



1. Student Funding

Students under 18 years of age

(NC, SVQ, NQ, PDA, INT 1, INT2, Access, Prepare For, NPA, IMI, Step Into)

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- Under 18 years of age on the start date of the course
- Living with parents or legal guardians
- Have no dependent children

Fully completed applications with all supporting documents must be received within 4 weeks of the start date of the course. Please be advised your award will only be calculated from the date your application is deemed complete.

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Ayr Campus - studentfunding_ayr@ayrshire.ac.uk
Kilmarnock Campus - studentfunding_kilmarnock@ayrshire.ac.uk
Kilwinning Campus - studentfunding_kilwinning@ayrshire.ac.uk
All Campuses Tel: 01563 495 033

Students under 18 years of age

Circumstance:	May be considered for:	Documents required:	Information required:
No parental income declared or income more than £24,421 <i>(applies to those with only 1 dependent child in household)</i> or £26,884 <i>(applies to those with more than 1 dependent child in household)</i> <i>(residency rules apply)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fees Paid ✓ Travel Allowance** ✓ Study Materials 	<input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or valid Passport	<input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details
Parental income less than £24,421 <i>(applies to those with only 1 dependent child in household)</i> or £26,884 <i>(applies to those with more than 1 dependent child in household)</i> <i>(residency rules apply)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance) ✓ Travel Allowance** ✓ Study Materials ✓ Fees Paid 	<input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or valid Passport <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits <input type="radio"/> Council Tax Notice <input type="radio"/> Parent(s) P60	<input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details <input type="radio"/> Household Income Figures

- Ayrshire College operates an online bursary funding application
- You will be invited to apply by text/email once interviewed and offered a place on a course
- Documents requested must be uploaded into your online application account (staff support is available if required).

**Young people aged under 22 years, who live in Scotland for at least 6 months a year, can apply for a free bus pass. Travel costs will only be awarded in exceptional circumstances.



2. Student Funding

Allowed to remain on benefits

(NC, SVQ, NQ, PDA, INT 1, INT2, Access, Prepare For, NPA, IMI, Step Into)

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In receipt of and allowed to remain on a government benefit such as Income Support or Employment Support Allowance

Fully completed applications with all supporting documents must be received within 4 weeks of the start date of the course. Please be advised your award will only be calculated from the date your application is deemed complete.

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Kilwinning Campus - studentfunding_kilwinning@ayrshire.ac.uk

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Allowed to remain on benefits

Circumstance:	May be considered for:	Documents required:	Information required:
Aged under 19 years old and in receipt of a government benefit (residency rules apply)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) ✓ Fees Paid ✓ Travel Allowance** ✓ Study Materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or valid Passport <input type="radio"/> Letter from Department of Work and Pensions detailing benefits received (income) <input type="radio"/> Council Tax Notice <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits (if applicable) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Proof of your income <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details
Over 19 years of age and in receipt of a government benefit (residency and previous study rules apply)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fees Paid ✓ Travel Allowance** ✓ Study Materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or valid Passport <input type="radio"/> Letter from Department of Work and Pensions detailing benefits received (income) <input type="radio"/> Council Tax Notice <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits (if applicable) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Proof of your income <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details

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- Documents requested must be uploaded into your online application account (staff support is available if required).

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3.

3. Student Funding

Independent Student

(NC, SVQ, NQ, PDA, INT 1, INT2, Access, Prepare For, NPA, IMI, Step Into)

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- Single and aged 25 years and over
- Under 25 years of age but have supported self financially for 3 years
- Have a dependent child
- Are officially estranged from parent(s)

Fully completed applications with all supporting documents must be received within 4 weeks of the start date of the course. Please be advised your award will only be calculated from the date your application is deemed complete.

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Independent Student

Circumstance:	May be considered for:	Documents required:	Information required:
Independent Student (<i>residency and previous study rules apply</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fees Paid ✓ Maximum Weekly Payment of £125.55 ✓ Travel Allowance** ✓ Study Materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate <input type="radio"/> Proof of Income (<i>3 years evidence required if single and aged under 25 years</i>) <input type="radio"/> Council Tax Notice <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits (<i>if applicable</i>) <input type="radio"/> Child's Birth Certificate (<i>if applicable</i>) <input type="radio"/> Proof of estrangement (<i>if applicable</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Proof of your income <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details

Student's weekly unearned income	Weekly maintenance estimate
Less than £24.19	£125.55
£35.00	£114.74
£75.00	£74.74
£110.00	£39.74

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- Documents requested must be uploaded into your online application account (staff support is available if required).

