

BCNO Bursary Information

Eligibility for all bursaries

To be eligible for a bursary, students must be classified as 'home students' (by BCNO) and domiciled in the UK for three continuous years before the undergraduate course commences.

You will need to have applied for and been offered a Student Finance loan, as a number of eligibility criteria are assessed through Student Finance.

Bursaries for eligible students

Eligibility*	Cash bursary
Eligible for free school meals at key stage 4	£1,000 per annum for two years
Household income of under £25,000	£500 per annum for one year
Have had care experience	£1,000 per annum for four years; £250 before enrolment
Estranged student	£1,000 per annum for four years; £250 before enrolment
Young adult carer	£1,000 per annum for two years

*Students will be eligible for one cash bursary

Further eligibility

Household income

Household income will be determined by the student finance household income assessment.

Care Experience

Be under 25 years old on the day your course starts and have been in the care of your local authority before the age of 16 for 3 months or more or have spent 3 months or more in supported accommodation schemes since the age of 14 years. You should be able to provide a letter from the local authority or other professional to confirm your status.

Estranged Student

Must be under the age of 25 years on the day your course starts and have been classified as an independent student on the grounds of estrangement by Student Finance. You will need to fill out a confirmation of estrangement form for the academic year through Student Finance

[Estrangement | Student Finance England](#)

[Financial Support for Estranged Students - Scotland](#)

[Estrangement Leaflet 2023/24](#)

Student Finance will assess you, and you will be granted the status of Independent for reasons of Estrangement. BCNO will receive the status confirmation, and the bursary will automatically be assessed.

If you believe you are entitled to the bursary, but you have not been informed, please contact Natalie.pipe@bcnogroup.ac.uk

Young Adult Carer Bursary

To be eligible, you must have received Carers Allowance prior to the start of the course or have been engaged with your local Carers Centre or Young Adult Carers Services as a registered carer. You must provide evidence to support this. If you have not been formally involved with a service, it may be possible for BCNO to accept written evidence of your status from a medical professional.

Typically, full-time students are not eligible for Carer's allowance. You must notify the Benefits Agency when you start full-time study to ensure you do not accrue an overpayment.

Please contact Student Welfare [Natalie.pipe @bcnogroup.ac.uk](mailto:Natalie.pipe@bcnogroup.ac.uk)

Free School Meals

If you were eligible for free school meals during key stage 4. Please provide a letter from the school confirming the receipt of UK Government-funded free school meals. If you are unable to provide a letter from the school, then the following documents can also be accepted showing your parents' or guardians' eligibility:

- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income support
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child tax credit only if you are also not entitled to Working Tax credit

- Have an annual gross income of no more than £16,000 as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC)
- Working Tax credit run-on. This is paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for the Working Tax Credit. Universal credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (after tax and not including any benefits you get). This is from 1st April 2018
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

Please note that only UK Government-funded free school meals are eligible.