

16–19 Bursary Fund Application Guidance (2026-2027)

The 16-19 Bursary is awarded to eligible students to provide support towards the cost of transport and other course-related costs. The payment of the Bursary award is subject to DfE guidance and Durham Sixth Form Centre's Bursary Policy which can be accessed via:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/16-to-19-bursary-fund-provider-guide/16-to-19-bursary-fund-guide-2026-to-2027>
- <https://www.durhamsixthformcentre.org.uk/financial-support/>

The guidance below will help you complete the application form and identify which Bursary you may be eligible to apply for. Bursary payments are only made if students' attendance and behaviour meet the required standard and they remain at Durham Sixth Form Centre. **If your attendance falls below 90% your payment may be reduced.**

Eligibility Criteria

- Aged 16–18 on 31 August 2026.
- Aged 19+ only if continuing a course started aged 16–18 or with an EHCP.
- UK resident or with legal right to reside in the UK.

Vulnerable Student Bursary	
Students in specific vulnerable groups may receive up to £1,200 per year, based on need.	
Criteria: Eligible Groups	Evidence Required
• In care / leaving care – confirmation from local authority. • Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children – confirmation from local authority.	Written confirmation of current or previous looked –after status from the relevant local authority.
• Receiving Income Support (IS) or Universal Credit (UC) – award notice in student's name.	A copy of the award notice clearly stating the claim is in the student's name.
• Receiving Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payments (PIP) in their own right as well as Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or UC in their own right.	A copy of the claim award from DWP & ESA Statement or UC Statement.
This cannot be combined with a Top-up Bursary.	

Once vulnerable status is verified Durham Sixth Form also issues FSM cards to Vulnerable students. This can be collected from the Finance office on the ground floor of the Digital Media Centre.

If you have any queries regarding the evidence you can provide please email finance@durhamsixthformcentre.org.uk