

Quick Guide to Learner Support Funds

Northern College is committed to supporting students to access learning. The College has a Learner Support Fund which may provide financial support for students with specific financial hardship.

Students who apply for financial support through the Learner Support Fund must provide evidence that they meet the required income threshold.

This is either:

- 1) A gross taxable income of less than £34,977.43 or
- 2) A gross household income of less than £39,000 if there is no individual taxable income.

The types of income that will be included in the assessment are outlined in the full [Learner Support Fund Guidance 2025-26](#)

Financial support available

Travel costs	- Students can claim back the cost of travel to and from the College for the duration of their course. - For students on courses that are 20 weeks and over, reimbursed costs will be paid monthly. - For students on all other courses, reimbursed costs will be paid once the course has been completed. - All payments are subject to attendance checks. - All travel claims for public transport require receipts to be submitted prior to payment - Travel claims for car mileage will be paid at 45p a mile and will be calculated using the shortest route between the College and home address. - Eligibility for reimbursement of travel costs is assessed at enrolment.
Meals	- Students who attend College for at least 5 hours or more per day are eligible for a meal allowance. - For students studying on-site, a meal allowance will be loaded onto their ID card for use at the College's food service outlet. - For students studying off-site at a centre approved by the College, a supermarket voucher, up to the value of £5.00, will be provided by the tutor. - Residential students who are eligible for meals will receive breakfast, lunch and evening meals apart from breakfast on the first day and evening meal on the last day of the course.

	• Non-residential students who are eligible for meals will receive lunch for the days they are on the course. • Eligibility for meal allowance is assessed at enrolment.
Course related costs (accredited provision only)	• Students who are on accredited courses and have been assessed as being eligible for travel and meal support may also be able to access financial support for other costs associated with learning. • Students will need to complete an application for Course Related Costs 2025/26 which is available from Student Services. • Students are required to outline reasons why financial support is required. • Financial support is available for the following costs: ○ UCAS application costs. ○ Books up to the value of £100 (as recommended by the tutor). ○ Examination fees including resits. ○ Kit / equipment which is not fundable via the curriculum up to the value of £25. ○ Tuition fees for courses up to Level 2 if not eligible for tuition fee remission. ○ Accreditation fees, professional membership fees and any fees or charges due to external bodies. ○ Resources to support studies (as recommended by the tutor). ○ Educational or employability related visits / trips not fully funded by the College as part of the course. • Receipts are required for reimbursement of costs paid upfront by students.
Emergency Fund	• The College has an emergency fund to support students who experience a sudden, unexpected and emergency situation which may impact on their studies. • Financial support in this situation is up to the value of £250 • Students will need to complete an application for Course Related Costs 2025/26 which is available from Student Services. • All applications for the emergency fund require approval from a member of the Executive Leadership Team

If you require further information or support with any of the above, please email Student Support Services at advice@northern.ac.uk or you can visit the team on-site at College.

For a more detailed view of the College's Learner Support Fund, please read the full [Learner Support Fund Guidance 2025-26](#) document.