



# Student finance in further education (Schools and Colleges)

## Cost of courses

- Usually you won't have to pay for the cost of tuition if you are under 19. The exceptions might be if you are applying for a private, fee-paying school or college or if you have come to this country from outside Europe purely for the purposes of studying.
- For some courses, you might need to buy special equipment and materials.
- Speak to school staff or college admissions tutors if you are not sure about your particular circumstances.

## Education Maintenance Allowances (EMAs)

- If you are between the ages of 16 and 18 and doing a full-time further education course, you may be entitled to an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) of up to £30 per week. The amount you could receive depends on the income of your parents/carers. The current figures (tax year 2009-2010) are:

EMA: amount payable	Household income (before tax)
£30 per week	£20,817
£20 per week	£20,818 to £25,521
£10 per week	£25,522 to £30,810

- Schools and colleges have EMA forms but you can order them online at <http://ema.direct.gov.uk>. The site also tells you more about EMAs.

## Dance and Drama Awards

- Some private dance and drama establishments offer these Awards. There are various requirements – for instance, for dance courses you need to be 16+ but for acting courses you must be 18+ to be eligible.
- Awards are only given to students who show a sufficiently high level of talent at the audition compared with other applicants. If the income of your parents/carers is below a certain amount, you may be able to get additional financial help (NB you need to be in receipt of an Award to obtain this).
- For a list of eligible places and for more information, see [www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama/](http://www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama/).

## Transport costs

- Depending on your individual need, you may be able to get help with transport costs from your local authority. The local authorities covered by Central London Connexions are: [www.camden.gov.uk](http://www.camden.gov.uk) (020 7974 4444); [www.islington.gov.uk](http://www.islington.gov.uk) (020 7527 2000); [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) (Kensington and Chelsea 020 7361 3000); [www.lambeth.gov.uk](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk) (020 7926 1000); [www.southwark.gov.uk](http://www.southwark.gov.uk) (020 7525 5000); [www.wandsworth.gov.uk](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk) (020 8871 6000); [www.westminster.gov.uk](http://www.westminster.gov.uk) (020 7641 6000).
- Discounted travel is available in London/the surrounding areas with a 16+ Oyster photocard. In addition, if you live in a London borough, you can get free transport on buses and trams.
- Application forms for the Oyster photocard are available from post offices. More information is on [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk) – search for 'children and students'.

## Childcare costs

- If you have a child and are under 20, you may be eligible for funds from Care to Learn to enable you to continue studying.
- Up to £160 per week (£175 in London) is available to help with the costs of childcare and travel.
- More information is on [www.direct.gov.uk/caretolearn](http://www.direct.gov.uk/caretolearn).

## Other help

- Colleges and schools have a small amount of money available for students in financial difficulties, which could help pay for essential course-related equipment, for instance. These are called Discretionary Support Funds.
- Your parents/carers will usually still receive Child Benefit and Child Tax Credit, if eligible, when you continue in full time further education.
- For information on financial help see [www.direct.gov.uk/moneytolearn](http://www.direct.gov.uk/moneytolearn) or ring the learner support helpline on 0800 121 8989.
- Don't forget part-time work – useful for providing funds and gaining valuable experience for future job applications. You may have to search around a bit to find something that fits in with your studying.

### Our equal opportunities policy: Successful Young People, Successful Communities

Central London Connexions will help young people from all backgrounds in London to succeed. Central London Connexions will make a real and lasting contribution to ensuring that the capital's diverse communities are successful in meeting the challenges of the 21st century. Central London Connexions will actively celebrate the cultures and diversity of young people through services and programmes that are attractive, relevant and reflect community interests, offering full and equal access to all young people and staff.

This information is available in alternative formats, call 020 7938 8080.

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