

LIPA SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

2022/34 LIPA Sixth Form Bursary

The LIPA Sixth Form College student community includes students who live in all areas of the Merseyside region and beyond.

LIPA Sixth Form College is committed to ensuring that all students are able to participate in college life as fully as possible.

This booklet includes information about how students qualify for bursary, what they will receive and how they can apply.

Students qualify for bursary on the following basis:

1. **Income-Assessed**

- household income below £25,000
- and/or in receipt of benefits (**see page 5 for more detail**)

2. **Guaranteed**

- are in local authority care (also known as 'looked after')
- are a care leaver* (**see page 3 for more detail**)
- get Income Support or Universal Credit in their own name
- get Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in their own name and either Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit
- get Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in their own name and either ESA or Universal Credit.

2. **Free School Meal**

- Household income below £7,400
- and/or in receipt of benefits (**see page 4 for more detail**)

Students / parents / carers can apply for bursary using the following online bursary application form:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=N5FK6jGL8EWMwIDHMbiAWDrQPCkuyXRBrGGsX9a_xkBUNFZSR0IGUFdBTkw5MzFTTFQ0V1pKUIZDVS4u

Support will be available on enrolment day on 24th August 2023 for any students / parents / carers who require support with the online application process.

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What will students receive if they qualify for bursary?

The primary focus of the college bursary is on ensuring students who qualify are able and ready to attend college punctually during term-time for all timetabled lessons, as well as for any additional rehearsals, performances, assessments, enrichments and learning support as required or desired.

1. Funding for travel

If students qualify for bursary and:

- live during term-time in the Merseyside region, they will receive a termly travel pass to ensure affordable daily travel during term-time.
- live during term-time outside the Merseyside region, they will receive a termly allocation of £195.00 to support with the cost of travel during term-time.
- live in the very close vicinity of LIPA Sixth Form College, they will receive a termly allocation of £195.00 to support with any arising travel /equipment costs.

2. Funding for a young person's railcard

All students who qualify for bursary will receive a £30.00 allocation to enable them to purchase a young person's rail card to ensure that they can travel at the cheapest possible rate whenever they may need to travel by train during term time (for example, to travel to a university open day or an enhancement opportunity such as a creative/cultural event or external work experience).

3. Possibility of additional payments for income-assessed qualifiers.

Dependent on how much money remains in the bursary pot after the above allocations, **it is possible but not guaranteed** that an additional bursary allocation will be made to students who qualify on an income-assessed basis.

This is dependent on the numbers of income-assessed qualifiers overall, which can change throughout the academic year. Students and parents/carers will be made aware by email if there are any planned additional payments by 5th July 2024 at the very latest.

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Additional information for students who qualify for Guaranteed bursary

Students who qualify for bursary on a Guaranteed basis will receive support in addition to the travel element described on page 2.

This support may be allocated to students in the following ways dependent on the student's enrolled course/individual circumstances:

- uniform, equipment or required course books bought by college and allocated to students

OR

- 3 termly allocations no larger than £205.00

Students qualify for this bursary if they:

- are in local authority care (also known as 'looked after')
- are a care leaver*
- get Income Support or Universal Credit in their own name
- get Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in their own name and either Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit
- get Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in their own name and either ESA or Universal Credit

*A 'care leaver' is defined as:

- a young person aged 16 and 17 who was previously looked after for a period of 13 weeks consecutively (or periods amounting to 13 weeks), which began after the age of 14 and ended after the age of 16; or
- a young person aged 18 or above who was looked after prior to becoming 18 for a period of 13 weeks consecutively (or periods amounting to 13 weeks), which began after the age of 14 and ended after the age of 18)

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Free School Meals Allocation

Please note that for 2023/24, instead of receiving meals in-kind, students will be paid the money for their free school meals into their bank account of an amount no less than £2.41 per timetabled day.

Students are free to spend their meal allocation on the lunch meal of their choice in or outside of college. Students may also wish to use their allocated payment to bring in a packed lunch each day.

Free school meals are provided for those students who receive, or whose parents/carers receive, one or more of the following:

- Universal Credit with net earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400 per year
- 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 State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of 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

Students who have an Educational Health & Care Plan (EHCP) may also qualify for free school meals.

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Criteria for the Income-Assessed Bursary

If the total annual household income is £25,000 or below, you will be entitled to receive bursary on an income-assessed basis. This bursary is also available to eligible students whose parents/carers receive the following:

- Universal Credit (We may request evidence of your company registration or tax return form)
- Income support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance (May be received in conjunction with Disability Allowance)
- Personal Independence Payment
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Self-Employed earnings
- Child Tax Credit (Provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income of not more than the threshold for eligibility*. Please provide full tax credit notification as at April 19 with the application.)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (Paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for WTC).

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Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

1. When do I apply for bursaries and Free School Meals?

The deadline for applications is Friday 25th August 2023.

Prospective students / parents / carers can complete the online bursary application at any point from 6th July 2023 onwards.

Students and their parents/carers are advised that the processing of the bursary application may be delayed if the web-based application form with supporting financial evidence is not completed by 25th August 2023. This may result in a delay in students receiving their bursary.

Y12 students

Students and their parents/carers are advised to check the criteria for each of the bursaries.

If you think you meet any of the eligibility criteria, please complete an application.

Y13 students who received bursary in Y12 **do not need to reapply**

If you are now in Y13 and received bursary when you were in Y12, you will automatically receive bursary in Y13. You **do not** need to apply again. However, please note, your bursary may be allocated differently in 2023/24.

Y13 students whose circumstances have changed since Y12

Please check the criteria. If you are now in Y13 and your circumstances have changed since Y12 (for example, if your household income has reduced), you may now qualify for bursary. If this is the case, please submit a bursary application by the Friday 25th August 2023 deadline.

2. How do I apply?

Please click on this weblink to access the bursary application form:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=N5FK6jGL8EWMwIDHMbiAWDrQPCkuyXRBrGGsX9a_xkBUNFZSR0IGUFdBTkw5MzFTTFQ0V1pKUIZDVS4u

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3. How do I find out the outcome of my application?

You will be sent an email from our administration team as soon as possible explaining the outcome of your application.

4. What if my circumstances change during the academic year? Will I be able to claim bursary?

If your circumstances change and you find that you meet any of the criteria for any of the bursaries, please complete and submit a new bursary web form as soon as possible for assessment.