

Financial Support for Students with Dependent Children, 2018-19

The purpose of this leaflet is to provide a brief overview of the financial help which may be available to parents to meet the costs of supporting their children whilst they are students. Not all students will be eligible for help from all the sources listed below. More information on government child care help can be found at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>.

| Source of support | Eligible groups |
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| <p>Childcare Grant. Means-tested grant for students with dependent children in registered and approved childcare. Meets up to 85% of actual costs during term-time and vacations, subject to maximum of:</p> <p>£164.70 a week for 1 child £282.36 a week for 2 or more children</p> <p>Further information and application forms: www.gov.uk/childcare-grant</p> | <p>Full-time home undergraduates and PGCE students excluding students funded by the NHS. Not available if student or spouse/partner receives the Childcare element of Working Tax Credit, Universal Credit, or tax free childcare from HMRC.</p> |
| <p>Parents' Learning Allowance. Means-tested grant for course-related costs of up to £1,669.</p> <p>For further information and application forms: www.gov.uk/parents-learning-allowance</p> | <p>Full-time home undergraduates and PGCE students excluding students funded by the NHS.</p> |
| <p>Childcare Allowance. Means-tested grant allowance for students with dependent children in registered and approved childcare. Meets up to 85% of actual costs during term-time and vacations, subject to maximum of:</p> <p>£128.78 a week for 1 child £191.45 a week for 2 or more children.</p> <p>Further information is available from https://www.gov.uk/nhs-bursaries/further-information</p> | <p>Full or part-time home students on NHS-funded courses, except for social work bursary students. Postgraduate social work bursary students, full or part-time, can apply for Childcare Allowance at rates similar to the Childcare Grant above.</p> |
| <p>Child Dependants Allowance. Non means-tested grant of £1000 for students with dependent children under age 15 (or under 17 with special educational needs).</p> <p>Further information is available from https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/learning-support-fund/child-dependants-allowance</p> | <p>Full or part-time home students funded by Student Finance (NOT NHS) whose course began after August 2017.</p> |
| <p>Parent Learning Allowance. Means-tested grant allowance for students with dependent children. For 2012 entrants onward, payments of up to £1204 (deg. or diploma).</p> | <p>Full or part-time home students on NHS-funded courses.</p> |
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| <p>Dependants' Allowance. Means-tested grant allowance for students with dependants. For 2012 students onward, payments for partner OR first child of up to £2448 (deg. or diploma). For all, £549 for each additional child (17/18 figures).</p> | <p>Full or part-time home students on NHS-funded courses.</p> |
| <p>Child Tax Credit from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC). The amount received depends on individual circumstances. Students receiving the maximum Child Tax Credit and (usually) no Working Tax Credit are entitled to free school meals for their children. Child Tax Credit is payable at a higher rate if one of the children is disabled. Further information is available from https://www.gov.uk/child-tax-credit</p> | <p>Home students with dependent children under 16 (or between 16 and 19 if in approved education or training).</p> |
| <p>Working Tax Credit from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC). The amount received depends on individual circumstances. The childcare element of Working Tax Credit can help with up to 70% of eligible childcare costs up to a maximum payable of £122.50 a week for 1 child or £210 a week for 2 or more children. (Rates applicable April 2018-March 2019.) Further information is available from https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/tax-credits</p> <p>Note that Universal Credit continues to be phased in. You must be working to receive childcare costs (with few exceptions), regardless of the number of hours.</p> | <p>Home students with dependent children. Lone parents must be working at least 16 hours a week. To receive working tax credits, if students have a spouse or partner, joint working hours must be at least 24 hours a week, with one parent working at least 16 hours a week. If only one parent is working, they must work at least 24 hours a week. The exceptions are a parent over 60 <u>or</u> a disabled parent working at least 16 hours a week – joint hours can be under 24. Alternatively, one parent must work at least 16 hours a week and the other must be incapacitated, in hospital, in prison, or entitled to Carer's Allowance.</p> |
| <p>Access to Learning Fund. Cash-limited discretionary, Government-funded (Student Opportunity Fund) provision to help students having difficulty meeting their essential living and course-related costs, including childcare costs (but excluding tuition fees). Further information and application forms are available from the Student Support Centre.</p> | <p>Full-time and part-time (at least 50% of full-time) home students, both undergraduate and postgraduate.</p> |
| <p>UEA Hardship Fund. Cash-limited discretionary fund to help students having difficulty meeting their essential living and course-related costs, including childcare costs (but excluding tuition fees). Further information and application forms are available from the Student Support Centre.</p> | <p>Any student not eligible to apply to the Access to Learning Fund.</p> |