

Further Education Bursary Application 2025-26 for students aged 19+

Advice and Admissions to complete – all sections must be completed.

| | |
|---|---|
| Date fully complete application submitted : | Evidence uploaded (all sides, as one document, correct way up): |
| Adviser accepting the application: | yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Evidence provided: yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> | Adviser uploading evidence: |
| Date uploaded: | Student ID: |

INFORMATION FOR LEARNERS

If you would like any part of this document explained, translated or provided in another format such as large print, audio or Braille, please contact the Advice and Admissions team. Please note: our website has accessibility functions, allowing you to adjust the size of the text and colour of the background.

This form is for students with the following eligibility criteria:

- students aged 19+ (except for students detailed below)
- LLDD students and students continuing on the 2nd year of a course they began aged 18 they should complete the financial support application for students aged 16-18
- enrolled on a funded further education programme and have the right to study
- fee assessed as a 'Home' student for the purposes of further education funding, this is the same as it is for enrolment fee eligibility

This application form will only be processed if it has been completed and submitted with all the required evidence. Your application will remain confidential, please refer to our privacy policy on our website. www.activatelearning.ac.uk/about-us/policies-and-procedures/privacy-and-data-protection.

As funds are limited and cannot be guaranteed, applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. We strongly recommend that you submit your application before Friday 18th August 2025, as applications received after this date may not be processed within our standard timescales. Bursary payments will not be backdated for applications made after the start of your course.

For available bursaries, eligibility and guidance, please see the back of the form. Bursary funds will close on 26th September 2025 or earlier if all funds have been awarded.

If there is any information on this form which you are not sure about, or if you would like some help completing the form, please contact 0800 612 6008.

Before submitting your application, please check that you have attached scanned copies of any evidence and that all evidence is readable. Provide photocopied or scanned documents, not originals.

Section 1: About you

COLLEGE OR TRAINING PROVIDER

- ☐ BANBURY AND BICESTER COLLEGE
 ☐ BRACKNELL AND WOKINGHAM COLLEGE
 ☐ OXFORD CITY CENTRE CAMPUS
 ☐ GUILDFORD COLLEGE
☐ MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE
 ☐ READING COLLEGE
 ☐ FARNHAM COLLEGE
 ☐ THE LEYS COLLEGE (FORMERLY TECHNOLOGY CAMPUS)
 ☐ SOFEA

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| First names: | | Family name: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr | <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs | <input type="checkbox"/> Miss | <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Mx |
| Date of birth: DD / MM / YYYY | | Age on 31/08/2025: | |
| Address: | | | |
| County: | Postcode: | Nationality: | I am an Asylum Seeker <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Primary phone number: | Mobile number: | Email: | |

Do you live independently? ☐ Yes (Move to next question) ☐ No

If no, please provide the names of ALL the adults you live with and their relationship to you.

Continue on a separate sheet if more than 3 adults.

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| 1. Name: | Relationship: |
| 2. Name: | Relationship: |
| 3. Name: | Relationship: |

I am applying for an Advanced Learner Loan. ☐ Note: If your course is eligible for an Advanced Learner Loan, your course is non-funded, so you are not eligible for bursary funding until you have confirmation of the loan. You may apply to get money from the Loan Bursary Fund after you've received a letter approving your Advanced Learner Loan. Students with an Advanced Learner Loan that leave their course before the two-week liability point must repay all funds, they have received through the Advanced Learner Loan Bursary.

Section 2: Evidence required to prove you meet the General Evidence criteria.

Applicants are required to apply for all statutory benefits before applying for a bursary.

For further information on government benefits you are eligible for, please visit: www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators

Before submitting your application, please check that you have attached scanned copies of all required evidence and that all evidence is readable.

Please refer to our website for examples of how the evidence must look.

If you receive **Universal Credit (UC)**, please provide:

- All pages of your 3 most recent full UC statements which must include calculations of deductions.
- You will need to print the details from your online UC account or provide screen shots.

If you receive Universal credit, you don't need to provide anything else. If you don't, read Tax Credit evidence.

If you receive **Tax Credits (TC602)** – please provide:

- All 6 pages of the most recent 2025/26 Tax Credit Award Notice. The notice will detail the households earned income.

