



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)

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