

FINANCIAL SUPPORT 2025/26



The College receives Financial Support funding from the Government to support young people who need financial assistance to continue and complete their programme of study in further education.

To qualify you must be aged 16 or over and under 19 on 31 August 2025 and meet the DfE's residency criteria and Prior Pursglove College must be your main education provider.

If you are 19 or older you may be eligible if you are continuing a course, you began aged 16-18 or if you have an EHCP.

If none of these apply, please contact the College directly about possible alternative Financial Support options.

Students who qualify can request assistance with subsistence, transport, and digital access costs as well as books, essential equipment (e.g., USB, calculator), UCAS entrance fees and trips/visits that are essential/closely linked to the subject curriculum. All support is dependent on the type of assistance you qualify and apply for, and the College will also consider individual need relating to actual costs.

To apply for financial support, you will need to complete an application form and provide supporting evidence.

Students will be expected to maintain an acceptable level of behaviour and some financial support is subject to 100% attendance.

Financial Support will only be backdated to the start of the academic year if the application is received before 31st October 2025, though there is no final deadline for applications, and they may be handed in at any point during the academic year. Please note first bursary payments only start once college term has commenced.

Financial support funding is not designed to support general living costs, but to be used towards transport, food, some UK trips and other course related costs. All financial support payments must be made direct to students' own bank accounts except in exceptional circumstances.

1. DISCRETIONARY SUBSISTENCE BURSARY

For students aged 16 -18 on 31st August 2025 and whose household income excluding benefits is below £30,000 per annum who need assistance with college related costs such as lunches, drinks, snacks and materials.

Also, students who are aged over 19 who are continuing the same study programme they began aged 16-18 and students aged 19-24 who have an Education Health and Care plan, may be eligible.

A weekly bursary of up to £5 per timetabled day per week is available subject to attendance conditions, household income evidence is required with application.

Assistance with cost of college materials such as calculators, art materials is available as required.

2. VULNERABLE BURSARY

For students aged 16-18 on 31st August 2024 and who fall into one of the following categories and need assistance with college related costs such as lunches, snacks, drinks and materials:

- You live in Local Authority care or placed in foster care by LA (inc unaccompanied asylum-seeking children)
- You are a Local Authority care leaver
- You are in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit because you are financially supporting yourself or yourself and someone who is dependent on you and living with you such as a child or partner
- You are in receipt of both Disability Living Allowance (or new Personal Independence Payments) **and** Employment Support Allowance (ESA) (or Universal Credit as a replacement for ESA) in your own right

Vulnerable bursary payments are made weekly at a rate of up to £30 per week depending on a student's circumstances and are subject to financial need and the college can make no award or a reduced award. Assistance with cost of college materials such as calculators, art materials is available as required. Please ask finance staff for guidance on documentation required for vulnerable bursary applications.

3. TRANSPORT BURSARY

For students aged 16 -18 on 31st August 2025 and whose household income is below £30,000 per annum who need assistance with college related transport costs and who live outside of Guisborough. Also, students who are aged over 19 who are continuing the same study programme they began aged 16-18 and students aged 19-24 who have an Education Health and Care plan, may be eligible.

A monthly bursary equivalent to £1 per timetabled day per week is available, household income evidence is required with application.

4. DIGITAL ACCESS BURSARY

For students aged 16 -18 on 31st August 2025 and whose household income is below £30,000 per annum who do not already have access to broadband at home or mobile data access can apply for a data only sim in order to help with college studies. These data only sims are subject to availability. Also, students who are aged over 19 who are continuing the same study programme they began aged 16-18 and students aged 19-24 who have an Education Health and Care plan, may be eligible.

A data only sim will be provided by the college, subject to availability, household income evidence is required with application.

5. FREE MEALS

For students aged 16-18 on 31st August 2025 who need assistance with college lunches and whose parents (or students in their own right) are in receipt of one or more of the following qualifying benefits:

- Universal Credit with net earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400 pa (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of less than £16,190 as assessed by HMRC)

- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit Run-on

Also, students who are aged over 19 who are continuing the same study programme they began aged 16-18 and students aged 19-24 who have an Education Health and Care plan, may be eligible.

