

# Financial Support for Learners – The BKN Bursary Fund

Operates from September 2011 – Replaces EMA and FE Discretionary Learner Support Fund.  
It has three strands Learners can access support from one or more strands subject to eligibility, guidance and funding available.



	EMA Transition Arrangements	Guaranteed Bursary (Vulnerable Groups)	Discretionary Bursary
<b>What is it?</b>	EMA Transition Arrangements	Guaranteed Bursary (Vulnerable Groups)	Discretionary Bursary
<b>Who is it for?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learners with an EMA guarantee from 09/10 (in their last year of study)</li> <li>Learners who received EMA at the top £30 per week rate in 10/11 and are continuing their study (£20 or £10 EMA rates are not covered by transition)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young people in care or care leavers</li> <li>Young people receiving income support</li> <li>Disabled young people receiving Employment Support Allowance <b>and</b> Disability Living Allowance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young people aged 16 – 19 facing financial difficulty that means they would struggle to participate in education and training without some help towards the costs linked with learning</li> </ul>
<b>How much is it worth?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For 09/10 eligible learners the same value as previously</li> <li>For 10/11 eligible learners payment steps down from £30 to £20 per week</li> </ul>	£1,200 a year for full-time students, proportionately less for part-time	The BKN consortium will allocate educational resources to a range of values for students who meet the qualifying criteria (see consortium policy)
<b>How do you apply?</b>	You don't apply. EMA recipients will be notified by letter if you are eligible for EMA transition payments	Apply to your school using the Consortium Bursary Application form. You will need to provide evidence that you meet the criteria as detailed above	Applications are made to your school using the Consortium Bursary Application form with a description of the educational resource you require
<b>How is it paid?</b>	Paid the same way as EMA – by national payment system straight into your bank account if you meet attendance and other requirements	The consortium will split the bursary into 3 school terms with £400 value of educational resources being provided each term. Please see the consortium policy for the range of qualifying educational resources	The school will use the fund to buy items you need on your behalf. Each school has a set budget awarded to them for Bursaries.
<b>How do you get more info?</b>	<a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/14To19/MoneyToLearn/16to19bursary/DG_066955">http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/14To19/MoneyToLearn/16to19bursary/DG_066955</a> or speak to the consortium administration assistant.	<a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk/16-19bursary">www.direct.gov.uk/16-19bursary</a> or speak to your Director or Head of sixth form	<a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk/16-19bursary">www.direct.gov.uk/16-19bursary</a> or speak to your Director or Head of sixth form