

## **Advanced Learner Loan Student Financial Support Policy 2019/2020**

### **Scope**

This policy applies to students aged 19 or over on 31st August 2019 studying towards Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) funded further education qualifications that also qualify for bursary support based on funding body criteria.

### **Policy context**

Vision West Nottinghamshire College policy is to follow the policy guidelines of the ESFA and openly, fairly and transparently apply the rules set by these government funding agencies.

These funds are managed by the College and are allocated on a first come, first served basis via an application and assessment process. Students must meet the specified eligibility criteria in order to be considered for any assistance. The rules within this policy are set out at the time of writing and could be subject to change at any time from the ESFA.

Financial support is intended to remove barriers and support participation, attendance and achievement.

Applications received by the Student Financial Support Team will be processed within six weeks of enrolment. Any applications received prior to this will not be processed until after the student has enrolled. Applicants will be notified of their application outcome by post.

### **Advanced Learner Loan**

Advanced Learner Loans provide a source of fees and support to help people aged 19 and over undertake general and technical qualifications at Levels 3, 4, 5 and 6.

## Overview of funding available

	Advanced Learner Loan Bursary	Free College Meals
Help available:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bursary payment of £50 per month – based on attendance</li><li>• Free College Bus</li><li>• Childcare funding/Care to Learn</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aged 19 to 24 with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan) and student or parent/carer being in receipt of one of the qualifying benefits</li></ul>

### Advanced Learner Loan Bursary for part-time or full-time students

To qualify for the bursary support you must be in receipt of an Advanced Learner Loan and have an annual gross household income of below £25,000 or below £30,000 with three or more dependent children, aged up to 19 and in full time education or below school age living in the household.

Discretion may be given in extenuating circumstances.

Students living at home with parent/carers can be classed as independent if they can show a gross earned income of £4602.00 or above during the 2018/2019 tax year. If their income is below this amount they will be assessed based on their parent/carer's income.

For all applications funding is limited; therefore evidence of eligibility does not guarantee an award. Student's wishing to apply for financial support should do so as soon as possible from the start of their course.

- £50.00 BACS monthly payment for full-time students, paid to Student bank account. Payment dates published and available to all students.
- Payments for part-time students will be pro-rata.

**Full monthly payment is made if attendance is 90% or above. If attendance falls below 70% no payment is made. Attendance between 70% and 90% the student will receive that percentage of payment.**

## **20+ Childcare Fund**

- Up to £160.00 per week per child in Ofsted registered childcare. Funding available for a maximum of two children aged 5 or under on 31 August 2019. This is only to be used for timetabled days in college plus 30 minutes travelling time before and after college hours.
- If the child is eligible for 15 or 30 hours per week free early education, these **must** be used to cover your required sessions; you may then apply for additional cover, if required.

**Full monthly payment is made to the childcare provider if attendance is 90% or above. Attendance will be monitored monthly and if it falls below 90% payment may be withheld, however, individual cases will be assessed at our discretion and may be awarded based on individual circumstances and specific need.**

## **Payment dates**

<b>Advanced Learner Loan Bursary</b>	
04/10/2019	06/03/2020
08/11/2019	09/04/2020
06/12/2019	11/05/2020
10/01/2020	05/06/2020
07/02/2020	03/07/2020

## **Appeals/Complaints procedure**

Any disagreement with a decision made by the Student Financial Support Team in relation to an application should be made in writing to the Student Welfare Manager, Vision West Nottinghamshire College, Derby Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 5BH.

Student Financial Support Team

Room 101d

Derby Road

Mansfield

Nottinghamshire

NG18 5BH

Telephone: 01623 627191 Ext 8179

Email: [StudentFinancialSupport@wnc.ac.uk](mailto:StudentFinancialSupport@wnc.ac.uk)