

Salter Sixth

George Salter Academy

16-19 Bursary Scheme 2024/25



SUCCESS • THROUGH • ENDEAVOUR

Salter Sixth 16-19 Bursary Scheme

What is the 16 – 19 Bursary Fund?

The 16-19 Bursary is a Fund which replaced the Educational Maintenance Allowance. The new fund is a specific sum of money given to School Sixth Forms to help support those young people who face the greatest barriers to continuing in education or training Post 16.

The aim of the bursary fund is to remove financial barriers to participation in post 16 education. It is to be awarded to individuals, specifically targeting those who are financially disadvantaged, thereby facilitating their education.

Bursary payments will be linked to attendance which needs to be **95%** and over.
Behaviour – you must not have **4** or more negatives.

The level of support that young people need will vary, and is dependent upon a range of factors, including the type of course they are undertaking, whether they need any specialist equipment, and their travel costs.

This fund could help you with education-related costs that may arise during the school year, including essentials like a meal during the day or transport to your school. It might also provide you with extra help to buy books, clothing or equipment for your course, or pay for educational visits.

Each school, receives an individual allocation of these funds for the academic year from the Education Funding Agency (EFA). Once these funds have been awarded to eligible pupils there is no guarantee that further monies will be available to support learners who subsequently submit an application.

Below are the categories you can apply for, please note that you will be required to send **2 documents** as evidence as stated below each category.

Category 1 – Vulnerable Bursary – you could receive up to £1200 if you:

- ❖ are in local authority care, or have recently left local authority care; or
- ❖ receive Income Support, or Universal Credit, in your own name(student's name); or
- ❖ are disabled and receive both Employment Support Allowance (ESA) and Disability Living Allowance, or Personal Independence Payments in your own name. (Student's name).

Categories 2 – Medium Discretionary Bursary (household income under £16,200)

– you could receive up to £1,000

Students who are eligible to receive a Free School Meal
Receipt of benefits/University Credit (current tax year)
P60 (current tax year)

Tax Credit Award (current tax year)
Evidence of self-employment income (current tax year)
Universal Credit monthly award notices for July, August, September and October
Parent pay-slips, July, August, September and October

Category 3 – Low Discretionary Bursary (household income between £16,201 and £24,000) – you could receive up to £1,000

In receipt of benefits/Universal credit current tax year
P60 (current tax year)
Tax Credit Award (current tax year)
Evidence of self-employment income (current tax year)
Universal Credit monthly award notices for July, August and September
Parent pay-slips, July, August, September and October

Am I eligible?

To be eligible you must be at least 16 years' old and under 19 years old on the 31st August in the year of application. You must also be taking part in full-time or part-time further education, or training. You will need to comply with the requirements set out in the three categories outlined later in this document.

Further information and advice for young people regarding the 16 -19 Bursary Fund is available from the Education Funding Agency website.

Who will the bursary be paid to?

1. **Vulnerable Student Bursary (Category 1)** – payable to those students who meet the eligibility criteria for this bursary as described previously;
2. **Discretionary Bursary** – to those students whose circumstances are as follows:-
 - **Category 2**
 - Students who are eligible to receive a Free School Meal;
 - Students whose household income is below £16,200;
 - Students who have been affected by a sudden, exceptional change in financial circumstances.
 - **Category 3**
 - Students whose gross annual household income for the tax year 2023-24 is between £16,201 and £24,000.

How much will I receive?

If your application is approved as a Vulnerable Student Bursary you will receive a payment of up to £1200 in the academic year 2024-25, payable in one lump sum. Payment will be made by BACS, payable to the nominated student bank account.

If your application is approved as a Discretionary Bursary you could receive a payment of up to £1000, in the academic year 2024–2025, payable in two payments. Payment will be made by BACS, payable to the nominated student bank account.

The amount you will receive will be determined by your individual circumstances and the requirements of the course you are studying. All payments made under the scheme will be subject to meeting the attendance and behaviour requirements of Salter Sixth (**student's unauthorised and unexplained absences should be less than 5% and students should have no more than four referrals for poor behaviour or missing/late work**)

Applications for the 16 – 19 Bursary must be initially submitted by **Friday 18th October 2024**. It is important to recognise that there is a limited amount of funding available.

A small amount of funding will be kept. Applications can be made at other times depending upon need. Therefore, all applications are subject to the availability of funding, at the time of your application.

Payments however will be dependent upon the amount allocated to George Salter Academy by the EFA. It is assumed that this is a finite amount for each academic year. Applications will not be considered once all funds have been distributed.

How will the bursary be paid?

The bursary awarded to you will be paid in two equal instalments.

All bursary payments will be subject to confirmation that your attendance and behaviour meets the requirement of GSA.

Other eligibility factors for the 16-19 Bursary at Salter Sixth:

In order to receive financial support the student's unauthorised and unexplained absences should be less than 5% and students should have no more than four referrals for poor behaviour or missing/late work. This includes all lessons. The student should also have signed and returned the admissions contract, and all elements of the contract should be adhered to. Behaviour must be good and progress should be made in all subjects in order to receive any allocation. These aspects will be reviewed throughout the year, using the academic tracking system, and tutor or teacher concerns as well as attendance analysis.

