The Care-Experienced (CE) Bursary was introduced for further education (FE) students in colleges across Scotland in Academic Year (AY) 2018-19.

‘Further education (FE)’ refers to non-advanced college courses studied up to, but not including, Higher National Certificate (HNC) level or SCQF levels 1-6.

The CE Bursary allowance is £9,000 per year (£225.00 per week) of non-repayable, non-income assessed student maintenance support. This is to provide enhanced living cost support, adding value to any existing support provided by local authorities, not replacing it.

The CE Bursary is currently available to eligible full-time students aged over 16 when they start their course.

CE Bursary recipients are still eligible to receive other funding such as for travel, study costs, additional support needs, childcare and discretionary funds.
To be considered eligible for the CE Bursary, students should meet the standard Scottish residency requirements for student support, be studying an eligible further education course, and have had any of the following types of care-experience: Foster care, Kinship care, Residential care, Compulsory Supervision Order (Looked after at home, or away from home), Adoption (if looked after by a UK local authority before going on to be adopted). Students in informal care arrangements, which can be confirmed by their Local Authority or a Social Work contact can also receive the CE Bursary. However, students who are in private informal care arrangements without any Local Authority involvement are not eligible for the FE CE Bursary.

The national policy and guidance underpinning the administration of the CE Bursary is set by the Scottish Funding Council. It is part of the full range of financial support available to FE students at Scotland’s colleges.

However, all bursary application and funding allocation processes are managed by the colleges themselves. Hence, students should contact their college for all information about the application and assessment process that will be relevant to them.

For further information about the SFC national policy and guidance, or for general information about the CE Bursary, please contact the SFC FE Student Support team: studentsupport@sfc.ac.uk.
The following Scottish further education colleges provide the Care-Experienced bursary:

Argyll College UHI
Ayrshire College
Borders College
City of Glasgow College
Dumfries and Galloway College
Dundee and Angus College
Edinburgh College
Fife College
Forth Valley College
Glasgow Clyde College
Glasgow Kelvin College
Inverness College UHI
Lews Castle College UHI
Moray College UHI
Newbattle Abbey College
New College Lanarkshire
North East Scotland College
North Highland College UHI
Orkney College UHI (through Orkney Islands Council)
Perth College UHI
Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC)
Shetland College UHI (through Shetland Islands Council)
South Lanarkshire College
West College Scotland
West Highland College UHI