

Student Bursary Guidance 2025/26

All funds are cash limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Student Learning Fund for 16-18 Year Olds

This fund provides financial or 'in-kind' help with a number of course-related costs to eligible students aged 16-18. The bursary can be used to help support travel, equipment, uniform, free College meals and other course-related costs.

Students on an Apprenticeship or Higher Education course will not be eligible.

If you are aged under 20 at the start date of your course you can apply for help with childcare costs you can apply through the Student Learning Fund (Care to Learn)

Who can apply?

Eligible students must:

- be enrolled on a full or part-time study programme funded by the Government
- be aged 16-18 as of 31 August 2025
- be aged 19 and returning to the second year of their course/study programme
- be aged 19+ and have an Educational and Health Care Plan (EHCP)
- have good attendance
- fulfil normal UK residency rules
- have a household income of less than £40,000

Terms and Conditions

How do I apply?

- You must complete a Student Learning Fund 2025/2026 online Application Form. This can be found on our website **cityplym.ac.uk** or by using the link <https://cityplym.paymystudent.com/portal/>.
- Please upload the required evidence as requested on the application form, this must be as a download. If you are having difficulty uploading your evidence you can email it to studentlearningfund@cityplym.ac.uk. For full household income requirements to support your application can be found [here](#)
- Application forms will not be assessed if supporting evidence is not provided.
- You can apply for the Student Bursary 2025/2026 from early June 2025, from this time applications may take up to 6 weeks to be fully processed.
- Awards are not backdated and only valid from Date of the assessment and confirmed by your award letter date
- Travel is awarded to student who live more than 3 miles from Campus, contribution travel support is calculated @ £0.45 per mile excluding 1st 3 miles
- Equipment reimbursement must be supported with a valid receipt emailed to studentlearningfund@cityply.ac.uk – providing your student ID & DOB & Postcode in the Subject bar to avoid any delays in payment
- City College reserves the right to ask for household income at any point within current year application to ensure eligibility
- Payments will be made from October 24th

Vulnerable Bursary - 16-18 Year Olds

16-18 Vulnerable Bursary

Eligible students could be entitled to up to £1,200 in-kind support per academic year (pro-rata depending on how long your study programme is).

Please note that each application is assessed on an individual financial assessment needs to access education, students are not automatically entitled and you are not guaranteed to receive the funding.

To be eligible you must be aged 16-18 as of the 31 August 2025 and in one of the following categories:

Who can apply?

Eligible students must:

- in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit – as they are financially supporting themselves and/or someone who is dependent on them and living with them such as a child
- LAC or PLAC (including unaccompanied asylum-seeking students)
- in receipt of both Disability Living Allowance/PIP (Personal Independence Payment) **AND** Employment Support Allowance

Terms and Conditions

How do I apply?

- You must complete a Student Learning Fund 2025/2026 online Application Form. This can be found on our website **cityplym.ac.uk** or by using the link <https://cityplym.paymystudent.com/portal/>.
- Please upload the required evidence as requested on the application form, this must be as a download. If you are having difficulty uploading your evidence you can email it to studentlearningfund@cityplym.ac.uk. For full household income requirements to support your application can be found [here](#)
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- You can apply for the Student Bursary 2025/2026 from early June 2025, from this time applications may take up to 6 weeks to be fully processed.
- Awards are not backdated and only valid from Date of the assessment and confirmed by your award letter date
- Travel is awarded to student who live more than 3 miles from Campus, contribution travel support is calculated @ £0.45 per mile excluding 1st 3 miles
- Equipment reimbursement must be supported with a valid receipt emailed to studentlearningfund@cityply.ac.uk – providing your student ID & DOB & Postcode in the Subject bar to avoid any delays in payment
- City College reserves the right to ask for household income at any point within current year application to ensure eligibility
- Payments will be made from October 24th

Student Learning Fund for 19+ Year Olds

This fund provides 'in-kind' help to eligible students aged 19+ (as of 31 August 2025) with a number of course-related costs, such as, equipment, uniform, travel, meal support, IT equipment and childcare*.

You may also be eligible for help if you are receiving the Advanced Learner Loan.

Students on an Apprenticeship or Higher Education course will not be eligible.

If you are aged under 20 at the start date of your course you can apply for help with childcare costs you can apply through the Student Learning Fund

Who can apply?

Eligible students must:

- be enrolled on a full or part-time course funded by the Government
- be aged 19 or over as of 31 August 2025
- be aged 19 or over and be fully approved for the maximum Advanced Learner Loan
- have good attendance
- have a household income of less than £50,000

Terms and Conditions

How do I apply?

