



Housing Funding Support

Student
Services



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Housing Funding Support - Student Guidelines

What is it?

This is a discretionary fund the College has provided so you can apply for help towards the cost of your housing and is dependent upon the level of funding the College receives.

Funds are limited and are allocated to applicants starting in August and January. This is a cash limited fund and once all funds are allocated applications may be closed. Applications received after 6th October 2024 are subject to funds still being available and may not be backdated to the start of the academic year.

Eligibility

- FE students (on non-advanced courses) can apply for housing support through the bursary application.
- HE students (on advanced courses) must apply through the College online housing application.
- Full-time students who meet residency eligibility*.
- The amount of assistance with housing you will be awarded will depend upon how much your household income is (please see scales below).
- We will only pay housing costs for students with a valid tenancy agreement or mortgage statement, which must include the students name as a liable person (sole/joint tenant/owner).
- We are unable to assist students living in the parental home, residing with family members or renting from a family member.
- Students who receive or who can still claim Housing Benefit or Housing Costs Element of Universal Credit during their studies are not entitled to receive help from the college Housing Fund.

Advanced - HNC/HND Full-Time Students

Please note that to receive any financial assistance with your housing costs from Dundee and Angus College you must have applied for the maximum support (including full loan) from SAAS.

How is it Paid?

Housing costs are paid to you subject to satisfactory attendance. It is paid to you fortnightly in arrears directly into your bank account.

How is it Assessed?

Your online housing application cannot be finalised until your Bursary/SAAS application has been decided. The amount of housing support you will be awarded will depend on your household income. This will be taken from the documentation you provide with your online application.

College Housing Funding Thresholds for Full-Time Students

| Gross Income | College Contribution for FE Students (Students on Further Education non-advanced courses) | College Contribution for HE Students (Students on Higher Education advanced courses) |
|-------------------|---|--|
| | Maximum Weekly Allowance | Maximum Weekly Allowance |
| £12,500 or below | £65.00 | £35.00 |
| £12,501 - £15,000 | £40.00 | £30.00 |
| £15,001 - £17,000 | £35.00 | £25.00 |
| £17,001 - £20,000 | £30.00 | £0.00 |
| Over £20,000 | £0.00 | £0.00 |

****Please note the above figures may change due to 2024/25 College allocation of Funds from the Scottish Government**

How is it awarded?

Once the assessment has been done you will be provided with an award email.

Holidays

Holidays taken out with the normal College holiday periods will be treated as a normal absence.

Attendance

For any absences you should continue to submit online self-certificates of absence within five days counting from the first day of your absence. Your attendance will be monitored throughout the academic year and if your attendance is found to be below 80% in any week your housing funding will be stopped for that week.

Long Term Absence

If you have been absent for a period approaching 4 weeks, your funding will automatically be suspended until such time as you have returned to your studies, achieved a sustained period of attendance and completed all outstanding work.

Responsibilities

- You must submit your online housing application fully completed within 6 weeks from the start date of your course. If you fail to submit your application by this deadline you may not receive any backdated funding.
- You must also have enrolled and attended your course before payment is made.

Documentation required in support of your application

You will be required to provide evidence of your rent or tenancy agreement. If you require a copy of this please contact your local housing association, local council department or landlord.

Please see below a list of local council contact details who should be able to provide a letter confirming your current rental agreement including costs.

Dundee City Council

Rent Control

Dundee House

50 North Lindsay Street

Dundee

DD1 1QE

01382 307300

Angus Council

Arbroath Access Office

Old Parish Church

Kirk Square

Arbroath

DD11 1DX

03452 777 778

(For all other Angus Towns please call the Access Hotline 03452 777 778 for rent information)

