

Student Financial Support

At Dixons Sixth Form Academy we have a range of financial support for students to help them during their learning and development whilst studying with us.

Free College Meals

Free meals will automatically be awarded if the student or parent/guardian are in receipt of any of the following;

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income no more than £16,190 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC))
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after someone stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit with net earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400pa

Free meals will be paid up to a spend of **£5.75** per day in our on-site cafés. Food and drink items must only be purchased and consumed by students allocated a free college meal.

Post 16 Bursary

What is the 16-19 Bursary Fund?

The Government has given colleges a Bursary Fund. This fund is to be shared amongst the students who meet certain requirements set by the individual school or academy and will be allocated on a needs basis. The fund is available for 16-19 year olds to provide support with the costs of full-time education.

Who Can Apply?

The discretionary bursary is based on annual household incomes and is means tested. To be considered eligible for the bursary payments at Dixons Sixth Form, the **total household income** (employment and government assistance income included) must be below **£36,000**. Students who wish to apply will need to provide evidence of their household income in the form of:

- **Final Tax Credit Award Notice (TC602)**: this is a document detailing entitlement to Working Tax Credits or Child Tax Credits. The income figure required is shown as 'Total Income for the year from 6th April

to 5th April for the current financial year. The Final Tax Credit Award Notice must be dated from April of the current year.

- **P60:** this is a statement of earnings from an employer and the income will be shown as either; total pay for year, total income received or gross Income. This must be dated this current year and will relate to the previous year's earnings.
- **Other Benefits:** entitlement or award letter showing evidence of any benefits received, including Universal Credit monthly statements as requested in the application.
- **Self-assessment tax calculation form (SA302):** this form is sent by the Inland Revenue to self-employed people and is the equivalent of the P60. The income will be shown under 'Total Income' for the most recent year end.

Each student's individual circumstances will also be considered, such as a single parent family and the number of children under the age of 18 living in the household.

What Does The 16-19 Bursary Funding Cover?

- Provision of a metro card for free bus travel to and from college (£390/year)
- Stationery from the college library (pens, folders, post it notes, plastic wallets approx £50 per year)
- Course textbooks and revision guides (approx £75 per year)
- Fully paid for Year 1 trip (£70)
- Train / bus travel to university open day visits
- Free college meal - up to **£5.75** spend per day in our on-site cafés
- The cost of the Dixon's Sixth Form Big Meal Events (£15 per year)
- Support with costs of achieving the Duke of Edinburgh Award
- UCAT test fees (£70)
- UCAS fee (£28.50)
- GMAT test fees (£200)
- Free locker (£10)
- Contribution towards academic and other college trips / enrichment activities
- £5 a month towards mobile phone / data charges*
- **£50** towards a winter coat / bag*

*Contributions will be paid to students on the production of a valid receipt/ invoice

Vulnerable Bursary

To apply for a vulnerable bursary which entitles that student up to £1200 per year you must fall into one or more of the categories below. If any of this applies to you then complete the same bursary application and answer question 15 also. Evidence of the below must be provided.

- You are in care
- You are a care leaver
- You are receiving Income Support or Universal Credit in your own right (not in parents name)
- Someone is financially dependent on you, or you are financially supporting yourself.

- You are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independent Payments or Employment and support allowance in your own right.

Application Requirements

To apply students must:

- Be enrolled on a full-time programme of study at Dixons Sixth Form
- Achieve an excellent standard of conduct and attendance
- Satisfy residency criteria
- Have their own current bank account (not savings) to receive any eligible bursary payments.

To apply students will need to complete an online application form and upload all required evidence as outlined above to support an application. Any delays in providing this information will hold up a bursary application so students should ensure they have all the information they need about their household income.

At the end of the first year of study at D6A, students will be asked to self-declare if their family circumstances have / have not changed which will determine if the bursary funding continues or stops during the student's second year of study.