

## APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(16-19 YEAR OLDS, 19-25 YEAR OLDS WITH AN EHCP AND 14-16 YEAR OLDS FOR FSM ONLY)

Academic Year 2020/21

### ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Young people may be eligible to receive financial support from South Tyneside College 16-19 bursary, subject to criteria.

You must be classed as a home student i.e. a permanent UK/EEA residents in order to receive financial support from the fund. Students aged 19 to 24 that have an education, health care plan due to their high needs are also eligible to apply for the 16-19 bursary.

#### GUARANTEED BURSARY

A bursary of up to £1,200 a year is available for eligible students to assist with the cost of travel and meals in the following circumstances where the young person is:

- Living in Care
- A Care Leaver
- Claiming Income Support / Universal Credit in their own right
- In receipt of Employment & Support Allowance (ESA) and Disability Living Allowance (DLA) / Personal Independence Payments (PIP) in their own right

All other 16-19 applications will be subject to a means test. Household income must be below £40,000 in order to be eligible. The types of evidence that are accepted are detailed on the application form.

#### DISCRETIONARY BURSARY

- Network One Travel Vouchers for use on public transport across Tyne & Wear (including weekend travel) – public transport includes bus, Metro and South Shields Ferry (worth up to £633 per year)
- Free School Meals (£2.55 daily allowance - timetable days only. Subject to eligibility criteria)
- Free personal protective equipment and course kits for designated courses
- For Pre-Cadet Marine and North East Sports Academy students a Bursary to help towards halls of residence fees
- Essential kit costs will be paid for designated courses

Travel vouchers will be distributed on a four weekly basis subject to satisfactory attendance (minimum of 90%) progress and conduct at College.

# GUIDANCE NOTES

## ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible for FREE School Meals students and/or their parents must be in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (provide they are not entitled to working Tax Credit) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190 as assessed by her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid 4 weeks after someone stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Universal Credit with net earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400 pa

Students aged 16-18 on 31st August 2020 are entitled to Free School Meals if they meet the above eligibility criteria. Students aged 19 to 24 who meet the above Free School Meals criteria are also eligible to apply if they are subject to a learning difficulty assessment or education, health care plan.

Students studying on a Marine Pre-Cadet or North East Sports Academy course can apply to the bursary for help towards the costs of living in halls of residence. The amount awarded is based upon the number of applications received. Students must be travelling from outside the North East or demonstrate that travelling time on public transport would be more than one hour for a single journey in order for them to attend the course. The residential bursary is only available for the Pre-Cadet course or Sport Academy as it is the only course offered at South Tyneside College or Tyne Metropolitan College for students under 19 where suitable alternative provision could not be found at a college closer to the applicant's home.

Evidence should be no more than 2 months old with the exception of child tax credit/working tax credit, where a full copy of the award notice for 2019/20 needs to be provided. Evidence should be supplied as photocopies as original documentation cannot be returned.

Students must live more than 1 mile away from their main site of study in order to be eligible for travel support. Support will be distributed on a pro-rata basis and are subject to availability.

## CHILDCARE

Students under the age of 20 years old at the start of their course may be eligible for support with costs through Care to Learn visit: [www.gov.uk/care-to-learn](http://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn) for further information

Bursary awards must be activated/collected within 30 working days of official notification otherwise they will be redistributed to other eligible students.

In cases of severe financial hardship or a significant change of circumstances, then please contact 0191 427 3900 - Student Services for more information.

## CHANGE OF DETAILS

Any change of details must be notified immediately, such as change of address or withdrawal from course.

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND

Incomplete applications cannot be processed and will be returned to the applicant. Applicants will receive written correspondence confirming the outcome of their application.

## GUIDANCE ON COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

If you require any assistance in completing this application, then please contact Student Services 0191 427 3900.

***Other formats of this document are available on request. It is also available on the College Intranet to view and download at your discretion.***