

Adult Bursary

If you're 19+ and experiencing hardship at the start of the academic year (31 August 2025), we may be able to offer financial support with essential course-related costs.

Funds are limited though, so financial support will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Every application will be assessed for a financial need.

Support categories

We could help with:

- Travel to college
- Essential trips and visits
- Childcare (Ofsted registered)
- Essential kit and equipment
- Essential specialist clothing or uniform

Course eligibility:

Your course must be:

- Funded directly by the ESFA
- Funded by the local authority
- Otherwise publicly funded and leading to a qualification accredited by Ofqual (up to and including Level 3) or on the approved list of qualifications
- A Further Education course or Traineeship
- Part of the King's Trust Programme

Residency eligibility

To be eligible you must be:

- a British citizen who holds a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland passport
- an Irish citizen
- a European Union citizen or a family member of EEA and Swiss workers (resident in the UK before 1 January 2021) with settled status
- a child of Turkish workers where the Turkish worker has been lawfully employed and resident in the UK before 1 January 2021
- a British Dependent Territory Citizen (now known as British Overseas Territory Citizens)

Residency evidence

You must have either:

- a passport, endorsed to show you have right of abode in the UK
- a certificate of naturalisation or registration as a British Citizen or

- a Hong Kong British National (Overseas) (BN(O)) visa who have been given Home Office permission to reside in the UK

Please refer to paragraph 38 to 40 of the funding guide for full listing:

[Advice:fundingregulationsforpost-16provision2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK\(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/advice-funding-regulations-for-post-16-provision-2024-to-2025)

Household income eligibility

The loan bursary is available to eligible students over the age of 20 with a household income of £35,000 or less and offers up to 75% towards the cost of course-related costs, including childcare.

You will normally be assessed on the income of those you live with, students who live:

- with both parents/guardians (or step parent/guardian) will be assessed on the income of both adults combined
- with a lone parent/guardian, will be assessed on the income of that adult
- with somebody else, where that person claims child benefit in respect of the student, will be assessed on the income of that adult(s)
- with a spouse/partner, will also be assessed on the income of that adult.

If you live alone, you may or may not be considered independent:

- if your living costs are being paid by a parent, then you are considered dependent on that parent and will be assessed as outlined above.
- if you meet your living costs in full through work and/or benefits, you will be assessed as independent, and no other income will be considered.

If you live with somebody other than the situations outlined above, applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

If your annual household income is up to £35,000 you could receive 75% towards the costs of travel and essential items.

Household income evidence

You would need to provide the following evidence:

- the last three (or less if claim has been made recently) full Universal Credit statements showing take-home pay and payment
- all pages of a tax credit award notice showing finalised income for 2024/25 and dependants
- P60/last three months or 12 weeks of pay slips
- welfare benefits letter showing current and active claim

- latest verified accounts of self-employment including latest submitted tax return, pension statement and details of income from all other sources such as shares, investments, savings or rental income

Documents provided must be for a named person at the same address.

You're not eligible if you're:

- 19+ and enrolled on an apprenticeship or T Level
- 19+ and enrolled on an HE qualification
- 19+ and classed as an overseas student.

Apply now!

To make an application for financial support in 2025/26, you will need to complete an application on the online

bursary portal called Pay My Student. This is cloud-based, so can be done on any device: PC, laptop, tablet, and mobile phone.

Access to Pay My Student is only available once you have made an application for a course or fully enrolled with the college.

To register and apply for student finance click at <https://COPC.paymystudent.com/portal/>

Still need help?

Contact our friendly and knowledgeable finance support team. Telephone: **023 9421 1980**

Email: bursary@copc.ac.uk