Perth City Council

Housing Advice Centre

10-16 York Place

Perth

PH2 8EP

01728 476000

Fife City Council

Housing Advice Line: 03451 550033

Aberdeenshire Council

Housing Advice Line: 03456 081203

Frequently Asked Questions – Housing Support Information

- Q. Am I eligible for financial assistance from the College to help me pay my rent/mortgage?
- A. You are eligible to apply for assistance from the Housing Support Fund if you are a full-time student and have applied for your full funding, from either the College Bursary or the maximum loan from SAAS (whatever is applicable) and provide evidence that you are responsible for paying rent or mortgage payments and not in receipt of any housing benefit.
- Q. How much financial help will I get towards my rent/mortgage?
- A. The actual amount you may be eligible to receive is based on your household income and any unearned income you may receive.
- Q. What evidence do I need to submit?
- A. You will need to submit your SAAS or College funding award letter (whichever is applicable), evidence of partner's income for the last financial year (if applicable) and evidence of any unearned income you may receive during the current academic year. We will also need evidence that you pay rent (lease/tenancy agreement) or mortgage (bank letters or statements which clearly show you pay mortgage payments). You can submit this online by uploading the relevant documents or by bringing the documents into the Student Services area.
- Q. If I am eligible for assistance, how will this be paid?
- A. Housing support will be paid directly to your bank account on a fortnightly basis throughout the duration of your course. Continuation of this payment is subject to 80% attendance which will be monitored every 2 weeks.
- Q. Will I still receive Housing Funding assistance during the holiday weeks?
- A. Yes, your payments will cover holidays throughout the Academic year (subject to attendance), but not during the summer if you are a continuing student.
- Q. Can I get help to apply for the Housing support?
- A. Yes, you can go along to any campus Advice Centre or Student Services area to get help completing the online application form and uploading documents.
- Q. Will my Housing support assistance be backdated if I am late in applying?
- A. All applications received before the October College holiday will be backdated. However, we will not backdate any Housing support applications received after the 6th October 2024 and only under the discretion of Student Services will an individual case be considered for backdated payment.

Q. What happens if my SAAS/College funding has not been awarded after I start College, can I still apply to receive help from the Housing Fund.

A. A four-week provisional payment may be put in place, until you provide evidence that your SAAS/College funding has been approved.

Q. If I am EU student will I be eligible to apply for Housing Support

A. You may be eligible if you meet the residency requirements and receive full funding from SAAS or the College (whichever is applicable)

Q. Can I receive help from both the Childcare Fund and the Housing Support Fund?

A. Unfortunately, you cannot make an application to receive help from both funds; you must either submit funding application or a Housing Support application

Q. My name is not on the tenancy/mortgage agreement.

A. You will be required to provide evidence of this from your Council Tax Notice.

Q. What is unearned income?

A. Unearned income is income you receive from e.g. Universal Credit

Q. Can I apply if I am a lone parent, living with a partner with children and on a low income, under the age of 19?

A. If you are under 21 when you start your full-time non-advanced course and are “without parental support” **or** a lone parent **or** living with a partner with children on a low income **or** disabled, then you are within a small group of students who can still claim housing benefit or housing costs element of Universal Credit. You must first claim this benefit from the Local Authority and only if refused housing benefit or housing costs element of Universal Credit, and provide evidence, then the College may consider you for assistance.

Housing Support Case Studies

Case 1

“Cheryl is currently on the NC Hairdressing course. She is a single parent of two, age 5 and 7. She is unemployed and on benefits. She would like to apply for Housing Support from the college”.

Cheryl is not eligible for college housing support as she is within the small group of students studying the FE Level course who can still claim housing benefit or housing costs element of Universal Credit. She must first claim this benefit from the Local Authority and only if refused housing benefit or housing costs element of Universal Credit, and provide evidence, then the College may consider Cheryl for assistance.