Students will receive a meal deal in the college canteen for each full timetabled day, this may be breakfast or lunch and is redeemed by way of a token/student ID card once application is approved.

6. CHILD CARE COSTS – PREVIOUSLY CALLED CARE TO LEARN

Care to Learn helps young parents under the age of 20 to continue in and return to education after the birth of a child by providing funding for childcare whilst the young parent is studying, and it can also help young parents with any additional travel costs involved in taking a child to the childcare provider. Payments of up to £180 per child per week are payable to an Ofsted registered childcare provider. Young parents must tick that they require childcare assistance when completing the application for financial support form and the college finance team will then make contact to start this process.

ATTENDANCE MONITORING FOR DISCRETIONARY SUBSISTENCE BURSARIES

Discretionary subsistence bursary payments are subject to 100% attendance at all timetabled lessons and compulsory study for the previous week. The attendance week runs Monday to Friday- Student attendance is recorded at every lesson.

If you are absent through illness, you or your parent/guardian must inform the College by 10.00am on each day of absence. All absences reported by the Student must be confirmed by the parent/guardian either in writing or by phone no later than the end of the next working day.

Frequent or continued absence through illness may result in loss of weekly payment.

Payments will be stopped where a student is absent for a period of 4 continuous weeks or more (eg. holidays) or if a student withdraws.

In some circumstances a student's ability to attend College is affected by long-term illness or medical condition - we ask that parents inform College of these at the start of the course so that we can discuss any difficulties that may arise.

If students wish to leave College early, they must sign out at Reception. We will require further evidence for the reason for the absence & parental confirmation no later than the end of the next working day.

If you are going to miss a lesson for good reason e.g., hospital, GP or driving test (not theory test), you must inform Reception and your subject teacher in advance. We will also require sight of your appointment card.

Other appointments, e.g., driving lessons, theory test etc. should be made at times to avoid missing lessons and students will not qualify for PPC Bursary payment.

PPC bursary will not be paid for absence due to holidays, this includes college holidays.

All correspondence, Queries and Appeals regarding bursary payments must be made by the student.

The table below shows how your attendance will be administered:

You are marked present for all lessons in the week You are in an Exam or on a College trip You are at an interview or on work experience related to your studies and you have informed Reception in advance and provided confirmation.	We will authorise your PPC Bursary.
If you inform Reception about an unavoidable absence before the lesson you will be marked as E (evidence) If you contact the College about an illness before 10.00am on the day of absence you will be marked (E) providing this is confirmed by your Parent/Guardian no later than the end of the next working day. If you become ill at College and wish to go home, and you sign out at Reception, you will be marked E on receipt of confirmation from a Parent / Guardian no later than the end of the next working day.	We will authorise your PPC Bursary
You are marked absent for any lessons in the week You are absent for illness or other reasons and the College was not advised by 10:00 on the day of absence or the absence was not confirmed by a Parent or Guardian You left College during the normal College day and did not sign out at Reception	You will be advised by e-mail that you do not qualify for payment.

Queries

If you receive an e-mail informing you that you do not qualify for your PPC Bursary and you believe that there is an error on your register, you must complete a Query Form, (available at Student Support Office) by 1.30pm on the following Monday. Claims for payment cannot be accepted after this time. We will investigate your query and inform you of the outcome by email.

Students must follow this process to qualify for payment. Please be aware tutors are unable to authorise payment for students.

Appeals Process

If you do not agree with the outcome of your query you have the right to appeal.

All appeals must be made by the student on an Appeal form, available at the main reception. Appeals should be received by College within 10 working days of receipt of the outcome of the Query stage.

WHAT TO DO NEXT

To apply for any of the financial support available, please complete an application form and provide evidence of qualifying Benefits or income (for the tax year 2023/24) and hand in at enrolment or main reception at college when you start in September or email ppcbursary@atomix.ac.uk

Forms are available on the college website www.pursglove.ac.uk or from main reception and staff can help you complete forms and check eligibility. All information will be treated confidentially. If you wish to discuss any element of your application in private, please ask and a separate room will be arranged.

OTHER SUPPORT AVAILABLE

ARMED FORCES BEREAVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Is for children of those who have died in service and whose death was attributable to service and helps to cover some of the costs incurred in obtaining further education qualifications.

Further information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afbss-form-1>