How does the Academy assess applications and allocate 16-19 Bursary funding?

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a limited fund and the Academy has discretion to prioritise allocation. There will be three priority groups, categorised as high, medium and low. A panel will meet to judge each application and allocations will be made after this date. The decision of the panel will be final.

Category 1 - High Priority Group

Students receive a bursary of £1,200, which will be paid in one lump sum. Payment will be made by BACS, payable to the student.

Vulnerable Student Bursary – you could receive up to £1200 if you:

- ❖ are in local authority care, or have recently left local authority care; or
- ❖ receive Income Support, or Universal Credit, in your own name (student's name); or
- ❖ are disabled and receive both Employment Support Allowance (ESA) and Disability Living Allowance, or Personal Independence Payments in your own name (student's name).

Students applying for this level of support will need to provide evidence in written form. Suggested forms of evidence include:-

- A letter setting out the benefits to which the young person is entitled;
- Written confirmation of the young person's current or previous looked after status from the local authority which looks after them, or provides their leaving care services.

Category 2 – Medium Priority Group

Discretionary Student Bursary – you could receive up to £1000

Students will receive a bursary, of up to £1000 a year, to be paid in two equal instalments. Payments will be made by BACS, payable to the student.

Students who could be eligible are:-

- **Those in receipt of Free School Meals**

The criteria for those in receipt of **Free School Meals** are:-

- Those on a household income of less than £16,200
- Those on Income Support, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, Income Related Employment and Support Allowance, and Child Tax Credit (the latter for those on an income not exceeding £16,200.)

- Or have a total household income for the tax year 2023-2024 of less than £16,200 (could be entitled to Free School Meals)
- Or those who have been affected by a sudden, exceptional change in financial circumstances.

As in category one, applications will need to be accompanied by evidence. Examples of evidence include:-

- Students who are eligible to receive a Free School Meal
- Receipt of benefits/Universal Credit (current tax year)
- P60 (current tax year)
- Tax Credit Award (current tax year)
- Evidence of self-employment income (current tax year)
- Universal Credit

Applications should also state how the funding will be spent by the student, for example, specific educational purposes should be identified. These may include:-

- Meals whilst in the Academy
- Transport costs to and from Academy
- Books for courses
- Equipment for courses
- Any other costs related to study.

The amount of bursary will be dependent on the number of applications of students who are eligible for consideration of support and the amount of funding available.

Category 3 – Low Priority Group

- Those who have a gross annual household income for the tax year 2023-2024 between £16,201 and £24,000.

Those in the low priority group will be considered for a bursary subject to available funding after those in the high and medium priority groups have been awarded.

Bursaries in this category will be dependent on need and will be assessed individually.

This category is aimed at any one whose financial situation poses a barrier to their education, and who does not fit into categories one or two.

Just as in Category two, applications should also provide evidence of difficult financial circumstances, for example:-

- Receipt of benefits/Universal credit current tax year

- P60 (current tax year)
- Tax Credit Award
- Universal Credit

As in Category two also, applications should also be accompanied by a letter detailing how the extra funds would be used, for example:-

- Meals whilst in the Academy
- Transport costs to and from Academy
- Books for courses
- Equipment for courses
- Any other costs related to study
- **If applicable you will need to get your class teachers to sign to confirm that you need this resource for your studies.**

All applications will be treated confidentially. Photocopies of documents will be required. Payments will be made by BACS, payable to the student.

How do I apply?

Students will be informed via assemblies and tutors. Students will be encouraged to apply as soon as possible:-

- Initial deadline date: - **Friday 18th October 2024**

A panel will meet to judge each application and allocations will be made after this date. The decision of the panel will be final.

All paperwork **MUST** be completed in full, depending on the category you are applying for. In the category you are applying for, you **MUST** list what you will be using the money for, with clear pricing. If successful with your application, **receipts** must be provided before payments will be processed.

Application forms?

Copies of the Policy and supporting Application Forms are available from the Post 16 office. All supporting paperwork **MUST** be provided with your application, to be considered.

Appeals?

All decisions in relation to the 16-19 Bursary Fund are made at the Bursary meeting, this ensure all applications are discussed and given careful considerations.

If you are unhappy about the decision made in relation to an application form or when payment has been stopped due to a student not meeting his/her SMART TARGETS you have the right to appeal:

All Appeals should be made in writing to:

Mr A. Price
Principal
George Salter Academy
Davey Road
West Bromwich
B70 9UW

Mrs A. Howe
Business Manager
George Salter Academy
Davey Road
West Bromwich
B70 9UW

SUBMISSIONS THAT ARE INCORRECTLY COMPLETED WILL BE REJECTED. THIS WILL INCLUDE LACK OF DETAIL IN THE SUBMISSION AND PROOF DOCUMENTS NOT BEING SUBMITTED. IF IN DOUBT, PLEASE SEE DR LEE AND MR PRICE BEFORE SUBMITTING THE FORM.