

ST. DAVID'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE
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Financial Contingency & Student Grant Policy

Financial Contingency Policy

1. Available from Student Services on the ground floor of the main building.
2. All documentation relating to the application for a grant, bursaries or financial assistance to individual applicants, is published in Welsh and English.
3. Applicants can be submitted in Welsh and are treated no less favourably than applications submitted in English.
4. If it is necessary to interview individual applicants for grants or financial assistance, interviews are available in Welsh or applicants who applied in Welsh, using simultaneous interpretation if required. If an application for a grant or financial assistance is submitted in Welsh, we inform the applicant of the outcome of our decision in Welsh.
5. When making a decision in relation to the award of a grant or financial assistance we consider the effects such an award or assistance would have on the opportunities for the applicants and others to use the Welsh language and ensure that our decision would neither reduce opportunities for persons to use the language nor cause adverse effects.
6. The decision may be taken or implemented (for example, by imposing conditions) so that it would have positive effects, or increased positive effects, on opportunities for applicants to use the Welsh language.

7. Application guidance notes 2022/23

FCF support is discretionary and not an entitlement, funds are limited, and no awards are guaranteed. Allocations are also subject to any budgetary changes that the Welsh Government may enforce.

The monies allocated to this fund are limited so early application is advised.

Before completing your FCF application, it is important that you read these guidance notes. If you do not understand anything or have difficulty in completing your application, please email your questions to our Student Services Team on studentservices@stdavidscollege.ac.uk

Am I eligible?

To be eligible for financial support from the Financial Contingency Fund (FCF) you must:

You **must** be in receipt of EMA.

Be aged 16 or over on 31st August 2021 and enrolled on a full time, further education course; or a part-time course if you are identified as being in care or a care leaver

If you are over 19 you would need to apply for the Welsh Government Learning Grant – Further Education) <https://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/further-education-funding/welsh-government-learning-grant/>

Have a 95% attendance record and adhere to the college's Learner Conduct Rules

Normally reside in the UK or have lived in the UK for 3 years before the start of the course (or qualify as a 'home student' in some other way such as being an EU national or refugee). Unfortunately, we are unable to offer FCF if you are an Asylum Seeker.

If your circumstances change, for example your course, number of hours of study, childcare arrangements, or personal circumstances, you must let us know.

What do you need financial support with?

Support can be provided for the following:

Travel costs

College buses are available from Caerphilly and the Vale of Glamorgan. You may be eligible for a free bus pass, which you would need to apply for through the local authority in your area.

If you do not live on a college bus route, we may be able to contribute towards your Cardiff bus pass.

Disabled Transport

If your disability prevents you from accessing the college through public transport, FCF will cover the cost of transport.

Equipment, kit, uniform, or Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

If your course requires you to purchase essential equipment, kit, uniform or PPE, the fund can help with some or all the cost.

Disclosure and Barring Service Check (DBS)

If your course requires a DBS check, the fund can help towards the cost of this.

Childcare

To receive financial support towards childcare costs you must have an annual household income of £16,390 or less.

Please answer all questions to allow us to accurately assess your application

How will I find out if my application is successful? All communication with you will be by email to your college email account.

What if my application is unsuccessful? We will send you notification to your college email account. If you would like to appeal against the decision you have 14 days to do so from the date of the email.

FCF Application Form 2022-23

Your FCF application is means tested on household income which must be below £23,078 per year.

The fund is a discretionary award that enables the College to assist you with a contribution towards travel, disability

costs, essential course equipment, essential educational visits, subsidised meals from college catering outlets, examination fees, childcare costs, accommodation or living costs for students living independently.

You **MUST** read the following FCF guidance notes (link below) before applying to ensure that you are eligible.

1. Tick the box below to confirm that you have read and understood the guidance notes.
2. Address
3. Postcode
4. Main Telephone Number
5. Name on Account (Students)
6. Bank Identification Code (six digits 00-00-00)
7. Bank Account Number (8 digits)
8. Date of birth
9. Course title
10. Are you a UK citizen?
11. Are you an asylum seeker?
12. Do you provide care for a family member who is ill or disabled?
13. Are you in care / a looked after child?