Case 2

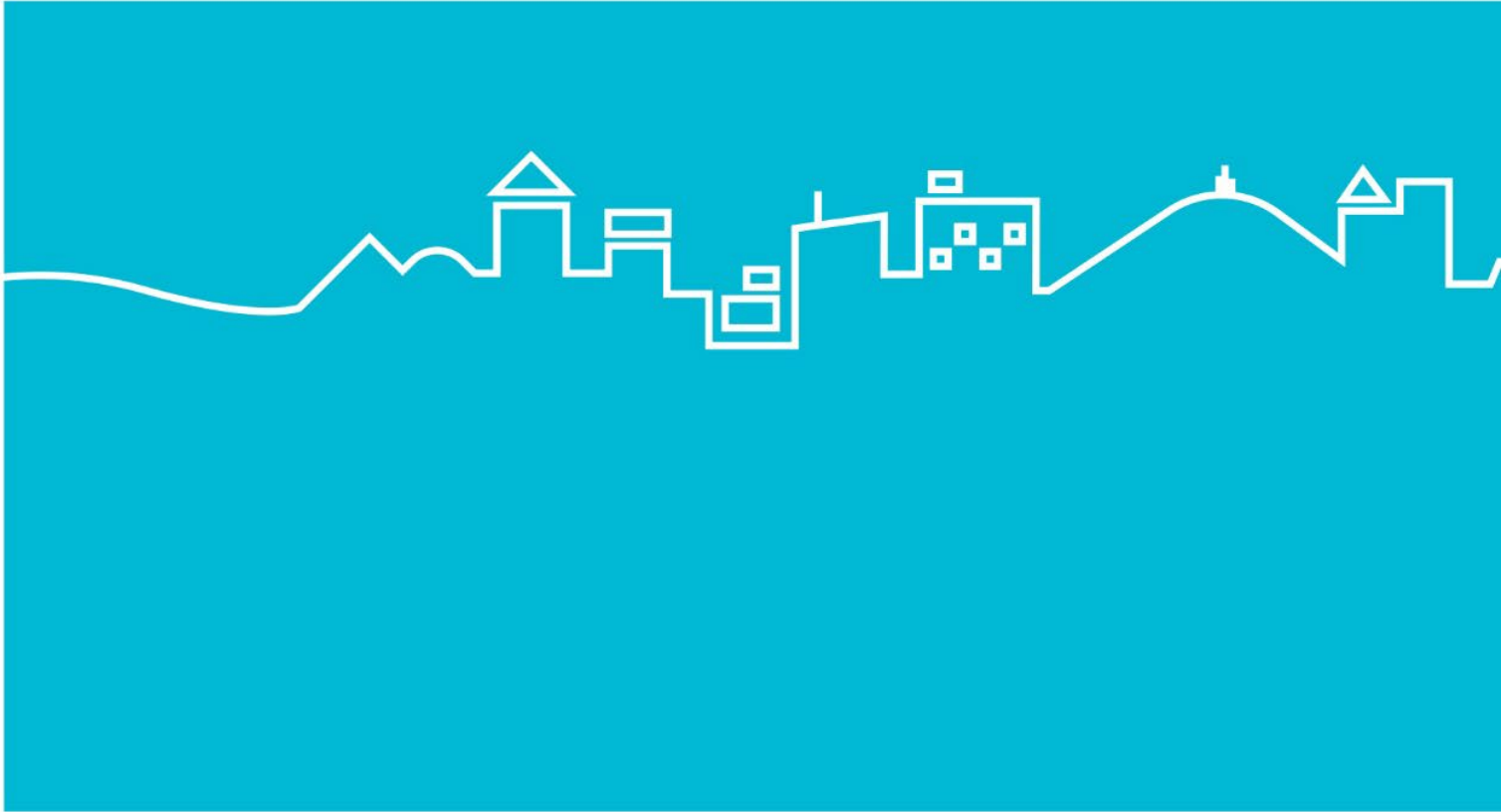
“Craig is 23, living on his own (independently), currently doing the HNC Accounting and working part-time (around 20 hours a week). Craig would like to apply for Housing support from the college.

Craig may be eligible for Housing support from the college. **Craig** must have applied for the maximum support (including full loan) from SAAS. When assessing Craig’s application the College will only take into account his income from employment, not his parental income.

Case 3

“Jane is 20, currently unemployed and living with her self-employed partner, being equally responsible for paying the rent. Jane is currently doing the NC Animal Care at College. She has just applied for Housing Support from the college”.

Jane may be eligible for Housing support from the college, providing her partner’s income is below the college housing thresholds. Parental income will not be taken into account when assessing Jane’s circumstances.



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