

Students who are aged 19+ and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are eligible to apply for **Free College Meals** and the **16-18 Bursary** where they meet the **additional criteria** for the support.

Free College Meals

To be eligible for Free College Meals you must be –

- enrolled in Further Education provision funded by the Education Funding Agency
AND
- Be in receipt of, or have parents who are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:
 - Income Support / Universal Credit with net earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400 per annum (after tax)
 - **Income-based** Jobseekers Allowance
 - **Income-related** Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - The **guaranteed element** of State Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit (but **not** entitled to Working tax Credit and yearly income does not exceed £16,190 as assessed by HMRC)
 - Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for WTC)

You will be required to provide current evidence of receipt of the above.

If you are eligible you will receive £3.50 per day for each day you have timetabled lessons which will be pre-loaded onto your college ID card to be spent in the on site catering facilities.

You can apply for Free College Meals via the Online Application Portal which will be available in the Student Services area on the college website from Thursday 25th August 2022.

16-19 Bursary

Please Note: this fund is extremely limited and therefore **NO GUARANTEE** of funding can be made.

To be eligible for the bursary you must be –

- Studying on an FE programme
- Be in receipt of, or have parents who are in receipt of one of the Free College Meals eligible benefits as stated above **OR** have a household income of less than £30,000 (**current evidence will be required**)

Students will receive

- A contribution towards travel expenses if they are not eligible for free travel via their local authority or the free Greater Manchester Bus pass 'Our Pass'
- Minimum 75% contribution towards **compulsory** course costs eg compulsory uniform, equipment and **essential** trips (to a maximum value of £400) subject to meeting the required levels of attendance, behaviour, attitude and commitment.

Household income will be calculated using the following information (**evidence will be required please see additional information sheet on Evidence Requirements**) -

- Tax Credits – Working Tax and Child Tax Credit – all pages of 2022/2023 Tax Credit Award Notice will be required
- Earnings / Wage – either 3 most recent pay slips, P60, end of year business accounts or taken from 2022/2023 Tax Credit Award Notice if preferred
- Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance
- Employment Support Allowance (Incapacity Benefit)
- Universal Credit

Personal Independence Payment (Disability Living Allowance) and the Disability Element of any Child Tax Credits will NOT be taken into account as part of household income – **please make us aware if this is part of any payment you receive as it is not always evident.**

You can apply for all types of Bursary via the Online Application Portal which will be available in the Student Services areas of the college website from Thursday 25th August 2022.

Terms and Conditions of Payment for all Bursaries

You are **NOT eligible** for funding if –

- you are studying on a waged Apprenticeship or Higher Education course
- you have been released on temporary license from prison or young offender institution
- you are receiving support through Additional Learning Support for the same purpose.

Bursary funds will only be awarded provided the student –

- meets the application criteria and has provided all relevant information / documents requested
- applies before the closing date for applications (if applicable)
- has an overall attendance of at least 90% on the date of application

Receipt of payments will be based on –

- at least 90% overall attendance
- attendance at compulsory Maths and English classes (GCSE &/or Functional Skills) and work experience placements
- satisfactory behaviour, attitude and commitment including being up to date with work

16-18 Bursary funds are extremely limited and therefore NO GUARANTEE of funding can be made during the later stages of the year.

Payments are made directly into Student Bank Accounts so it is advisable to ensure you have an account open **before** you apply – bank account name **must** match the name in which you are enrolled at college.

Applications will be available via the Online Application Portal in the Student Services area on the college website from **Thursday 25th August 2022**

Applications will be processed in the order that they are received, fully completed with all necessary evidence (subject to availability of funds)