

KCLMS Financial Support 2023-24

This document is intended to help you understand:

- if your child is eligible for financial support from KCLMS
- what evidence we need to see to confirm eligibility
- what level of financial support you can expect

Full details of how we allocate financial support can be found in the [KCLMS Bursary Fund Policy](#).

Please note that if your child is in receipt of Income Support, if they are in care, are a care leaver or are a disabled student in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Allowance, they are eligible for a higher level of support than is detailed here; please contact the school directly if this is relevant to your child.

Free Meals (FM)

Students currently eligible for "Free School Meals" in their secondary schools are likely to be eligible for "Free Meals" in 16-19 education. Full technical details are available [here](#).

Eligibility and Evidence

Students are eligible for free school meals if their parents are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit with net earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get Free Meals.

In addition, the following students will be protected against losing their free school meals as follows:

- All students already receiving free meals from 1 April 2018 will continue to receive free meals until March 2025 and then until the end of the course they are enrolled on at this point. This will apply even if their household earnings rise above the new threshold during that time.
- Any student who becomes eligible for free meals after the threshold has been introduced will also continue to receive free meals until March 2025 and then until the end of the course they are enrolled on. This will apply even if they subsequently become ineligible during this period because their household earnings rise above the new threshold.

We do not have the facility to check entitlement for all students electronically and need to you provide *either*:

- supporting documentation of recent (within the last 3 months) evidence of entitlement, where documentation must relate to one of the above bullet points setting out eligibility, *or*
- confirmation from your current school that you are an existing Free School Meals claimant. If applicants to the school noted that they are eligible at the point of application, KCLMS asks the school to confirm this eligibility as part of the school reference. Should we have this confirmation, we will inform you by email. If we do not have this confirmation already, we will accept instead an email from your current school (sent to KCLMSadmissions@kcl.ac.uk) stating that you are an existing Free School Meal claimant.

Level of Support

We will provide FSM students with:

- An allowance of £3 per day for meals. This will be provided in the form of luncheon vouchers, which are accepted at a wide array of food outlets.
- A travel bursary covering 100% of travel costs (capped at £1,200). The travel bursary is paid into student's own bank accounts each half term in arrears and is dependent on attendance, punctuality and behaviour. Please note that we are unable to pay this money into a parent/carer bank account, so to receive funds students will need to open a bank account in their own name if they do not already have one.
- A Windows laptop for the duration of the student's time at KCLMS. There is no charge for this, but a refundable deposit of £50 is required.
- An electronic writing device (the One by Wacom).
- Stationery equipment and a calculator for the duration of the student's time at KCLMS. There is no charge for this.
- The cost of any UCAS application will be covered by the school.

Working Tax Credits, Child Tax Credits and Universal Tax Credit

Eligibility and Evidence

Your child is eligible for support if your family receive Working Tax Credits (WTC), Child Tax Credits (CTC) or Universal Tax Credits (UTC). We need to see evidence (eg HMRC paperwork) that WTC, CTC or UTC have been received recently (in the last 6 months).

Level of Support

We will provide students whose families receive WTC, CTC or UTC with:

- A travel bursary covering 50% of travel costs (capped at £600). The travel bursary is paid each half term in arrears directly into the student's bank account and is dependent on attendance, punctuality and behaviour.
- A Windows laptop for the duration of your study at 50% of the standard fee. We will therefore provide you with a Windows laptop for £215.
- An electronic writing device (the One by Wacom).

- Stationery equipment and a calculator for the duration of the student's time at KCLMS. There is no charge for this.
- The cost of any UCAS application will be covered by the school.

Progression Fund

King's Maths School has a discretionary progression fund to assist students with the costs of progressing to university or other independent futures e.g. to support visits to open days. Applications to this fund can be made by enrolled students at any time by completing a [Progression Fund Application Form](#).