PINC COLLEGE

Wales

16-18 Educational Maintenance Allowance Policy

October 2024

Introduction

Pinc College is committed to providing holistic education of the highest quality and this policy is underpinned by Pinc College values, culture and methodology.

Our College Values

Individual - 'We celebrate everyone'

Inclusive - 'We value and support everyone'

Innovative 'We believe in the power to change'

We foster a culture that is **Respectful, Responsible, Safe and Kind**

The principles of the Pinc Method applies equally to our students and team members in everything we do. Our method holds the individual, their wellbeing and their specific needs in every aspect of our approach.

Policy intent and scope

The Educational maintenance allowance is available for all students studying further education in Wales.

Education Maintenance Allowance, funding for Further Education

What is EMA?

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a weekly payment of £40 to help 16 to 18 year olds with the costs of further education.

Payments are made every 2 weeks as long as you meet your school or college's attendance requirements.

Eligibility

Before making your application, there are some things you should check to make sure you'll be able to get EMA.

Age

You must be between 16 and 18 years old on 31 August before you start your further education course.

Nationality and residency

You can apply if all of the following apply:

- you're a UK national, Irish Citizen or have settled status

- you'll be living in Wales on the first day of the first academic year of your course
- you've been living in the UK and Islands for 3 years before starting your course

If these do not apply to you, you may still be eligible to apply for EMA if you're living in Wales. Check our Nationality and Residency guide for more information.

Course

Although you don't have to study in Wales to get EMA, you must be studying at a school or college involved in the EMA scheme.

Your course should be an academic or vocational course, up to and including Level 3. Examples of such courses are:

- GCSEs
- AS-Levels or A-Levels
- BTEC, GNVQ, NVQ
- Basic skills courses
- Independent Living Skills courses or, if studying in England, Preparation for Adulthood

EMA is intended to help students with the essential costs of participating in their study programme. Help with the cost of essential books or equipment or with the cost of travelling to college, for example. is not intended to support costs not related to education (living costs), extra-curricular activities or provide learning support – services that institutions give to students – such as counselling, mentoring or extra tutoring.

EMA is applied for direct by the student:
How and when to apply for Education Maintenance Allowance, Further Education | Student Finance Wales

EMA Application are open for each academic year and when circumstances change for support with the process, please contact Pinc college team.

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CLT Member Responsible for Policy	Ben Swallow
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