



BISHOP MILNER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

16-19 BURSARY FUND

2020/21

What is the Bursary Fund?

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a scheme to help young people facing financial hardship to stay on in full time education after Year 11.

The scheme comprises two parts:

1. A vulnerable bursary
2. A discretionary bursary

1. Eligibility

To be eligible to receive a bursary you must be:

- Aged over 16 or over but under 19 at 31 August 2020
- Aged 19 or over at 31 August 2020 and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- Aged 19 or over at 31 August 2020 and continuing on a study programme they began aged 16-18
- Must be on a full time programme of study
- Meet the residency criteria in EFA 2020-21 academic year funding regulations for post-16 provision (Appendix A)

Bursaries will not be paid to:

- Students undertaking either full time HE programmes or fully funded Skills Funding Agency or any EFA funding model.
- Students from overseas whose main reason for residence in England or the EEA has been attendance at a fee paying college or non-maintained college.
- All students living in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man remain ineligible for funding.
- Students on waged Apprenticeships
- Students in prison or a young offender institution or who have been released on temporary licence.
- Accompanied asylum seekers.

1.1 Vulnerable Bursaries

You can apply for a vulnerable bursary of up to £1200 if you fall into one of the following areas:

- You are in care.
- You are a care leaver.
- You are receiving Income Support or Universal Credit in place of Income Support in your own name.
- You are receiving Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit and Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in your own name.

You will get £1,200 if you are studying a full time course for a minimum of 30 weeks.

1.2 Discretionary Bursaries

The initial allocation less vulnerable bursaries is made available to those applying for the Discretionary Bursaries. The eligibility criteria is based on:

- Your family's income
- If your parents receive benefits
- If you have been entitled to free school meals

You will be eligible to apply only if you are studying a full time course (540+hrs) for a minimum of 30 weeks.

Eligible Discretionary Bursary claims could be for:

- Food
- Travel support
- Books/equipment/materials/specialist clothing
- Exam retakes/UCAS fees
- Help with educational visits

Students can apply for the Bursary Fund if:

- They are eligible for free school meals or if your parents are claiming one of the following benefits:
 - ❖ Income Support
 - ❖ Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
 - ❖ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - ❖ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - ❖ the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
 - ❖ Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
 - ❖ Working Tax Credit Run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- There are special circumstances related to financial hardship.

Only once all relevant paperwork and evidence has been received can a decision be made as to the entitlement level.

It is the responsibility of the student to provide suitable evidence and to provide a suitable argument as to why access to a bursary is required. The college reserves the right to withdraw payment at any time if the evidence provided is unclear/unsuitable or deemed fraudulent.

2. How to Apply

The application will cover a single academic year in which the fund was applied to. The 16-19 Bursary Fund form can be collected from the Sixth Form Support Team or download from the college website.

Appropriate evidence will be required at the time of application:

For the Vulnerable Bursary this might include a letter referring to the benefit to which you are entitled or written confirmation from the LA.

3. Payment

Funds will be distributed to students via BACS payment directly into a student's bank account (Vulnerable Bursary only) or by the provision of a benefit in kind, providing the student has adhered to the terms and conditions of the contract for the Bursary Fund, Appendix B. In cases of hardship where during the first half term payment is required for transport, etc. a special case must be made in writing for consideration.

NB. There are no direct cash for Discretionary Bursary. All bursary awards are in kind (e.g bus pass) and relate to the college course. 16-19 Bursaries cannot help you with your general living expenses.

4. Organisation and Appeals

- The finance office will be responsible for deciding who receives the awards based on the criteria outlined above.
- Appeals relating to the grant should be made in the first instance to the Head of Sixth Form.
- Second and final appeals should be made to the Principal. There will be no further right of appeal.

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is cash limited and can only be allocated whilst funds last. Funding cannot be guaranteed in cases of over demand.

APPENDIX A

1. A person on the relevant date who is settled in the UK, and who has been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands for the three years preceding the relevant date. Settled means having either indefinite leave to enter or remain, or having the right of abode in the UK.
 - Those with European community passports
 - British Dependent Territory Citizens
 - Those whose passports have been endorsed to show they have right of abode in the UK
 - Those who have a certificate of naturalisation or registration as a British Citizen.
2. Students studying under reciprocal exchange agreements.
3. Students who are children of Turkish workers where the Turkish worker has been lawfully employed and resident in the UK at any time in the past and where the student has been resident in the EEA and Turkey for the full three-year period prior to the commencement of their programme.
4. People with refugee status or humanitarian protection or discretionary leave to enter or remain, their spouses, civil partners and children.
5. People with recently settled status.
6. Those who are accompanying or joining parents or spouses or civil partners who have the right of abode to enter or remain in the UK, or those who are children of diplomats.

7. Those who are dependents of teachers coming into the UK on a teacher-exchange scheme.
8. Those who are placed in the care of social services.
9. Funding for EEA members defines as all members of the EU and Iceland, Liechtenstein, Switzerland and Norway and each of their overseas territories.
10. Students who are nationals of any new countries that join the EU or who become nationals of the EEA during their programmes.

Students not eligible

- Students undertaking either full time HE programmes or fully funded Skills Funding Agency or any EFA funding model.
- Students from overseas whose main reason for residence in England or the EEA has been attendance at a fee paying college or non-maintained college.
- All students living in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man remain ineligible for funding.

Students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. The deadline for initial applications is 25 September 2020 (or within 2 weeks of your start date if you begin college later in the year) to be eligible for support during the 2020-21 academic year.

NB – The information provided is based on 2019/20 guidance and is subject to amendment