

Financial Support For Full Time Students 16-18 Years

2015/16

**Your guide to the funds
available to help you study
at
West Lancashire College**

WLMA (West Lancashire Maintenance Allowance)

To be eligible for WLMA you must:

- Be enrolled at West Lancashire College on a full-time FE funded course (excludes New Deal and Apprenticeships)
- Be at least 16 but under 19 years of age on 31 August 2015
- Dependant member of a household receiving benefits (excluding Child Tax Credit)
- Have a gross family income of no more than £20,817 or £12,400 if you live as a single independent person
- Have been resident in England or Wales for the last three years (unless you were here only for study) or be an Asylum seeker aged 16-18, and have a permanent address in England or Wales (regrettably learners living in Scotland or Northern Ireland are not eligible)

WLMA may be able to assist you with:

- Course related costs (books, materials, equipment)
- Travel to college

Payments will start 6 weeks from the start of your course, once registers are activated.

Meal Allowance

To be eligible for Free Meal Allowance you must:

- Be enrolled at West Lancashire College on a full-time FE funded course (excludes New Deal and Apprenticeships)
- Be at least 16 but under 19 years of age on 31 August 2015
- Be a student or parent/guardian in receipt of income support, income-based JSA, income-related ESA, the guarantee element of state pension credit or support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Be a parent/guardian in receipt of Child Tax Credit (provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Be part of the initial roll out of Universal Credit
- Have been resident in England or Wales for the last three years (unless you were here only for study) or be an Asylum seeker aged 16-18, and have a permanent address in England or Wales (regrettably learners living in Scotland or Northern Ireland are not eligible).



Young Persons' Bursary

To be eligible for Young Persons' Bursary you must:

- Be an independent young person (aged 16-18) and in receipt of income support, in care/ care leaver, or in receipt of DLA & ESA/Universal Credit.

When your application for this fund is successful, West Lancashire College must then apply for funding on your behalf to central government. This may unfortunately add delays to the application process and we ask for your patience with this.

Travel Support – Arriva Bus Pass

To be eligible for a Free Arriva Bus Pass you must:

- Be enrolled at West Lancashire College on a full-time FE funded course (excludes New Deal and Apprenticeships)
- Have a passport sized photograph

Be on an Arriva bus route and need a bus to get to college

Free College Bus Service

To be eligible for a Free College Bus Service you must:

- Be enrolled at West Lancashire College on a full-time FE funded course (excludes New Deal and Apprenticeships)

Live on the free college bus route Kirkby, Aintree and Maghull areas - see timetable

If you do not live on an Arriva bus route, or cannot access the free College bus service, Learner support funds may be able to assist you, in exceptional circumstances. (See over-leaf).



Discretionary Learner Support Fund (dLSF)

To be eligible for assistance for Learner Support Funds you must:

- be an enrolled learner at West Lancashire College on an FE funded course (unfortunately New Deal learners and learners on an Apprenticeship are not eligible) – if you are a Higher Education learner ask at the Learner Gateway about the Access to Learning Fund (ALF)
- have been resident in England or Wales for the last three years (unless you were here **only** for study) or be an Asylum seeker aged 16 – 18, and have a permanent address in England or Wales (regrettably learners living in Scotland or Northern Ireland are not eligible)
- have a gross family income of less than £20,817 or £12,400 if you live as a single independent person.

Learner Support Funds may be able to assist you with **Course related costs such as** text books, materials, equipment, a uniform or for study visits, where these would be considered beneficial to your participation & development on your course.

Emergencies

A small proportion of Learner Support Funds are set aside for genuine financial emergencies. If you think you need emergency support, it may not be necessary to complete an application form at this stage. Please contact Learner Gateway to discuss this in more detail.

Care to Learn (C2L)

You can get Care to Learn if:

- you're a parent under 20 at the start of your course
- you're the main carer for your child
- you live in England
- you're either a British citizen or a national of a European Economic Area (EEA) country
- your course qualifies – please ask in Learner Gateway
- your childcare provider is registered with Ofsted

If you have any further queries please contact:

**Learner Gateway Team, College Way, Skelmersdale, Lancashire,
WN8 6DX (WN8 6LH for SatNav)**

Telephone: 01695 52393

