

THE 16 – 19 VULNERABLE BURSARY FUND

The 16 – 19 Vulnerable Bursary is an element of the 16-19 Bursary Fund for Students that are most in need and unlikely to be receiving financial assistance from parents or carers.

Students who are not eligible for this part of the fund should check their eligibility for the 16-19 Bursary Fund instead.

WHAT IS THE VULNERABLE BURSARY?

Students most in need may be eligible to receive a bursary of up-to £1,200 a year depending on financial need.

The defined vulnerable groups are students who are:

aged 16 – 18 years of age and

- in care
- care leavers
- receiving Income Support, or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them such as a child or partner
- receiving Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own right as well as Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit in their own right

Students who meet the criteria of the Vulnerable Bursary will not automatically be entitled to an award, an assessment of their course and financial need will be carried out by the Financial Support Fund Panel and if a financial need can be evidenced, then an award of up-to £1200.00 for the year may be made.

WHAT INFORMATION IS REQUIRED WHEN I SUBMIT MY FORM?

(Applicants will need to include *photocopies only – online or paper copies* – of the following evidence)

For students in Care/ Care Leavers

- written confirmation of your current or previous looked-after status from the relevant local authority – this is the local authority that looks after you or provides your leaving care services. The evidence could be a letter or an email but must be clearly from the local authority

For students in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit in their own name

- a copy of your Income Support or UC award notice. This must clearly state that the claim is in your (the student's name) and confirm they are entitled to the benefits in their own right. The evidence must not state any conditions that prevent you from participating in further education or training.
- for students in receipt of UC, institutions must also see a tenancy agreement in the your name, a child benefit receipt, children's birth certificates, utility bills and so on

For students in receipt of Universal Credit or ESA **and** Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments

- for students receiving UC/ESA and Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Payments, a copy of your UC claim from DWP. Evidence of receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment must also be provided

HOW DO I APPLY?

To help make it easier for you (and us) to establish if you would be eligible for funding support from one of our Bursaries, we ask that you complete the funding checker below. This form will then tell you which fund you may be eligible for, what support that fund covers and it will also generate an evidence checklist based on the answers you provide. We advise you not to complete an application form until you have collated the mandatory evidence.

Once you have completed the quiz you can download the relevant Bursary fact files too so you know which fund you may qualify for, how we assess it and what the next steps are.

[BLC Financial Support Checker - 2021/22 \(Students who are due to start with us in September 2021/ January 2022\)](#)