Example scenarios

Below are examples of some common scenarios and how these relate to Student Funding. You may find these helpful if your circumstances are similar.

CARE EXPERENCIED

If you have been Care Experienced or “Looked After” at any point in your life, then you may qualify for an enhanced Care Experienced rate of bursary, non-means tested (not based on household income), of £202.50 per week while you study. The previous age cap of 26 has been lifted by the Scottish Government for academic session 2020-21.

To qualify for this, we would require written proof from a formal body such as Local Authority Social Work Department that you have been a Looked after child or Care Leaver under the relevant sections of The Children (Scotland) Act 1995, The Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011) or The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

If you are over the age of 26 and you have been care experienced or looked after at any point in your life we know that it may be difficult for you to obtain proof if you left the care system a long time ago, you may wish to contact Mitchell Library in Glasgow who hold public records and may be able to help you.

Please ensure that you indicate on your funding application that you are Care Experienced.

UNDER 18

If you are under 18 then you are entitled to claim help with travel costs non-means tested (not based on household income) if you live more than 2 miles from college and do not claim travel funding (i.e. DLA/PIP or a Bus Pass) from another source.

If your household income is under £24421 or £26884 for households with more than 1 child in education, then you may also qualify for Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA). EMA is a grant of £30 per term week.

If you wish to apply for travel expenses only or do not wish to disclose household income then we would require a copy of your ID.

If you wish to apply for EMA then we would need proof of your Parent/Guardians household income for tax year 2019-20. This could be P60’s, proof of benefits such as a letter from DWP, a recent bank statement or a screenshot of online benefit account along with your ID.

LONE PARENT CLAIMING BENEFITS

If you are Lone Parent and you are claiming a DWP benefit, then you still may be able to study a full-time course and remain on your benefits unaffected.

If you are claiming ESA or Income Support, then you come to college and remain on your benefits. You would not be entitled to a bursary, but you should remain on benefits as you can still access passport benefits such as Housing Benefit.

If you are claiming Universal Credit you should also remain on this unaffected and the college can award you a small top up of bursary of £28 per week.

Regardless of the benefits you claim we may still be able to offer you funding for tuition fees, childcare and travel costs if you live more than 2 miles from college and do not claim travel funding (i.e. DLA/PIP or a Bus Pass) from another source.

We would require proof of which benefit you are currently receiving such as a letter from DWP, a recent bank statement or a screenshot of your online benefit account.

If you require more in-depth advice on your specific circumstances please contact us on 01475 553150.

Please note these are example scenarios and guidelines and are correct at time of publishing. These may change when SFC policies for 2020-21 are published. They relate to students applying for funding for a full-time FE (*NC, NPA, NQ, Access, Int 1, Int 2, SVQ*) level course and will differ if you are studying part-time or a HE (HNC/HND/DEGREE) level course. These guidelines are subject to meeting residency criteria and have not exceeded the maximum number of years funding allowed. Funding is NOT guaranteed until an application and all supporting documents have been fully assessed by the Student Funding Team and you have been sent a funding award.