

**ADVANCED LEARNER LOAN  
FINANCIAL SUPPORT POLICY FOR  
2018/19**

# ADVANCED LEARNER LOAN FINANCIAL SUPPORT POLICY FOR 2018/19

Date approved: 25 May 2018  
 Approved by: SMT  
 Responsible Manager (s): Director of Stakeholder Engagement  
 Executive Lead: Vice Principal Higher Education and Student Enhancement

Applicable to staff:	Yes
Applicable to students:	Yes
Accessible to students:	Yes
Accessible to general public: (including clients)	Yes

## Consultation

Consultation undertaken with:		Date:
• SMT	Yes/No*	May18
• AMT	Yes/No*	May 18
• CCMT	Yes/No*	May 18
• Students	Yes/No*	
• Employee representatives ( <i>HR policies only</i> )	NA*	
• Other	NA*	

\* *please delete as appropriate*

Policy review frequency, normally: **annually**

## **Contents**

1. Scope and purpose of the policy
2. Policy statement
3. Accountability
4. Student involvement
5. Linked policies
6. Linked procedures
7. Equality Impact Assessment

## **1. Scope and purpose of policy**

This policy applies to students who are aged 19 or over at 31 August 2018 who have an Advanced Learner Loan (ALL) approved by the Student Loans Company (SLC), and who have a need which has been assessed by the College.

Students aged 19 to 24 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and students who are continuing on the same study programme they started when they were 16-18 (19+ continuers) should refer to the 16-19 Bursary Fund Financial Support Policy 2018-19. Students who are aged 19 or over and on a course directly funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) should refer to the 19+ ESFA Financial Support Policy 2018-19.

B&FC complies with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 when setting the criteria for financial support and do not discriminate against students, either directly or indirectly, because of their protected characteristics.

The purpose of this policy is to show how the College meets the requirements of the ESFA and demonstrates how the funding provided from the ALL Bursary Fund is used to support eligible students.

## **2. Policy statement**

The ESFA Advanced Learner Loan Bursary Fund provides financial support for vulnerable and disadvantaged loan students to overcome specific barriers to participation so they can access and remain in education. This policy demonstrates how the College works within ESFA guidelines to administer funds to support eligible students.

The support for eligible students is outlined below:

Type of support	What students can get	Eligibility requirements
<b>Travel Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free Blackpool Transport smart card for unlimited travel on any Blackpool Transport bus or tram for students who live 1.5 miles away or more from the campus which they attend</li> <li>• A free dedicated college bus to cover south Fylde</li> <li>• A travel bursary of £60 per month if student lives outside of the Blackpool Transport area</li> <li>• Taxi support</li> </ul>	<p>Household income less than £20,000 per year as evidenced by eligible benefit or proof of income for 2018/19</p> <p>If a student is unable to use public transport as a result of a learning difficulty or disability, they should check if they are eligible for support via their Local Authority in the first instance. We can consider applications for taxi support where we have evidence of the student's latest disability benefit letter and evidence that household income is less than the threshold above.</p>
<b>Course Related Bursary</b>	A monthly (during term-time only) bursary to help with course related costs and expenses	Household income must meet the threshold above.

<b>Childcare</b>	<p>Age 20 or over on the first day of their course who are at risk of not starting or continuing learning because of childcare costs. Students can apply for help with the cost of childcare for College hours and essential placements.</p> <p>If aged under 20 at the start of their course. ESFA funded Care to Learn – help with the cost of childcare up to a maximum of £160 per child per week.</p>	<p>Apply directly to B&amp;FC. Household income must meet the threshold above. Childcare funding can only be paid to Ofsted registered provision and any free hours that the student is eligible for must be used for College hours in the first instance.</p> <p>Must be on a publicly funded course. Apply online at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn">https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn</a></p>
<b>Residential Funding</b>	<p>Contribution towards accommodation for eligible students who are studying specialist provision and need to live away from home</p>	<p>Help with the costs of accommodation if you study away from home because the course is not available in your local area and you are studying towards any loan funded course.</p> <p>Household income must also be below the threshold above.</p>

### 3. Accountability

The Director of Stakeholder Engagement is responsible for ensuring this policy is adopted and kept current

### 4. Student Involvement

This policy refers to and has a direct impact on students as it details what financial support they may be eligible for, however they are not directly involved in it. B&FC manages a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all students receive digital, print and face to face advice on their eligibility.

### 5. Linked policies

NA

## 6. Linked procedures

NA

## 7. Equality Impact Assessment

<b>Impact Assessment for the 4 strands of Equality, Safeguarding, Health and Safety and Sustainability</b>	
<b>Initial Form to be completed with Risk Assessments or as part of a proposal or change to a policy, plan or new way of working</b>	
<p>Title of Activity: Advanced Learner Loan Financial Support Policy</p> <p>Author and Date: Director of Stakeholder Engagement, May 2018</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> New or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revision Please tick as appropriate</p> <p>Expected Implementation Date: June 2018 What is the review date? May 2019</p>
<p><b>Equality and Diversity.</b> Which of the characteristics maybe impacted upon? And, if yes, how has this been considered? What are the risks? What are the benefits?</p>	
<p><b>Safeguarding:</b> Are there any aspects of this proposal which could cause a learner/member of staff/visitor to feel unsafe? If yes, how has this been considered? What are the risks? What are the benefits?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>Health and Safety:</b> Have any risks been identified? If yes, how has this been considered? What are the risks? What are the benefits?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>Sustainability:</b> Are there expected benefits or impacts on sustainability issues? If yes, how have these been considered?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>Evidence:</b> What evidence do you have for your conclusions and expectations for these conclusions? How will this impact be monitored for all these considerations?</p>	
<p>Is this policy of a high/medium or low risk? :</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> High      <input type="checkbox"/> Medium      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low</p>