

## **Financial Support Guidance 2020/2021**

There are 3 types of financial support available at Orchard Hill College which help remove financial barriers to learning. These are:

- 1. 16 – 19 Vulnerable Bursary – Maximum of £1,200**
- 2. Discretionary Bursary – To help with transport, meals, books, equipment, trips, uniforms for work related programmes**
- 3. Free College Meals – Money for College Meals (£3.50)**

### **Are you:**

- Aged 16 and over, on a funded course at Orchard Hill College (please be aware some bursaries may have a higher age limit)
- A resident in the UK or EEA and have been for 3 years prior to 31 August 2020
- Able to meet the eligibility criteria – overleaf

**Then you are eligible to apply.**

### **What happens next?**

- Complete and return the application form with the relevant evidence
- If you are eligible for one of the 3 bursaries, you will receive a written confirmation from the college
- You will receive your bursary every 2 weeks in accordance with your attendance and behaviour
- Please be advised, you will not be paid for the days you do not attend college

If you think you could be eligible for the financial support that is available and would like an application form, are unsure if you fit the criteria, or even just need more information, then please contact Caroline Shannon on [CShannon@orchardhill.ac.uk](mailto:CShannon@orchardhill.ac.uk) or call [0345 402 0453](tel:03454020453)

**More information can be found on:**

**[www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund](http://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund)**

**[www.gov.uk/discretionary-learner-support](http://www.gov.uk/discretionary-learner-support)**

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

### **If you are:**

- In care
- Leaving care
- Receiving Employment and Support Allowance (or Universal Credit) and in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments – in the student's name
- Receiving Income Support – in the student's name

**You will be eligible for the 16 – 19 Vulnerable Bursary.**

### **If you are:**

- Receiving Income Support – in the student's or parent's name
- Receiving Universal Credit (earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400pa for School Meals) – in the student's or parent's name
- Receiving Job Seekers Allowance – in the student's or parent's name
- Receiving Employment Support Allowance – in the student's or parent's name
- Receiving Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- In receipt of Child Tax Credit (only if you are not entitled to working tax credit) and have an annual gross income of £25,000 or less
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- On a low household income (under £28,000)
- In need of extreme financial help (Exceptional Circumstances)

**You will be eligible for the Discretionary Bursary.**

### **If you are receiving:**

- Income Support – in the student's or parent's name
- Universal Credit (earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400pa for School Meals) – in the student's or parent's name
- Job Seekers Allowance— in the student's or parent's name
- Employment Support Allowance - in the student's or parent's name
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (only if you are not entitled to working tax credit) and have an annual gross income of £25,000 or less
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit

**You will be eligible for Free College Meals.**

## **ORCHARD HILL COLLEGE PAYMENT**

- Lunches (including Free College Meals) – £3.50 per day
- Discretionary Bursary (Travel) – Dependent on costs of travel. We expect you to use to cheapest form of travel available
- Discretionary Bursary (Equipment) – Dependent on the educational/training equipment and support requested. The college may only make a contribution. Receipts will be required for all purchases.

## **OTHER DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE**

### Freedom Passes

- A Freedom Pass is provided by local borough councils to give disabled Londoners free travel on almost all public transport in London.
- If you live in London and are disabled, you could be entitled to a Freedom Pass.
- For more information or to apply for a Freedom Pass, visit:  
<https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/services/freedom-pass/disabled-persons-freedom-pass>

### 18+ Student Oyster Cards

- The scheme allows you to get 30% off the price of adult rate Travelcards and Bus & Tram Pass season tickets if you live within greater London.
- There are different eligibility criteria for students who are on full and part-time courses.
- You may be able to apply to the Bursary Fund for money to purchase this card
- For more information or to apply for an 18+ Student Oyster Card, visit:  
<https://tfl.gov.uk/fares/free-and-discounted-travel/18-plus-student-oyster-photocard>

### NUS (National Union of Students)

- The college is registered with NUS so students can apply for NUS cards to receive discounts.
- For more information or to apply for the NUS card, visit:  
<https://www.nus.org.uk>