



London Borough
of Hounslow

WHAT CASH HELP IS THERE IF MY CHILD STAYS ON AFTER YEAR 11 ?



Does your son or daughter want to stay on in education after age 16? Are you worried about whether you can afford them staying on? Find out what benefits and tax credits or other help there is if they do stay on to study or train.

What cash help may be available?

- Child Benefit
- Child Tax Credit
- Housing Benefit
- Council Tax Benefit
- Health Benefits
- Disability Living Allowance
- Education Maintenance Allowance - direct to the student



How can I still get benefits and tax credits for them after year 11 ?

They will meet the rules to be treated as your dependent still if they are:

- Over 16 by the start of the new school or college year in September and under 20
- In full-time non-advanced education which is at least 12 hours supervised study a week. Non-advanced means up to A level standard so this can include GCSE, NVQ levels 1-3, BTEC and GNVQ. OR
- On an approved unwaged training course - this is usually Entry to Employment or e2e

Child Benefit

You can still get this paid to you if the young person counts as your dependent. You should get a letter (form CH298) from the Child Benefit Centre during year 11 asking if the young person is leaving education or planning to stay on in education or approved training after 16.





You need to tell the Child Benefit Centre where the young person will be studying, what course they will be on and any planned examination dates. You can call them on 0845 302 1444 if you did not get this letter or the details change after you sent it back to them.

If they don't hear from you the Child Benefit will stop after 31 August following your child's 16th birthday. If it stops, you can restart the benefit after then if your child stays on at school or college. Make sure you let them know when the young person finally leaves school or college or you will be overpaid benefit.

Child Tax Credit

Just like Child Benefit, you can still get Child Tax Credit if the young person counts as your dependent still. The rules are the same as for getting Child Benefit over the age of 16. Make sure the Tax Credit Office knows if the young person is staying on in education or approved training. Their phone number is 0845 300 3900. Don't forget to tell them when the young person leaves education or approved training so you don't get an overpayment.



Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

DLA can still be paid if the young person stays on in education or approved training. A few months before the 16th birthday, the DWP will look at any DLA claim being paid for a child and reassess it as an adult claim from that birthday. It can be paid direct to the young person or to an appointee if necessary. DLA is for special care or mobility needs because of physical or learning disabilities or severe communication needs. You can get a higher amount of Child Tax Credit if the young person gets DLA. New claims are made by calling 0800 88 22 00.

What about other benefits and tax credits ?

- If you still get Child Benefit and Child Tax Credit and you are working, then you will be treated as a parent for Working Tax Credit. This allows you to include the young person in your claim and you need to work a minimum of 16 hours a week.
- If the young person stays on in education or approved training then Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit will count them as your dependent still. This continues until they



finish the course even when they get to their 18th birthday so you will need to give Revenue Services (housing benefit) proof that they are still on an approved course or training after their 18th birthday.

Make sure you tell housing benefit when the course ends so your benefit is adjusted and you get paid the right amount.

- NHS Health Benefits can be claimed for young people who are staying on in full-time non-advanced education or approved training. This will cover free prescriptions, eye tests and vouchers, dental treatment and fares for hospital treatment until the age of 19.

Does the income of the young person affect my benefits?

While your child or young person counts as a dependent because they meet the rules to still get Child Benefit, the answer is no. If they get a part time job, their earnings do not affect their benefits or your benefits. Any educational maintenance allowance they get does not count towards any benefits or tax credits you get or reduce these.

Could the young person claim their own benefits ?



- Education maintenance allowance (EMA) which is paid to lower income households (with income under £30,810) goes directly to the young person. This has to be claimed on a form that they get from school or college and is paid on a term by term basis as long as they meet attendance rules. It is worth either £10, £20 or £30 a week depending on the income band your family falls into. They can also get a bonus on top. Any part-time earnings the young person may have will not affect their EMA.
- Claiming benefits because of incapacity. This may be possible if the young person is disabled or has an illness which stops them working. If they continue to study at least 12 hours a week and the course is for people with special needs, they could then apply for Incapacity Benefit for Youth with a medical certificate to back them up. Claim through Jobcentre Plus on 0800 055 6688.





