



COVID-19 Back to education bursary fund

Support fund for young carers and young adult carers to help reduce the educational impact of COVID-19

Guidance notes

This grant programme is made possible thanks to funding from the United Grand Lodge of England, administered through the Masonic Charitable Foundation and the Provincial Grand Lodges of Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk Freemasons.

It means Caring Together can provide swift support to young carers and young adult carers, helping to **reduce the impact that the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had on their education and to support their successful transition back into education post-lockdown.**

We have got a limited amount of money. Grants are only available while there is still money available.

Decisions on applications will be made fortnightly on a Monday starting from Monday 28 September while funds are still available. Decisions will be based on what will make the most difference to the young carer or young adult carer given the money available.

Key information

Young carers and young adult carers from Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk and Suffolk can apply for small grants to **help to reduce the impact that the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had on their education and to support their successful transition back into education post-lockdown.**

Examples of eligible items and activities include, but are not limited to:

- Purchase of tablets/laptops and data to support young carer to continue with virtual learning if they don't have suitable access to a device.
- Additional tutoring to enable them to catch up with missed work.
- Compulsory school/college materials.
- Educational transport costs where the family's finances have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- School uniform.
- PPE that is required to attend school/college.

We will also consider applications from schools/colleges wishing to put in an application on behalf of a group of young carers (e.g. to cover additional costs of running separate young carers groups for different bubbles, or to help support the transition of new Year 7 young carers into a school's young carers support) – this can be for a maximum of £300 in total.

Applications for partial funding will be accepted, as long as it is clear how the remainder of the cost will be covered.

Please note:

- Applications cannot be considered for items already purchased.
- An application for a bursary does not guarantee you will be successful as we expect demand to be higher than available funds.

How to apply

- You will need to complete an application form and email it to hello@caringtogether.org
- Applications will need the support of a professional known to the family (e.g. teacher, social worker, young carers project worker).
- It will help if you can provide quotes or links where possible to show the proposed costs.
- Applications will be reviewed fortnightly on a Monday whilst funds still remain. The first review of applications will take place on Monday 28 September.

When will you hear back?

When you apply, we will reply to confirm receipt of your application and give an indication of when you will hear back. We hope to communicate decisions by the end of the day on the Tuesday after applications have been reviewed.

What happens if you are successful?

- If you are successful, we will contact you to confirm you accept the offer of the award (particularly in the case of partial awards).
- Payments will be made by BACS – this will be to the young carer/their parent, unless it makes more sense to pay directly to an organisation. Payments need to go through our accounts department.
- Once you have purchased what the grant was awarded for, you will need to provide a receipt. Failure to provide a receipt or satisfactory proof of purchase may result in Caring Together seeking to reclaim the money awarded.
- We would also appreciate, although this is not mandatory, a short summary of how the grant has helped you and a photo of the young person with their purchase so we can feedback and thank the funders. This also helps us to secure future funding.

Any questions?

If you have any questions about this grant, or wish to check about the status of your application, please contact Anna Gutenko anna.gutenko@caringtogether.org