

Financial Support to Children Looked After and Care Leavers in Harrow – financial year 2024-2025

If you are a young person in care or a care leaver with Harrow, financial support may be provided by foster carers, placements or directly to you from Harrow Children’s service.

To find out if you are a care leaver, use this helpful quiz here: [Am I a care leaver? - Coram Voice](#)

Education and Training rewards and incentives

Education and Training rewards and incentives apply to all children looked after by Harrow and relevant and former relevant care leavers, regardless of what type accommodation you live in.

Achievement / Need	Amount	Who to contact for payment
GCSE PASS 9-4 or Level 2 Pass	£30 for each GCSE or equivalent	Social worker
Completion of year long course and pass, 90% attendance required (i.e. level 1 or ESOL, not GCSEs or A levels)	£30	Social worker
Completion of A Levels (or equivalent)	£50 per A level	Social worker
Completion of first degree	£250 plus support with graduation costs (i.e. gown hire).	Social worker
Resources/interventions on a case-by-case basis	As requested depending on management agreement	Virtual School
Resources/interventions for SEN students with an EHCP	As requested depending on SEN panel agreement	SEN Team

Financial support and recognition for care leavers aged 16+

Children looked after by Harrow who are under 16 years of age will usually be living with foster carers or kinship carers, or in a residential children’s home. The financial support outlined below applies to children looked after by Harrow and Harrow care leavers, from age 16-25, who are living in semi-independent accommodation, supported lodgings, staying put, university accommodation or independent accommodation.

2024-2025 Allowance	16-17 year olds	Frequency/ Eligibility	18+ years	Frequency / Eligibility
Subsistence	£71.70	Weekly	N/A	Care leavers should apply to

				DWP for benefits one month prior to 18 th birthday
Birthday	£150	Yearly	£150 on 18 th Birthday only	Only on 18 th birthday
Clothing Allowance	Winter £200 Summer £150	Yearly	Not usually applicable – considered in exceptional circumstances only	Manager's discretion
Council Tax support/ arrears	N/A	N/A	Harrow will pay council tax for care leavers resident in Harrow or in other areas. Please speak to your worker for support in applying for this. https://www.harrow.gov.uk/council-tax/council-tax-discount-care-	Until 25 th Birthday.
Festival Allowance	£150	Once Yearly	N/A	N/A
Passports	Yes	Once	Yes	First adult passport
Birth Certificates	Yes	Once	Yes	Once
Travel Documents	Yes	Once	Yes	Once
Glasses	Up to £80	Manager's discretion	Manager's discretion	Manager's discretion, must be EET
Young people in secure settings	£10	Weekly	Manager's discretion £10 / week up to 21 st birthday, if engaged in education/training	Manager's discretion – weekly, must be engaged in education or agreed activities
Savings	£10	Weekly	N/A	N/A

Setting Up Home Allowance	N/A	N/A	£3000	Once
Travel while learning	Yes	<p>Must have applied for zip oyster 16+ travel card (free bus and tram travel)</p> <p>Weekly (amount varies based on need and distance)</p> <p>Attendance must be above 90%.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Only for college or ESOL students</p>	<p>Must have applied TfL care leaver oyster card</p> <p>Weekly (amount varies based on need and distance), maximum £4.95 / day for college days.</p> <p>Attendance must be above 90%</p>
Lunch while learning	£5 per day	<p>Paid for each day of education.</p> <p>Attendance must be above 90%</p>	<p>£5 per day</p> <p>Only for college or ESOL students</p>	<p>Paid for each day of education. Not payable to university students.</p> <p>Attendance must be above 90%</p>
University Vacation	N/A	N/A	Yes	<p>Must be agreed at least one month in advance of holiday.</p> <p>Up to maximum of 9 weeks summer, 3 weeks Christmas, 2 weeks Easter break</p>

University Graduation	N/A	N/A	£250 plus support with graduation costs (i.e. gown hire).	Once
Higher Education Bursary	N/A	N/A	£1000 per year	Only paid to university students. First undergraduate degree only, not paid if repeating a year, full time course or pro-rata payment, up to length of course. Evidence of course and attendance required.
UASC 18+ and NRPF	N/A	N/A	£71.70	Weekly; NRPF only. Must apply for benefits as soon as status given by Home Office
UASC 18+ Appeal Rights Exhausted (ARE)	N/A	N/A	£71.70 – for up to 3 months following ARE decision.	Human Rights Assessment required within 4 weeks of ARE decision being made in order to determine support. YP may be referred to NASS.
Starter pack for new CLA/UASCs	£150	Once	N/A	N/A
Rent and Deposit loan	N/A	N/A	Discretionary – private rental property must be affordable to young people	Manager's discretion based on financial assessment

				and affordability
Moving Costs	Yes	As required	Yes	Manager's discretion
Citizenship applications	Yes	Once	Yes	Once Legal costs not covered
Indefinite Leave to Remain Applications	Yes	Once	Yes	Once Legal costs not covered
Provisional driver's license	Yes	Must be in EET for 3 months or more	Yes	Must be in EET for 3 months or more
Driving lessons	Up to £250	Must be in EET for 3 months or more	Up to £250	Must be in EET for 3 months or more
1 Theory Test and 1 Practical Driving Test	Yes	Must be in EET for 3 months or more	Yes	Must be in EET for 3 months or more
Support to attend educational trips or activities	Yes	Must be agreed by manager and part of pathway plan. Attendance must be 90% or more.	Yes	Must be agreed by manager and part of pathway plan. Attendance must be 90% or more.
Contribution to equipment for work, training or education	Yes	Must be agreed by manager and part of pathway plan	Yes	Must be agreed by manager and part of pathway plan
Contribution to clothing for interviews or graduation	Yes	Must be agreed by manager and part of pathway plan	Yes	Must be agreed by manager and part of pathway plan