

LEARNER SUPPORT FUND

Learner Support Fund Eligibility Criteria

To receive assistance from the College Learner Support Funds you must meet the Department for Education (DfE) or East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) residency rules and our financial support eligibility criteria shown below.

If you are aged 16-18 on the 31st August 2025

To receive support you must live in a household where your parents/guardians gross household income is below £45,000 pa or they are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Support
- Universal Credit - but only where assessed annual net earnings when added to your Universal Credit monthly payments do not exceed £45,000 pa
- Employment Support Allowance
- Pension Credit – Guarantee Credit
- Working Tax Credit/Child Tax Credit - but only where Total Income added to your Tax Credit award for the period shown on your most recent HMRC Award Notice for 2025/2026 is less than £45,000 pa.

Please note, support will not be given if any of the evidence submitted shows that there is not a financial need or savings and/or any Investments exceed £16,000.

Your parent(s)/guardian(s) may also be required to sign an income/savings and investments declaration and may also be requested to provide further evidence e.g. a bank statement.

Other rules may apply. Rules and criteria may be subject to amendment or deletion without prior notice.

If you are aged 19 or over on the 31st August 2025

If you do not receive any of the benefits shown above, you may qualify for help with course related costs and travel costs if you:

- live with your parents, do not receive benefits, and your gross income is less than £15,000 per year, or
- live independently as a single person, do not receive benefits and your gross income is less than £30,000 per year, or
- live with a partner, do not receive benefits and your gross household income is less than £45,000 per year.

You (and where applicable your partner) may be required to sign an income/savings and investments declaration and may also be requested to provide further evidence e.g. a bank statement.

Please note, support will not be given if any of the evidence submitted shows that there is not a financial need or savings and/or any Investments exceed £16,000.

Other rules may apply. Rules and criteria may be subject to amendment or deletion without prior notice.