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4. Student Funding

HNC/HND Courses

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Funding for HNC/D level courses is subject to certain qualifying criteria as defined by the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS). This includes residency requirements, parental/spouse income and any previous funding received.

College issue Higher Education Childcare and Higher Education Discretionary Applications

Fully completed applications with all supporting documents must be received within 4 weeks of the start date of the course. Please be advised your award will only be calculated from the date your application is deemed complete.

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HNC/HND Courses

Type of course:	Fees Paid:	Student Loan Full-time	Lone Parent Grant	Independent Student Bursary	Part-Time Fee Grant	Young Students Bursary	HE Discretionary Fund (DF) Childcare Fund (CF)
Student (Part-time)	✓ ●●				✓		DF
Student under 25 - ● parentally supported (Full-time)	✓ ●●●	✓				✓	DF
Student over 25 (or under 25 and self supporting) (Full-time)	✓ ●●●	✓		✓			DF
Student lone parent - above compulsory school leaving age (16+) (Full-time)	✓ ●●●	✓	✓	✓			DF CF
Married/co-habiting/civil partnership with children (Full-time)	✓ ●●●	✓		✓			DF CF
Care Experienced, looked after or accommodated (Full-time)	✓	✓ Special Support Loan only	✓	✓ Care Experienced Bursary			DF CF

- A parentally supported student is one who is under 25 and lives with parent(s)/your parent and your parents partner
- Fees will only be paid if eligible for a fee waiver. For further details please contact our Finance Team on 0300 303 0303
- Applicable if no previous fee support received. If you have previously received tuition fee support from SAAS you may need to pay fees for further courses

Note: Apply for the Part-Time Fee Grant online at www.saas.gov.uk. First time applicants must create a SAAS Account. Returning users should log in to their existing account where you will get the option to apply. Further information is available on the SAAS website at www.saas.gov.uk. Contact number **0300 555 0505**



5. Student Funding

Part-time

(NC, SVQ, NQ, PDA, INT 1, INT2, Access, Prepare For, NPA, IMI, Step Into)

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This quick guide offers funding information to students who are studying at Ayrshire College on a part-time basis

Fully completed applications with all supporting documents must be received within 4 weeks of the start date of the course. Please be advised your award will only be calculated from the date your application is deemed complete.

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All Campuses Tel: 01563 495 033

Circumstance:	May be considered for:	Documents required:	Information required:
Students over 19 years with low Household Income studying on a non-advanced course on a part-time basis (<i>residency and previous study rules apply</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fees Paid (<i>subject to fee waiver policy</i>) • Travel Allowance** • Study Materials • Childcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or Valid Passport <input type="radio"/> Confirmation of Fee Waiver (<i>Funding staff would normally seek confirmation internally from our Finance Team</i>) If applying for childcare assistance then you will also be required to submit: (<i>formal registered Childcare only</i>) <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits <input type="radio"/> Birth Certificates for children who are financially dependent on you <input type="radio"/> Timetable <input type="radio"/> Statement of Hours Form <input type="radio"/> Council Tax Notice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details <input type="radio"/> Proof of your Income
Students between 16 and 19 years on a part-time fundable course and the parental income is less than £24,421 (<i>applies to those with only 1 dependent child in household</i>) or £26,884 (<i>applies to those with more than 1 dependent child in household, residency rules apply</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMA (<i>Education Maintenance Allowance</i>) • Fees Paid • Study Materials • Childcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or Valid Passport <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits <input type="radio"/> Council Tax Notice <input type="radio"/> Parents(s) P60 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details <input type="radio"/> Household Income Figures

- Ayrshire College operates an online funding application

- You will be invited to apply by text/email once interviewed and offered a place on a course

- Documents requested must be uploaded into your online application account (staff support is available if required)

**Young people aged under 22 years, who live in Scotland for at least 6 months a year, can apply for a free bus pass. Travel costs will only be awarded in exceptional circumstances.

