

# Meals Support

## Further information and additional eligibility criteria

The college offers four meal support schemes.

- Free College Meals Scheme
- 16-18 Meals Support Scheme
- 16-18 Extended Bursary
- Care Leavers' Support Fund

Eligible students will receive a maximum allowance of £4.50 per day from the date eligibility is confirmed and the Financial Support Team have received confirmation you have enrolled and have started your course. Support is only available on the days you attend a timetabled lesson at one of our college sites, or attend a timetabled college organised trip or placement (other rules apply).

If you attend Lincoln College (Monks Road Campus) or Newark College (including Newark ASI) you will access your allowance via your student ID card.

You can use your meal allowance at any time throughout the day whilst our catering facilities are open e.g.:

- to purchase a breakfast, or
- to purchase a main meal at lunchtime, or
- to purchase a sandwich, Meal Deal, or nutritional snack.

If you attend a different college site you will be notified in your award email/letter how you will receive your allowance.

Whilst there are no legal requirements to offer meals support to students who aren't eligible for Free College Meals, where budgets permit, support towards meals through one of the other three schemes identified in this help sheet may be provided.

Fund	General Eligibility Criteria - (Other Rules Apply)	Additional Information
<b>Free College Meals</b> (DfE Free Meals in Further Education)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You live in a household where you, your parent(s), guardian(s) or foster carer(s) are in receipt Universal Credit (Other rules apply).</li> <li>• You receive support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999</li> <li>• Households in receipt of Income-related Employment and Support Allowance or the guarantee element of Pension Credit may also be entitled to a meal.</li> </ul>	For students aged 16, 17 or 18 on 31st August 2026, or aged between 19-24 on the 31st August 2026 and either subject to an EHCP, or aged 19 and studying on the exact same programme you started before you turned 19.
<b>16-18 Meal Support Scheme</b> (DfE 16 to 19 Bursary Fund)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You live in a household where your parent(s), guardian(s) or foster carer(s) receive Universal Credit, and the total annual net income (assessed earnings and the Universal Credit payment) does not exceed £48,000 per year, or</li> <li>• whose assessed gross household income is less than £48,000 per year, or</li> <li>• You live in a household where your parent(s), guardian(s) or foster carer(s) receive the guarantee element of Pension Credit</li> </ul>	For students aged 16, 17 or 18 on 31st August 2026.
<b>16-18 Extended Bursary</b> (DfE 16 to 19 Bursary Fund)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You are in Local Authority Care or a Care Leaver</li> <li>• You receive Universal Credit in your own name and are financially supporting yourself (or financially supporting yourself and someone who is dependent on you and living with you, such as a child or partner), or</li> <li>• You receive Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment and Universal Credit in your own name</li> </ul>	For students aged 16, 17 or 18 on 31st August 2026.
<b>Care Leavers' Support Fund</b> (Part of the GLCCA Adult Skills Fund)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You are a Care Leaver and reside within the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority area (GLCCA), and</li> <li>• Enrolled on a programme of learning of at least 60 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) funded by the GLCCA.</li> </ul>	For students aged 19 or over and under 25 on 31 August 2026.