

Learner Support Fund (LSF)

Financial Support for Students

Is your household income **£45,121** or less?

Is your household in receipt of any income benefits?

16-18 year old and in care or care leaver?

If yes to any of the above, you might be eligible for financial support.

- Meal allowance - money loaded onto college ID card to be used within college.
- Trips and visits related to your course.
- Equipment and uniform essential to your course.
- Travel costs - University interviews/open days and work experience.
- 16-19 Care to Learn - Childcare costs
- 20+ contribution to Childcare costs

The household income thresholds for support are as follows:

- **Band 1** - Up to £30,458 - 100% Award
- **Band 2** - £30,459 - £37,227 - 60% Award
- **Band 3** - £37,228 - £45,121 - 30% Award

For more information visit www.halesowen.ac.uk or speak to a member of our Student Hub Team.

Here are some examples of the income evidence that may apply to you:

Employment - P60 2026 or 2x latest monthly payslips/4x weekly payslips

Self-Employment - Most recent tax return

Pension - 2026 Letter

Universal Credit (UC) - at least 3x latest statements including all pages

Income Support - 2026 Award Letter

Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) - 2026 Letter

Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) - 2026 Letter

Guarantee element of State Pension Credit - 2026 Letter

Housing Benefit - 2026 Letter

Support under part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999

Copy of both sides of Application Registration Card (ARC card) and ASPEN Card including a recent receipt.

16-18 in Care/Care Leaver - Written confirmation of the student's current or previous looked after statement issued by the Local Authority (email is acceptable) e.g Section 20 Letter.

16-18 Living independently and receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves and/or a dependant - Income Support or Universal Credit letter because they are financially supporting themselves and/or a dependant, and evidence of household income.

16-18 Students in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payments (PIP) as well as Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit in their own right - DLA/PIP Letter, UC/ESA Letter and evidence of household income.

Here is the small print:

Applications cannot be processed without household income evidence.

All financial support provided is subject to satisfactory attendance and behaviour.

Please note that Apprenticeships, HE and Under 16 courses are not funded by Learner Support Fund.

If you have any questions, please call us on **0121 602 7888** or come and see us in **Block 1 behind reception**.

✉ studentservices@halesowen.ac.uk