If you receive Tax Credits, you don't need to provide anything else. If you don't, read other benefits evidence.

If you receive other benefits

- a letter dated within the past 3 months to evidence you receive one of the following:
 - Income Support
 - Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.

If you receive one of the benefits listed above, you don't need to provide anything else. If you don't, read the boxes below to find evidence required to fit your household situation.

Two or more adults in the household

- Evidence of income for each adult in the household who is aged 18 or over.
- Three months of the most recent wage slips for each adult in the household

One adult in the household

- Three months of the most recent wage slips
- And a 2025-26 Council Tax Bill

If a member of the household is self employed

- A copy of their SA302 tax calculation form.
- All pages of 3 Universal Credit statements and or 3 wage slips
- A self declaration form to confirm net earnings (**if applying for meal credits only**)

The self declaration form is available from our website - www.activatelearning.ac.uk/financial-support-and-bursaries

If you are an Asylum Seeker

- Evidence of household income is not required.

Section 2: Evidence required to prove you meet the General Evidence criteria. (Continued)

If there is any information that you would like to include to support your application for example, total number of children living in the household, please submit this with your application in the additional information section.

The way we assess household income:

- When assessing household income, we will include the income of all adults aged over 18 living in the household.
- If the household receives Universal credit:
 - we add together the average take home pay and average amount of Universal Credit (after all deductions)
 - if the Benefits office pays your rent to the landlord, we add the rent awarded to you to the household income.
- For income of £35,000 or less we will add on £1,700 to your income for each dependent child aged 18 and under living at the same address.
- Wage slips – we use the take-home pay figure (any deductions that are not statutory will be included as income)
- Tax Credits – we use the total income stated under the heading income, often on page 2 of the award notice.

We do not accept the following documents as evidence of your income:

- Bank statements, Child Benefit, PIP, DLA and Carers Allowance.

We only accept electronic files in the following format:

- Picture files of JPEG, GIF, PNG, and TIFF extensions
- Electronic files of DOC, DOCX, XLS, XLSX, PDF and XPS

How to Apply

Please complete the form, and provide evidence that you meet the bursary eligibility criteria by providing the documents as detailed in the 'General evidence required' part of the guidance notes, these can be found at **www.activatelearning.ac.uk/financial-support-and-bursaries** Attach/scan/ print the documents.

Return the form and evidence in one of the following ways:

In Person: Hand deliver to any campus Advice Centre, please see website for opening hours.

By Email: FEBursaries@activatelearning.ac.uk

Postal applications: Bursary Team, Activate Learning, Banbury Campus, Broughton Road, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX16 9QA.

Please note: We advise that you send postal applications by Recorded or Special Delivery and only include photocopies, not original documents.

Students will be notified by email (if an email address has been provided) of the outcome within four weeks of receipt of a fully completed application form that includes all the required evidence.

Application forms will only be processed if it has been completed and submitted with the required evidence.

If you require support completing this form or would like to receive information in an alternative format, please contact 0800 612 6008.

Section 3: Which bursaries are you struggling to afford? Please see the Guidance document on our website for eligibility www.activatelearning.ac.uk/financial-support-and-bursaries

3a. Travel bursary for the academic year 2025-26

You must be attending the nearest campus offering the course and live **more than 3 miles** from college.

If you do not need a travel bursary move to next bursary **section 3b**.

Travel details: What is the walking distance using Google maps? **MILES:**

*Applications will be refused if the journey is under 3 miles, unless exceptional need is evidenced at the time of applying.
Medical proof is required for students unable to walk the distance.*

Please ensure you select the travel company that is correct for your journey, we do not exchange travel passes after ordering.

First journey

Name of the travel company you will use for the first part or the whole of your journey (Only select one travel company)

- ☐ Chiltern Railways ☐ GWR ☐ Oxford Buses (including Thames Travel) ☐ Reading Buses ☐ Stagecoach South ☐ Falcon Buses
☐ South Western Railways ☐ Stagecoach Oxfordshire ☐ Thames Valley Buses ☐ SEN travel contribution ☐ Other (please state)

Name of bus stop or train station: To which campus?.....

If you catch another bus or train to college please complete the second journey details.

