



16-19 Bursary 2023-24

Information for applicants

Bradgate Sixth Form has been provided with a limited amount of money by the Government to offer a 16-19 Bursary. This is to provide financial support to help students overcome the specific financial barriers to participation they face, so they can remain in education.

There are 2 types of 16 to 19 bursaries:

- bursaries for defined vulnerable groups of up to £1,200 a year
- discretionary bursaries

A bursary is money that can use to pay for things like:

- equipment for your course including books
- transport on days you study
- costs of educational visits

Bradgate Sixth Form will assess the needs of individual students when awarding bursary funding.

Eligibility

A student must be aged 16 or over but under 19 at 31 August 2023 to be eligible for help from the bursary fund in the 2023-24 academic year.

Students aged 19 or over are only eligible to receive a discretionary bursary if they are continuing on a study programme they began aged 16 to 18 ('19+ continuers') or have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Students must meet the residency criteria in ESFA funding regulations for post-16 provision.

Bursary for students in vulnerable groups

You could get up to £1,200 if at least one of the following applies:

- you're in or recently left local authority care
- you get Income Support or Universal Credit because you're financially supporting yourself
- you get Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in your name and either Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit
- you get Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in your name and either ESA or Universal Credit
- You may get the full amount if you have expenses and study full-time on a course of at least 30 weeks.

You'll usually get less than the full amount, or no bursary, if one of the following apply:

- your course is shorter than 30 weeks
- you study part time
- you have few expenses

Discretionary bursary

To be eligible for the discretionary bursary, you must be:

Type B - In receipt of Free School Meals (maximum bursary £1,200)

Type C - Have a household income of less than £30,000

- Band A - Household income is below £18,000 (Maximum bursary £1,000)
- Band B - Household income is below £24,000 (Maximum bursary £750)
- Band C - Household income is below £30,000 (Maximum bursary £500)

Type D - Unique circumstances (Maximum bursary £500)

We recognise that occasionally there may be unique circumstances that create a barrier to learning. We may be able to provide a discretionary payment in such circumstances, but still require proof of household income.

Discretionary bursaries are based on actual costs incurred; and therefore if you are awarded a bursary; this amount can then be 'drawn down' throughout the year for eligible expenditure. Wherever possible, bursaries will be paid by means of purchases made by Bradgate Sixth Form on behalf of students. Receipts are required for any expenditures incurred by students that may qualify for reimbursement. Any unused bursary will be used to help other students.

Timeline

The deadline for initial applications is Monday 18th September 2023. All applications will then be considered by the bursary fund committee, which includes the Head of Bradgate Sixth Form and Finance Manager. Following consideration of all initial applications, applicants will receive an award notice week beginning Monday 2nd October 2023.

We recognise that not all costs are incurred at the start of the academic year; and that individual circumstances may change in the year. A percentage of the initial bursary fund will be retained for applications received later in the year. Applications will continue to be accepted throughout the academic year - until all funds are exhausted.

If you are unhappy about the outcome of your application, in the first instance we encourage you to meet informally with the Head of Bradgate Sixth Form to discuss your application.

If you remain unhappy you can use Bradgate Sixth Form complaints procedure to query your application for the bursary and/or agreed standards of attendance and behaviour.