

16–19 Bursary Fund Guidance 2026-27

NOTE: Incomplete applications will not be accepted. This includes applications with missing evidence or evidence that is out of date.

To avoid delay, please ensure that you email all evidence of household income and/or benefits required to assess your form to Bursary@trc.ac.uk

Where a student or their parent/carer is unwilling to provide evidence of household income, no assessment can take place; therefore, support will not be available.

Eligibility Criteria

- Aged 16 to 18 on 31 August 2026
- Enrolled in full-time education at the College

Priority Categories

Priority 1 – Vulnerable Students, who are defined as:

- In care (LAC) or Care Leavers
- Receiving Income Support (IS), or Universal Credit (UC) because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them, such as a child or partner; or
- Receiving Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payments (PIP) in addition to Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or UC – all benefits must be received by the student in their own right.

Note: Support for this group is not guaranteed - the College may consider that although a young person is eligible, they do not have financial need as they have no relevant costs, or their financial need is already being met by other agencies. Where support has been agreed, it may not equate to £1200 but will reflect the level of financial support required.

Priority 2

All students whose household income is below £34,000 – if it is not possible to offer a full package of support to this group, meals and transport costs will be the priority.

Priority 3

All students whose household is in receipt of Universal Credit - if it is not possible to offer a full package of support to this group, meals and transport costs will be the priority.

Application Process

- The application form can be found on the College website. [Bursary Application Form 2026-2027](#)
- Once you have submitted the completed form email evidence of income to: Bursary@trc.ac.uk
- Required documentation includes (dated within the last 3 months):
 - 3 most recent Universal Credit statements - [Downloading-UC-Statements-Guide.pdf](#)
 - Child Benefit evidence (this can be evidenced on a bank statement)
 - 3 recent monthly payslips or 4 weekly payslips – not required if in receipt of Universal Credit
 - Letters confirming receipt of other benefits (e.g. ESA, JSA, Housing Benefit, Carer's Allowance)
- Incomplete applications or those lacking current evidence will not be processed.

Vulnerable Student Bursary

If you are applying for the Vulnerable Bursary, one of the following is acceptable:

- Written confirmation of your looked after or care leaver status from the local authority.
- Proof that you are in receipt of Income support/Universal Credit in your own name.
- Proof that you are in receipt of ESA or Universal Credit **PLUS** DLA or PIP
- Please note, whilst support of up to £1200 is available to vulnerable students, **this is not automatic**. Individual applications will be assessed, and support will be tailored to meet only the costs incurred to participate in education.

Travel Assistance

- Students living more than 2 miles from the College may apply for a travel pass.
- Submit a route plan from Google Maps [google maps - Google Search](#)
- Students on College bus routes are expected to use College transport
- Students with disabilities may be eligible for a Disabled Pass via Travel South Yorkshire (<https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com>) or by calling **0800 952 0002**.

Support Available

- Travel costs
- Meals
- Educational materials and equipment
- Stationery
- Educational visits, field trips, and residentials
- Other study-related expenses
- Note: Students in Priority 3 will receive support subject to available funds, with priority given to travel assistance.

Childcare Support

- Students under the age of 20 with children may apply for Care to Learn, which provides up to £180 per child per week for childcare and travel.
- Visit: <https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn> or call 0800 121 8989.

Assessment and Notification

- Applications are typically processed within 10 working days
- Decisions will be communicated via the student's College email and to the parent/carer
- Support begins from the date of approval and cannot be backdated

Conditions of Support

- Minimum 80% attendance across all subjects and tutorials
- Satisfactory behavior, academic effort, and coursework completion
- Absences exceeding 4 weeks may result in withdrawal of support

Appeals Process

- Applicants who are denied support or have their support withdrawn may appeal within 10 working days of the decision.
- Appeals must follow the Trust's Complaints Procedure and include supporting documentation.