

Student Financial Support FAQs

Q What is Student Financial Support?

A It is financial help available to students whose household income is below £25,000 towards meals, transport, college trips, and for some students there is a bursary available. Please speak to Student Services if you need more information.

Q Am I entitled to receive it?

A You can make an application for financial support but it is not a guarantee that you will be awarded financial support. Financial support is awarded only if you meet certain criteria's

- If your parents/carers earnings for the year is below £25,000 you are eligible to apply. If you are not sure contact Student Services for information and advice by:
 - Email studentsservices@s6f.org.uk
 - Phone 01723 380700
- You can also apply for a student vulnerable or discretionary bursary if you are: +
 - in care or a care leaver
 - living independently AND claiming Universal Credit or Income Support in your own right
 - eligible for ESA or Universal Credit equivalent and PIP or DLA in your own right (you must receive both to be eligible to apply)
 - a registered carer
 - living independently with no income
 - classed as a young offender

*You will need to provide evidence to support your claim including your financial circumstances. There is no guarantee that you will receive a reward or you may receive a limited award

Q What may I get?

- Free School Meals or discretionary meals dependent on household income. This is paid monthly to your Squid account which you can use in the college cafeteria. The amount will also depend on:
 - Your attendance – if your attendance falls below 95% you will receive a reduced amount e.g. if your attendance is 70% you will receive a 30% reduction in your payment
 - when the college is closed for holidays you will not receive an allowance for those weeks

- Assistance with travel if you live more than 2.5 miles from the college – this will either be a bus pass provided by the college or NYCC or a payment to your bank account if you have to use public transport – you will need to travel by the cheapest option
- Financial assistance with trips and visits over £40.00
- Assistance with University Applications and travel for interviews
- Assistance for exceptional circumstances – see student services if you are not sure
- Assistance with materials needed for your studies

Q How do I apply?

A You have to fill in an online application form which you can access from the college website or student portal. Complete the form and provide evidence of your household/family income e.g. Universal Credit statements, Working Tax credits letters. The evidence must be for the current year of your application. Please contact Student Services if you need help with providing the correct evidence

Q When do I apply?

A As soon as possible – the application forms are available from mid to late July and the first payments will commence in September. If your application is successful you will receive a letter in the post telling you what you have been awarded and the dates and payment amounts you will receive. This will help you budget

Q Is there a deadline?

A No – but it is advisable to get the application in as soon as possible so that your payments can start. You can apply at anytime during your time at college especially if there is a change to you or your parents/carers circumstances. You can speak to Student Services at any time if you are not sure if you should apply or if you are eligible. No new applications will be accepted after April 30th

Q How are payments made?

A Lunch money – paid on your Squid card at the beginning of each month – or depending on your course a payment into your bank account
 Bursary – monthly payments paid into your bank account
 Travel – you will be provided with a bus pass if you travel on the college bus. If you use a North Yorkshire County Council bus you will need to apply for a NYCC bus pass online which the college will pay for. If you are travelling on a public bus you will be paid monthly to your bank account. It is important to know that these payments are based on your attendance!!

IMPORTANT – Student Financial Support is there for you to and it is important to put in an application to ensure you get the assistance you need. If you are in doubt if you are eligible, not sure about applying or just have a question please see Student Services who will be more than happy to give you the help you need.