(There will be a new benefit with a new disability test for claims from 27 October 2008 called Employment and Support Allowance. A young person already on incapacity benefit will not be transferred to the new benefit until 2009.)

- Claiming benefit as a lone parent - this is done by making a claim for Income Support through Jobcentre Plus on 0800 055 6688.
- Claiming benefit because the young person cannot live at home with their parents or anyone acting in place of their parents. This is not an easy choice and the amount of benefit paid is low. These are special rules as most 16 to 17 year olds can't claim benefits while they stay in full time study or approved training. Phone our Helpline for more information: 020 8583 5016
- Learner support funds. There may be some help through this fund on hardship grounds for things like travel, books, equipment and other costs. These are for young people over 16 who stay on to study who have special needs or a low income. The school or college can give more information.



- Help with travel costs. There is help with travel costs up to the end of the course but the young person must apply for the special 16+ oyster card through their school or college to get this free travel.

Where can we get more information?

- The Connexions Service at school or the student adviser at college
- Hounslow Connexions Service: 020 8577 5478 or visit them on www.hounslowattic.org.uk/index.php/money/
- Hounslow Citizens Advice Bureaux: 0870 1269 500 for opening times for their Hounslow, Feltham or Chiswick advice bureaux.
- Hounslow Welfare Benefits and Money Advice helpline on 020 8583 5016 (minicom for people with speech/hearing needs on 020 8583 5013) or wbmau@hounslow.gov.uk
- Disability Network Hounslow on 020 8758 2048 (fax 020 8758 2014 and minicom 020 8758 2065)



- Hounslow Community Advice Service on 020 8583 2525 (fax 020 8583 5603)
- Hounslow Revenue Services for housing benefit and council tax benefit on 020 8583 4242
- Child Benefit Office on 0845 302 1444 or textphone 0845 302 1474
- Tax Credit Office on 0845 300 3900 or textphone 0845 300 3909
- Benefits Enquiry Line for disabled people on 0800 88 22 00 or textphone 0800 24 33 55
- SKILL (national bureau for students with disabilities) on 0800 328 5050 or textphone 0800 068 2422 (or 020 7450 0620 for both)
- Help with health costs line on 0845 850 1166

يحتوي هذا المنشور على معلومات بخصوص المساعدات المادية اذا بقى ابنك في المدرسة او الكلية بعد سن 16 سنه. اتصل على 020 8583 2299 للنسخة المترجمة.

Arabic

तपाईंको बच्चा यदि १६ वर्षको उमेर पछि विध्यालय वा कलेजमा पढिरहेकोछ, र पैसा खर्चको सहयोग चाहिएको खण्डमा यो परिचले जानकारी दिने छ। टेलिफोन गर्नु 020 8583 2299 अनुबादनको लागि।

Nepalese

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਡਾ ਬੱਚਾ 16 ਸਾਲ ਦੀ ਉਮਰ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਅਦ ਵੀ ਸਕੂਲ ਜਾਂ ਕਾਲਜ ਵਿਚ ਪੜ੍ਹਦਾ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਇਸ ਪਰਚੇ ਵਿਚ ਪੈਸਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਮਦਦ ਬਾਰੇ ਦੱਸਿਆ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਤਰਜਮੇ ਲਈ 020 8583 2297 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Panjabi

Ta broszurka informuje o możliwej pomocy pieniężnej gdy Państwa dziecko pozostanie w szkole lub college'u po ukończeniu 16-tego roku życia. Prosimy zadzwonić pod numer 020 8583 2299 aby otrzymać tłumaczenie.

Polish

Este folheto providencia informação sobre ajuda financeira se o(a) seu(sua) filho(a) continuar a frequentar a escola ou colégio após os 16 anos. Telefone para 020 8583 2299 para obter uma tradução.

Portugese

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Community
Legal Service