- Date published: June 2025. All information is correct at time of print, however, may be subject to change.



6. Student Funding

Parentally Supported

(NC, SVQ, NO, PDA, INT 1, INT2, Access, Prepare For, NPA, IMI, Step Into)

- Between 18 and 24 years of age on the start date of the course
- Not living with a partner
- Do not have any dependent children
- Have not supported self financially for 3 full years

Fully completed applications with all supporting documents must be received within 4 weeks of the start date of the course. Please be advised your award will only be calculated from the date your application is deemed complete.

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Parentally Supported

Circumstance:	May be considered for:	Documents required:	Information required:
Aged between 18 and 24 years of age (<i>residency and previous study rules apply</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fees Paid ✓ Maximum weekly payment of £99.35* ✓ Travel Allowance** ✓ Study Materials <p><i>*Students who are deemed parentally supported but who have their own tenancy may be considered for a higher rate of bursary maintenance.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or Valid Passport <input type="radio"/> Parent(s) P60's or proof of Benefits Letter*** <input type="radio"/> Council Tax Notice <input type="radio"/> Proof of student income (<i>payslip or P45</i>) <input type="radio"/> Sibling's Birth Certificate (<i>if applicable</i>) <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits (<i>if applicable</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Student's Income <input type="radio"/> Parental Household Income*** <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details <p><i>***This also applies to a student's legal guardian where the parent is not legally responsible.</i></p>
Yearly Household Income:	Weekly maintenance when student is only dependant	Weekly maintenance with 1 other dependent child in house	Weekly maintenance with 1 other dependent student in house
£24,274	£99.35	£99.35	£99.35
£28,000	£88.68	£92.21	£94.01
£35,000	£70.59	£74.13	£84.97
£45,000	£44.75	£48.29	£72.05

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- You will be invited to apply by text/email once interviewed and offered a place on a course
- Documents requested must be uploaded into your online application account (staff support is available if required)

**Young people aged under 22 years, who live in Scotland for at least 6 months a year, can apply for a free bus pass. Travel costs will only be awarded in exceptional circumstances.



7. Student Funding

Married / Established Relationship

(NC, SVQ, NQ, PDA, INT 1, INT2, Access, Prepare For, NPA, IMI, Step Into)

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➤ Married

➤ Living with a partner
in an established relationship

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All Campuses Tel: 01563 495 033

Married / Established Relationship

Circumstance:	May be considered for:	Documents required:	Information required:
Married or living with a partner in an established relationship (<i>residency and previous study rules apply</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fees Paid ✓ Maximum weekly payment of £125.55 ✓ Travel Allowance** ✓ Study Materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or Valid Passport <input type="radio"/> Joint Council Tax Notice <input type="radio"/> Joint Universal Credits (<i>if applicable</i>) <input type="radio"/> Partner's P60 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Proof of your income <input type="radio"/> Proof of partner's income <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details
Married or living with a partner in an established relationship with children. (<i>residency and previous study rules apply</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fees Paid ✓ Maximum weekly payment of £125.55 ✓ Travel Allowance** ✓ Study Materials ✓ Childcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or Valid Passport <input type="radio"/> Joint Council Tax Notice <input type="radio"/> Joint Universal Credits (<i>if applicable</i>) <input type="radio"/> Partner's P60 <input type="radio"/> Children's Birth Certificates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Education <input type="radio"/> Proof of your income <input type="radio"/> Proof of partner's income <input type="radio"/> Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Travel Details
Yearly Household Income:	Weekly maintenance when no dependants	Weekly maintenance with 1 dependent child in house	Weekly maintenance with 1 other dependent student in house
£20,643	£125.55	£125.55	£125.55
£27,000	£108.08	£111.61	£116.81
£35,000	£87.41	£90.94	£106.48
£45,000	£61.57	£65.10	£93.56

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- You will be invited to apply by text/email once interviewed and offered a place on a course
- Documents requested must be uploaded into your online application account (staff support is available if required)

**Young people aged under 22 years, who live in Scotland for at least 6 months a year, can apply for a free bus pass. Travel costs will only be awarded in exceptional circumstances.