Second journey

- ☐ Chiltern Railways ☐ GWR ☐ Oxford Buses (including Thames Travel) ☐ Reading Buses ☐ Stagecoach South ☐ Falcon Buses
☐ South Western Railways ☐ Stagecoach Oxfordshire ☐ Thames Valley Buses ☐ SEN travel contribution ☐ Other (please state)

Name of bus stop or train station: To which campus?.....

3b. Course costs bursary

Do you need support with items and mandatory UK trips identified by faculty as essential to your study programme? These are items that without a bursary you would need to buy?

Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, when you have received an email confirming you are eligible for a bursary your faculty will provide the items needed.

3c. Childcare bursary and Care to Learn grant funding

Applicants are required to apply for all statutory government benefits before applying for this bursary. **For further information on government benefits you are eligible for, please visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk**

Would you like to apply for support with childcare costs? Yes ☐ (Provide details below) No ☐ (Move to next bursary section)

You need to complete a childcare provider form, this can be found on our website or at the Advice Centre. We will contact your childcare provider when a decision has been made.

3d. Accommodation Bursary

Only available to students on a Land based course at Merrist Wood and Furniture programmes at the City of Oxford College.

Do you need an accommodation bursary? Yes ☐ No ☐

Additional information

Applicants whose household income exceeds the eligibility threshold for bursary funds must include relevant information with their application. This includes details such as the total number of children living in their household. Failure to provide this information may result in their application being refused.

Section 4: Your bank details

Only complete bank details if you are applying for travel expenses or course costs. If we need to make a payment to you, we will do so by direct transfer into your bank account.

Please provide details of the bank account which you would like us to pay funding into. Ensure the numerals are legible and the bank account accepts BACS payments. Please note: we are unable to make payments into Post Office accounts or prepaid cards.

Account holder's name:

Bank name:

Sort code (6 digits long):

Account number (8 digits long):

Section 5: Declaration

The student must sign the form. Any form without a signature will be returned and your application will be delayed, please note we cannot accept a typed signature.

Agreement to the conditions of the award and payments - A copy of the conditions can be found on our website.

Activate Learning may approve this application before you start your course, but funding will only be allocated once your enrolment is completed and you have started your course.

Your attendance will be monitored and if it falls below 90%, or you fail to adhere to the Attendance and Student Behaviour Policies, bursary payments will be withheld. The impact on attendance that might be caused by illness, caring responsibilities or other exceptional circumstances will be considered.

If payments have not been used to attend college due to absence, future payments may be withheld or reduced until funds paid to you have been used for the purpose they were awarded.

Travel passes must be returned and payments will be stopped if you have been absent for four consecutive weeks (excluding holidays) or if you complete or withdraw from the course before the end of the academic year. You will be charged for the remaining value of the pass not returned within three weeks.

You will be required to return money paid to you if you have not spent it for the reasons it was awarded or if you receive an overpayment due to you not informing us of changes detailed below.

If you withdraw from the course you are required to return your travel pass and any items bought using bursary funds. A stop will be placed on travel smart cards.

It is your responsibility to inform the college about any of the following:

- Change of circumstances which might affect your eligibility for financial support
- Change of address
- Any exceptional circumstances that cause you to be absent from college, e.g. illness, caring responsibilities, etc
- Change of bank account details
- Changes to your course of study
- Change to your timetable
- Withdrawal from your course

Any award made will be for the 2025-26 academic year only. Financial support in future years may change.

You will also be confirming the information you have provided is accurate to the best of your knowledge and belief. Any awards made as a result of giving false or incorrect information may result in the stoppage of future payments and the recovery of funds that have already been paid. It may also result in a referral to the police, with the possibility of the student and/or their family facing prosecution.

By signing this form you confirm that you understand and agree to the conditions of the award above and as detailed in each award confirmation email. You will also be giving explicit consent to Activate Learning to collect 'personal data' and 'sensitive data' on you and your household to assess and record your application for financial support.

Activate Learning will store your 'personal data' and 'sensitive data' securely.

If you are not satisfied with how your bursary application has been handled or you want to appeal a decision, please write to the Group Head of Advice and Admissions using the address listed in the 'How to apply' section at the end of section 2.

Student's full name and signature: *(Please use a pen)*

Date: