****

**FREE COLLEGE MEALS**

From September 2014 students between the ages of 16 and 18 on 31st August 2014 will be eligible for free meals, if parents or guardians are in receipt of certain benefits.

Students who are in receipt of benefits in their own right will also qualify.

Students aged between 19 and 25 who have an LDA or EHC Plan and ESF funded students aged between 16 and 18 on 31st August 2014, are also entitled to a free meal, if they meet the income eligibility criteria

Qualifying benefits:

* Income Support
* Income-Based Jobseeker’s Allowance (not Contribution based)
* Child Tax Credit (CTC) and have an income of no more than £16,190
* Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
* Support under part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
* Income related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
* Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
* During the initial roll out of the benefit, Universal Credit
* **Please note, if you are receipt of Working Tax Credit, you do not qualify for Free College Meals, even if your annual income is below £16,190**

Please complete the attached application form and enclose evidence of the qualifying benefit.

**If you have applied for the Further Education bursary fund and have submitted:**

* a copy of your 14/15 Tax credit Award notice - please indicate this on application form and **no further evidence will be needed.**
* a benefit letter - please send a copy of your latest bank statement showing current receipt of benefit.

Student Services

01209 616272/616224 or 01726 226618/226405

****

**FREE MEALS APPLICATION FORM**

If you are in receipt of one or more of the qualifying benefits, please complete all boxes below.

* This form should be completed by a parent, guardian or carer if student is a dependent on parental income
* Independent students in receipt of benefit in their own right should complete both sections with their own details.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title:** | **Surname:** | | **Forenames:** | | |
| **Address:** | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| **Post code:** | | **Telephone:** | | | |
| **Qualifying benefit** | |  | | | |
| **Has evidence been submitted with bursary application?** | | **Tax credit award 14/15** | | **YES** | **no further evidence needed** |
| **NO** | **evidence needed** |
|  | | **Benefit letter** | | **YES** | **bank statement needed** |

Please complete the details for all students for whom you are applying to receive free meals

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Surname** | **Forename (s)** | **Date of Birth** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

*I certify that the above information is correct, and I agree to inform Student Services immediately of any changes to these details.*

Claimant’s signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to the college campus you will be attending.**