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8. Student Funding

Childcare Funding

(NC, SVQ, NQ, PDA, INT 1, INT2, Access, Prepare For, NPA, IMI, Step Into)

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This quick guide offers information for students who would like to apply for assistance with formal childcare costs and fall into the following categories:

- Must have dependent child
- Must have completed a Further Education funding application
- Must be paying for registered childcare costs to allow you to attend college as per your agreed timetable or for placement days that are a mandatory part of your course

Fully completed applications with all supporting documents must be received within 4 weeks of the start date of the course. Please be advised your award will only be calculated from the date your application is deemed complete.

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Childcare Funding

Circumstance:	Eligibility:	Documents required:	Information required:
Married or living with a partner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Must have completed Further Education funding application ✓ Must have formal registered Childcare costs as per your college timetable or for placement days that are a mandatory part of your course. ✓ Partner must be employed and unavailable to look after children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth certificate <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits <input type="radio"/> Child(rens) birth certificate(s) <input type="radio"/> Household Income e.g. P60 <input type="radio"/> College Timetable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Childcare Providers Details <input type="radio"/> College statement of hours <input type="radio"/> Childcare Provider's Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Completed Declaration signed by both Childcare Provider and Student
Lone parent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Must have completed Further Education funding application ✓ Must have formal registered Childcare costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth certificate <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits <input type="radio"/> Child(rens) birth certificate(s) <input type="radio"/> Council Tax Notice showing single occupancy <input type="radio"/> College Timetable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Childcare Providers Details <input type="radio"/> College statement of hours <input type="radio"/> Childcare Providers Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Completed Declaration signed by both Childcare Provider and Student

Gross Annual Income	College to pay % of calculated award	
£50,977 or less	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ayrshire College operates an online childcare funding application • Once offered place on a course you will be invited to apply by text/email as soon as system applications open • Documents requested must be uploaded into your online account. Assistance is available to help with this process if required
£50,978 or more	0%	



9. Student Funding

Childcare Funding

(HNC and HND)

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This quick guide offers information for students who would like to apply for assistance with formal childcare costs and fall into the following categories:

- Must have dependent child
- Must have applied for all available support from Student Award Agency Scotland (SAAS) including Student Loan and supplementary grants
- Must be paying for registered childcare costs to allow you to attend college as per your agreed timetable or for placement days that are a mandatory part of your course
- Must meet the eligibility criteria for Tuition Fees to be considered for assistance from the childcare fund. Lone parents can be considered for the Lone Parent Childcare Grant even if they are not eligible for Tuition Fee Support

Fully completed applications with all supporting documents must be received within 4 weeks of the start date of the course. Please be advised your award will only be calculated from the date your application is deemed complete.

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Childcare Funding

Circumstance:	Eligibility:	Documents required:	Information required:
Married or living with a partner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Must be eligible for Tuition Fee Support ✓ Must have applied for Student Loan and Supplementary Grants ✓ Must have formal registered Childcare costs as per your college timetable or placement days that are mandatory ✓ Partner must be employed and unavailable to look after children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth certificate <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits <input type="radio"/> Child(rens) birth certificate(s) <input type="radio"/> Household Income e.g. P60 <input type="radio"/> College Timetable <input type="radio"/> SAAS Award Letter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Childcare Provider's Details <input type="radio"/> College statement of hours <input type="radio"/> Childcare Provider's Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Completed Declaration signed by both Childcare Provider and Student
Lone parent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Must have applied for Tuition Fees and Lone Parent Grant ✓ Must have formal registered Childcare costs as per your College timetable or for placement days that are a mandatory part of your course ✓ Must be eligible for Tuition Fee Support otherwise eligible for Lone Parent Childcare Grant only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Birth certificate <input type="radio"/> Universal Credits <input type="radio"/> SAAS Award Letter <input type="radio"/> Child(rens) birth certificate(s) <input type="radio"/> Household Income e.g. P60 <input type="radio"/> College Timetable <input type="radio"/> Council tax award notice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Personal Details <input type="radio"/> Childcare Provider's Details <input type="radio"/> College statement of hours <input type="radio"/> Childcare Provider's Bank Details <input type="radio"/> Completed Declaration signed by both Childcare Provider and Student

Gross Annual Income	College to pay % of calculated award	
£50,977 or less	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ayrshire College operates an online childcare funding application • Once offered place on a course you will be invited to apply by text/email as soon as system applications open • Documents requested must be uploaded into your online account. Assistance is available to help with this process if required
£50,978 or more	0%	



10. Student Funding

Funding Quick Guide

(NC, SVQ, NQ, PDA, INT 1, INT2, Access, Prepare For, NPA, IMI, Step Into)

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This quick guide shows at a glance what Further Education (FE) Funding is available and who can apply.

