



Further Education (FE) Bursary Funds 2023/24

What is the FE Bursary Fund?

You may be eligible for assistance from the FE Bursary Fund to help with specific costs associated with attending your course, such as **course and travel costs**. The University has a limited sum of money from the Education and Skills Funding Agency to allocate for this purpose, applications will be means tested and awards will be paid to those in greatest financial need.

The fund can also assist eligible students over the age of 20 in meeting certain Registered childcare costs. If you are aged between 16-19 at the start of your course and have childcare costs, you may be eligible for assistance through the Care to Learn Scheme (www.gov.uk/care-to-learn)

Please note, you will be guaranteed a bursary if you are aged 16 or over but under 19 at 31 August 2023 and fall in one of the following categories;

- Care leaver,
- Young person in care,
- Receiving Income Support or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them such as a child or partner,
- Receiving Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own right as well as Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit in their own right.

Am I eligible for the FE Bursary Fund?

- You must be fully enrolled and attending on either a FULL-TIME or PART-TIME (in attendance for at least 50% of a full-time equivalent course) further education course (450 guided learning hours); *and*
- You must be aged 16 or above on 31st August 2023; *and*
- You must be classed as a 'home' student (see residency criteria on next page); *and*
- Your gross family income (before tax is deducted) must be below £30,000 per year; (please note, where bursary funds are still available, applications can be considered if gross household income is above this threshold, however, applications will still be means tested against household income and the funds will be prioritised and awards paid to those in the greatest financial need); *and*
- You must have applied for an Advanced Learner Loan from the Student Loans Company (if applicable).

*Please note, Advanced Learner Loans are available to Students who are 19 or above and who have achieved a level 3 or above qualification and / or Students who are aged 24 or over on 31st August 2023. ***Except*** Learners who are aged 24 or over (on 31.08.23) **without a full level 3 or above qualification** and who are accessing a qualification on one of the applicable course(s) / qualification(s) list.*

For further details on eligibility criteria and / or applicable course(s) / qualification(s) list please email hardshipfunds@ntu.ac.uk

Will I be classed as a home student?

You must be ordinarily resident in England or Wales; *and*

- You must have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the last 3 years; *and*
- You must be settled in the UK (i.e. without being subject to any restriction on the period for which you may stay.)

If this does not apply to you, you may still be eligible to apply as there are other categories of students who meet the criteria, including if you have refugee status, if you or your parents/spouse are EEA or SWISS Migrant workers, or if you are the child or spouse of a member of the armed forces. If you have any questions about this matter, please seek advice from the Student Financial Support Service (Tel 0115 848 2494.)

When do I apply?

The Application process for the FE Bursary Fund 2023/24 is online and will open on Friday 25th August 2023 and the first round of funding will close for applications on **Friday 15th September 2023**. We strongly advise that you apply as soon as possible as funds are limited.

Please contact the Financial Support Team on 0115 848 2494 or email hardshipfunds@ntu.ac.uk for further details on how to apply.

How will my application be assessed?

Applications will be means-tested against gross family household income unless you are classed as an independent student. If your family is in receipt of certain means tested benefits, you will be eligible for assistance towards the cost of study related expenditure, including travel.

We may also be able to offer some support toward any placements undertaken by applicants in priority groups. Please email hardshipfunds@ntu.ac.uk for further details on eligibility criteria and how to apply.

Do my parents have to provide details of income?

Yes, we will need details / evidence of your parents' gross household income, unless you are classed as an 'independent student', please note you will be asked questions on the application form to determine this.

What happens next?

Once you have submitted your application form and all required supporting documents, your form will then be assessed against strict criteria and you will be notified of the outcome of your application by e-mail.

If you want to speak to someone in connection with your application, please contact the fund administrators by emailing hardshipfunds@ntu.ac.uk

Is there any other help available?

You may be eligible for assistance towards the cost of your accommodation if you have been obliged to move from your usual home in order to follow your course of study because it is not available locally.

Applications for the 2023/24 Further Education Residential bursaries open on Friday 25th August 2023 and the first round of funding will close for applications on **Friday 1st September 2023**. We would strongly recommend that you apply as soon as possible, as funds are limited, and the allocation of funds will be confirmed for eligible applicants from 11th September 2023 onward

Please contact either the Financial Support Team on 0115 848 2494 or email hardshipfunds@ntu.ac.uk if you have any further queries, or want to request an application form link.