- You must complete a Student Learning Fund 2025/2026 online Application Form. This can be found on our website **cityplym.ac.uk** or by using the link <https://cityplym.paymystudent.com/portal/>.
- Please upload the required evidence as requested on the application form, this must be as a download. If you are having difficulty uploading your evidence you can email it to studentlearningfund@cityplym.ac.uk. For full household income requirements to support your application can be found [here](#)
- Application forms will not be assessed if supporting evidence is not provided.
- You can apply for the Student Bursary 2025/2026 from early June 2025, from this time applications may take up to 6 weeks to be fully processed.
- Awards are not backdated and only valid from Date of the assessment and confirmed by your award letter date
- **Childcare – costs can be reimbursed via student learning fund by providing paid invoices**
- Travel is awarded to student who live more than 3 miles from Campus, contribution travel support is calculated @ £0.45 per mile excluding 1st 3 miles
- Equipment reimbursement must be supported with a valid receipt emailed to studentlearningfund@cityply.ac.uk – providing your student ID & DOB & Postcode in the Subject bar to avoid any delays in payment
- City College reserves the right to ask for household income at any point within current year application to ensure eligibility
- Payments will be made from October 24th

Student Learning Fund for HE Students

This fund provides a grant of £1000 for full time students or £500 for part time students

Who can apply?

Eligible students must:

- be enrolled on a HE full or part-time course
- have good attendance
- have a household income of less than £25,000

Terms and Conditions

How do I apply?

- You must complete a HE Grant 2025/2026 online Application Form. This can be found on our website **cityplym.ac.uk** or by using the link <https://cityplym.paymystudent.com/portal/>.
- Please upload the required evidence as requested on the application form, this must be as a download. If you are having difficulty uploading your evidence you can email it to studentlearningfund@cityplym.ac.uk. For full household income requirements to support your application can be found [here](#)
- Application forms will not be assessed if supporting evidence is not provided.
- You can apply for the HE Grant 2025/2026 from early June 2025, from this time applications may take up to 6 weeks to be fully processed.
- Awards are not backdated and only valid from Date of the assessment and confirmed by your award letter date
- Payments will be made from October 24th

Emergencies

Any student with exceptional hardship or emergency needs can apply for financial assistance to enable you to remain at the College.

This is normally a one-off support payment or very short-term support. **It cannot be used to substitute state benefits or living costs.**

This support offered is for College related items

Attendance

To receive financial support from any of the national schemes or any other funds from the College, you must attend 100% of your classes. Failure to achieve 80% attendance will lead to the non-payment of assistance the following week/month/term.

1. For the Student Learning fund 16-18 – checked weekly
2. For the Student Learning fund 19+ - checked weekly
3. Childcare and Care to Learn schemes this will be checked on a monthly basis.
4. The Residential Support Scheme – Checked on a termly basis
5. Bus Pass awards will be checked weekly/Monthly

Withdrawals

If you withdraw from your course you will not receive further financial assistance. You will also have to repay any financial assistance you have been awarded and pay any outstanding fees

Appeals

- If your assistance is stopped or withdrawn due to poor attendance then you have the right to appeal. You should appeal to the Student Funding Officer in writing, explaining the circumstance as to why support should be reinstated providing as much information as possible.
- If you believe your student funding application has not been assessed correctly, you do not receive a grant or you are not happy with the level of support allocated, you can appeal. Appeals should be made in writing and addressed to **Appeals, Student Funding Office, City College Plymouth, Kings Road, Devonport, Plymouth, PL1 5QG** or email studentlearningfund@cityplym.ac.uk.
- If, for any reason, you are not happy with the outcome of the appeal, please let us know in writing to: **Head of Finance, City College Plymouth, Kings Road, Devonport, Plymouth, PL1 5QG** or studentlearningfund@cityplym.ac.uk.
- You can only appeal once regarding a specific situation. If your appeal is declined, you are unable to re-appeal for the same reason again, unless you can provide new additional information to support your case. The appeal decision is final.
- If you are unhappy with the decision of the Head of Finance you can make use of the College's formal complaints procedure.

Further Student Funding Conditions

- If you enrol and your Student Funding application is unsuccessful, you will have to pay your course-related costs in full.
- If you withdraw from your course/study programme, you will have to repay your payments received in full and your bus pass will be deactivated with immediate effect.
- You must supply all necessary evidence with your application. Your application cannot be assessed without it.
- You will need to make a new application for each academic year.
- You will not receive funding if you have outstanding debts to the College or your household income is above the thresholds stated.
- Travel payments are calculated at £0.45 per mile and per day in college – First 3 miles are excluded from any calculations for travel
- Childcare is claimed via Student Learning Fund for reimbursement only
- All student funding schemes are closely monitored and reviewed accordingly, therefore all schemes may be subject to change at any point throughout the academic year.
- Payments will be made from October 24th

All guidance and eligibility criteria mentioned in this guide are correct at the time of print, but the Student Funding team reserve the right to amend any of this information during the academic year following government changes to eligibility criteria