Funding is subject to certain qualifying criteria as defined by Scottish Funding Council policies with regard to Further Education Funds. This includes residency requirements, parental/partner/spouse income and any previous funding received.

If you have previously received student funding support for either a further or higher education course then you may initially be refused funding.

Please check with the Student Funding Team at the relevant campus to determine if you are eligible.

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Funding Quick Guide

This quick guide shows types of funding and who can apply

Student Age/ Support	Type of Course	Fees Paid	Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA)	FE Bursary Fund	FE Discretionary Fund	FE Childcare
16 - 17	Full-time	✓	✓	✓ •	✓	✓
	Part-time ****	✓ •••	✓			
Under 25 & Parentally supported ••	Full-time	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Part-time ****	✓ •••		✓ •	✓	✓
Over 25 or under 25 & self supporting	Full-time	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Part-time ****	✓ •••		✓ •	✓	✓

• Travel** and course expenses only

•• A parentally supported student is one who is single and under 25 and has not self supported financially for 3 years and/or has no dependent children.

••• You may qualify for Fee Waiver

•••• Must be a part-time fundable course

- For further details regarding Fee Waiver please contact our Finance Team on 0300 303 0303
- Further detailed information and guidance is available on our college website
<https://www1.ayrshire.ac.uk/college-life/student-funding-and-money-support/funding-quickguides>
- Staff are also available on each campus if you need to speak to someone

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11. Student Funding

Student eligible to apply for the Care Experienced Bursary

(NC, SVQ, NQ, PDA, INT 1, INT2, Access, Prepare For, NPA, IMI, Step Into)

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The terms Care Experienced, Care Leaver and Looked After refer to people who have experience of being in care at any time of their lives (*regardless of current age*) or who are currently looked after. It includes any student who is under the care of the Local Authority, including (but not limited to) where the care is being provided in the student's own home, in their parent(s) home, in the home of relatives, in a foster home, a care home or a residential unit.

Students who fall into one of the following categories should disclose this within their online funding application as soon as they apply for funding.

In Foster Care, Kinship Care
(*as a result of a compulsory supervision order*), **Residential Care, Compulsory**

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Note: Students in informal - non-compulsory care arrangements who are not looked after under the meaning of the relevant legislation, will now be considered for funding as Care Experienced where social work services have been involved.

Supervision Order with no condition of residence (*Looked after at home*) ,
Compulsory Supervision Order with a condition of residence (*Looked after away from home*)

The Care Experienced Bursary is a non-means tested award. It is however important that any student in receipt of government benefit explores the potential impact that the Care Experienced award may have on any existing entitlement. We will always aim to provide the most beneficial outcome.

Students must be beyond their statutory school leaving date and meet residency requirements to be considered for Bursary support.

Student eligible to apply for the Care Experienced Bursary

Eligibility: <i>(residency and previous study rules apply)</i>	Documents required:	Information required:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Fees Paid✓ £225.00 weekly allowance✓ Travel Allowance**✓ Study Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Birth Certificate or Passport<input type="radio"/> Letter from social worker confirming care experienced status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Personal Details<input type="radio"/> Education<input type="radio"/> Proof of your income<input type="radio"/> Bank Details<input type="radio"/> Travel Details

- Ayrshire College operates an online bursary funding application
- You will be invited to apply by text/email once interviewed and offered a place on a course
- Documents requested must be uploaded into your online application account (staff support is available if required).

**Young people aged under 22 years, who live in Scotland for at least 6 months a year, can apply for a free bus pass. Travel costs will only be awarded in exceptional circumstances.

Students eligible for the Care Experienced Bursary can also apply for additional financial support through our Discretionary Fund and/or Childcare Fund (if required)

Date published: June 2025. All information is correct at time of print, however, may be subject to change.

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