



FREE MEAL ENTITLEMENT 2026/27

Important information about free meal eligibility and funding for college students:

WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS

Students aged 16-18 on 31 Aug 2026.
Students who turn 19 during the year.
Students aged 19-24 with an EHCP.
19+ continuers on the same programme.



INCOME ELIGIBILITY

Must receive or have a parent/carer who receives Universal Credit
Or, support under Immigration & Asylum Act 1999.



WHAT STUDENTS RECEIVE

£2.66 per full day of study.
Funds must be used the same day.



OFF-SITE PLACEMENTS

Students on off-site placements may receive bank payments or supermarket vouchers instead of daily meal funds.



TOP-UP FUNDING (LSF)

Apply to the Learner Support Fund. If eligible, receive £4.25 per full day.
Free meal eligible students receive £2.66



IMPORTANT CHANGE

Transitional Protection Removed: All students must now apply directly to the college for assessment.



HOW TO APPLY

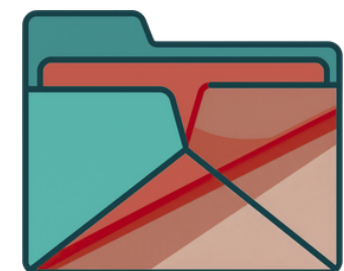
All applications for free meals must be through the LSF application process.

Scan the QR code to apply -



EVIDENCE REQUIRED

Bring proof of benefits such as 3 Universal Credit statements
Or, asylum support documentation.



QUESTIONS?

Email or visit Student Services for help with your application or to check your eligibility status.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Email:
StudentFunding@barnsley.ac.uk

Or, visit the Student Services office during opening hours.

