

Our adult support fund is for course-related costs and is dependent on household income of £35,000 or less.

We have five bursary schemes:

- Childcare Bursary
- Course Cost Bursary
- Meals Bursary
- Travel Bursary
- Tuition, Exams and Professional Fees

Additional Learning Support

We offer up to £250 towards any learning support requirements for students who have indicated a form of learning difficulty or disability. Access to this support will be through the Additional Support Team who can be reached on 01234 291905.

Advanced Learner Loans Bursary

If you are aged 19 or over and eligible for an Advanced Learner Loan, please ask for information about the Advanced Learner Loans Bursary.

Childcare Bursary

The 20+ Childcare Bursary is very limited and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The bursary is paid to the childcare provider directly and students are expected to pay the difference. The childcare provider must be Ofsted registered.

The Childcare Bursary will be paid in 10 monthly instalments starting from October 2021; these payments will be made in arrears once we have confirmation of students' attendance.*

If you are eligible for 2, 3 and 4 year old funding, childcare will only be supported where the student's timetable exceeds the number of government funded hours.

More information can be found at **www.childcarechoices.gov.uk**

** The total award for all categories, is limited to a maximum of 80% of the income the College receives towards your tuition fees.*

Course Costs Bursary

Students may receive a discretionary bursary to help with up to 75% of the costs of essential course items such as books, equipment and trips, subject to a household income of £30,000 or less.

Where the essential course item is provided by The Bedford College Group, the award will be transferred internally to the departments and the student will be expected to pay the difference. This is not available to students on the second year of a two-year course unless essential costs are specified for the second year.

Discretionary Hardship

If you are experiencing a sudden change of circumstances which places you in hardship, please speak to your Tutor or a member of the Student Services team.

Meals Bursary

If you qualify for the Adult Support bursary, The College will award you a meals bursary of £4.00 per day on the days you are timetabled to be in College.

Travel Bursary

The Travel Bursary is a means tested bursary of up to £600 for students on ESFA funded courses who:

- Live more than three miles walking distance from the campus you will be studying at
- Have an annual household income of £30,000 or less
- Are not eligible for financial support for travel from your Local Authority

PLEASE NOTE: We are unable to pay parking costs.

Tuition, Exams and Professional Fees

Students may receive a contribution of up to 75% towards the cost of tuition fees, examination fees and professional membership fees.

Priority is given to the most vulnerable students. If financial support is required you should complete your enrolment only once you have received a decision from the College. Fee support is not guaranteed - if you are not accepted for our fee award you would be asked to pay the full amount.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Applications for Course Cost, Travel and Vulnerable Learner bursaries are considered as a priority and are normally processed first.

If you have previously been a recipient of the Vulnerable Learner Bursary or have experienced an unexpected change of circumstances, please drop into Student Services or speak to your Personal Achievement Tutor to see if there is any financial support available to support you in finishing your studies.

For more information on our bursaries, please contact us using the details below:

Existing students

Bedford College

Tel: 01234 291770

Email: studentservices@bedford.ac.uk

Shuttleworth College

Tel: 01234 291276

Email:

studentservicesshuttleworth@bedford.ac.uk

The Bedford Sixth Form

Tel: 01234 291444

Email:

studentservices@bedfordsixthform.ac.uk

Tresham College

(Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough Campuses)

Tel: 01536 413232

Email: studentservices@tresham.ac.uk

New students

Tel: 0345 658 8990

Email: info@befordcollegigroup.ac.uk



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For more information on financial support available at The College or to complete an application form, please visit:

www.bedfordcollegigroup.ac.uk

External Sources of Support

Grants search tool

www.turn2us.org.uk

Benefits search website

www.entitledto.co.uk



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Social Fund