

Financial Support at Bury College 2023 / 2024

If you are **aged 19+** you may be eligible to apply for support for travel and childcare costs from either the **Adult Discretionary Learner Support Funds** or the **Advanced Learner Loan Bursary**

Please Note: both these funds are limited and therefore **NO GUARANTEE** of funding can be made.

Eligibility Criteria: you are eligible to apply if you are aged 19+ on 31st August 2023, studying on a relevant course and your total annual household income is less than £40,000 per annum.

Household income will be calculated using the following information (**evidence will be required**) -

- Tax Credits – Working Tax and Child Tax Credit – all pages of 2023/24 Tax Credit Award Notice will be required
- Earnings / Wage – 3 most recent pay slips, P60, end of year business accounts or taken from 2023/2024 Tax Credit Award Notice if preferred
- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance or 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.**

Funds for Hardship

You can apply for funding to help towards the costs of coming to college eg **transport costs, food at college** and towards the costs of **essential** equipment, uniform and trips provided these are **compulsory** to you completing your course and are not already provided for you by the college.

If you are eligible, you will receive

- 100% contribution towards travel costs for students who live more than 1 mile from college (not including parking costs). This will be paid on a fortnightly basis during term time.
- Minimum 75% contribution towards **compulsory** course costs eg uniform and equipment
- Minimum 75% contribution to **essential** course trips
- £4.50 per day towards the cost of food based on the number of days in college per week.

All awards are subject to meeting the **Terms and Conditions of Payment** as shown on the reverse of this document and the required levels of attendance, behaviour, attitude and commitment.

You can apply for all types of Bursary via the Online Application Portal which will be available in the Student Services area of the college website from Thursday 24th August 2023.

Terms and Conditions of Payment

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.

For further information please contact Student Services on 0161 280 8421 or via email financial.support@burycollege.ac.uk

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Funding 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 fortnightly payments will be based on –

- at least 90% overall attendance
- satisfactory behaviour, attitude and commitment in class

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 24th August 2023** and will be processed in the order that they are received, fully completed with all necessary evidence (subject to availability of funds)

Funds for Childcare

There is a limited amount of funding available to support with childcare costs

Funding for childcare will only be provided for

- the day / times the student is in timetabled lessons (allowing for travel time to/from college)

but **will not be provided** to cover

- free study periods
- half term / holiday weeks (you may be required to pay the full fee for these weeks)
- deposits or retainer fees and any additional costs for meals etc not already included in the main nursery fee.

If you are eligible you will receive an 80% contribution towards childcare costs on a term time only basis for a maximum of 3 children. You will be **required to contribute the remaining 20% directly to the provider yourself** and failure to keep up to date with payments to your childcare provider will also result in funding being stopped.

All awards are subject to meeting the Terms and Conditions of Payment as shown above.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Childcare Funding is **extremely limited** and is offered on a **first come first served basis** subject to eligibility. If you think you will require childcare funding for your course you are strongly advised to **contact Anne Holt in Student Services as soon as possible** on 0161 280 8420 or via email anne.holt@burycollege.ac.uk to request a separate application form.

Evidence Requirements for Bursary and Free Meals Applications

Please ensure you have read the guidelines and eligibility criteria for the funding you intend to apply for.

For **Vulnerable Young Persons Bursary (16-18)** – you need to provide proof of **either** your LAC or Care Leaver Status, proof that you are in receipt of ESA and DLA/PIP in your own name **or** proof that you are in receipt of Income Support / Universal Credit in your own name because you are living independently or because you are caring for a child. Further evidence may also be required to determine your independent status eg proof of tenancy, utility bill or child benefit letter.

For **16-19 Bursary and Free Meals** – you need to **either** provide evidence of receipt of the relevant benefit eg Income Support **or** provide proof of total household income showing an annual income of less than £40,000.

An allowance of £1,000 is made for every additional child under the age of 18 eg if you have 3 children under 18 including the student then your income threshold will need to be under £43,000 per annum.

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.**

For **Adult DLSF and Advanced Learner Loan Bursary** – you will need to provide proof of total household income with an annual income of less than £40,000. If you are under the age of 21 this will include any parental income as you are still classed as dependant, over the age of 21 this is only income in your own name.

An allowance of £1,000 is made for every additional child under the age of 18 eg if you have 3 children under 18 then your income threshold will need to be under £43,000 per annum.

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.**

Universal Credit

If you are providing evidence of Universal Credit then we require the full statements for your 3 most recent monthly payments.

To download the full statements, you will need to:

- Log in to your Universal Credit statement as normal
- Go to the payments page, where you will see a list of all the payments you have received.
- Click onto your most recent payment, which will download the full statement
- Download or take screen shots of the full statements – including any deductions and the final total at the bottom.
- Repeat for the next 2 months payments It is essential that the whole statement is provided in order for us to use it as evidence.

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If you have not been receiving Universal Credit for 3 months, please provide us with statements for 1 or 2 months, as applicable, as well as the list of payments received to date (this is the list on your payments page).

Child and Working Tax Credit

We require the full Tax Credit Award Notice for 2023 - 2024.

We can accept the renewal notice in certain cases, if it includes your payments for 2023/24.

If your tax credit award notice includes your income (employed or self-employed) this is the only evidence of your employment we require. If it does not include your employment, you will need to provide further evidence.

Evidence of Employment/Self Employment

This can be submitted in the form of 3 months of payslips or a P60 if you are employed.

If you are self-employed we need to see your tax return for April 2022-April 2023.

If you receive tax credits or Universal Credit and your employment is shown on this document, there is no need to provide further evidence.

Please note if you only produce payslips/P60 or a tax return, you may be asked for further evidence of household income in the form of 3 months bank statements in order to verify that there is no other additional income.

Job Seekers Allowance/Employment Support Allowance

We require letters dated within 3 months, of the date you submit your bursary form, that show you are in receipt of the benefit and how much you are receiving per week/fortnight/ month. The letter must show the type of JSA / ESA you are receiving eg Income Related or Income Based.

If your letter is older than 3 months then you can provide additional proof of payment eg. A recent bank statement to show that you are still in receipt of payment.

Income Support, Carers Allowance, Pension Credit and State Pension

We require letters dated within 3 months, of the date you submit your bursary form, that show you are in receipt of the benefit and how much you are receiving per week/fortnight/ month.

If your letter is older than 3 months then you can provide additional proof of payment eg. A recent bank statement to show that you are still in receipt of payment.

NASS Support

If you are in receipt of NASS we will need to see your Aspen card or evidence of this support.

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