

# What is Higher Education?

The next level of study, at university, after finishing level 3 course at college.

## Is it for me?

I don't know anyone who has been.

**Yes!**

If you want to study a subject in depth, make new friends, spread your wings, travel, try new things, learn new skills, earn more in the future ..... There's so much to do and learn! Lots of care leavers go to university every year. FutureHY can answer your questions; [www.futurehy.co.uk](http://www.futurehy.co.uk). Also ask your support worker for information about the 'On Track Programme'.

## Is it expensive?

**Yes and No**

I get a loan, and bursaries to cover all of my costs. I also have a summer job. I am able to pay for everything I need. Some universities offer additional financial support to care leavers.

# Useful contacts

[www.propel.org.uk](http://www.propel.org.uk)

[www.studentfinanceengland.co.uk](http://www.studentfinanceengland.co.uk)

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

[www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk)

[www.nus.org.uk](http://www.nus.org.uk)

[www.gov.uk/apply-for-student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/apply-for-student-finance)

[www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance)

[www.northyorks.gov.uk/core-offer-care-leavers](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/core-offer-care-leavers)

[www.unitefoundation.co.uk](http://www.unitefoundation.co.uk)

[www.star-network.org.uk/index.php/resources/access\\_to\\_university](http://www.star-network.org.uk/index.php/resources/access_to_university)

Young Person (Former Relevant Young Person) (Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000).

For further information please contact:

Your leaving care/support worker

or

**Virtual School** 01609 533231

email: [VirtualSchool@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:VirtualSchool@northyorks.gov.uk)



If you would like this information in another language or format please ask us.  
Tel: **01609 780 780**  
email: [customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk)

North Yorkshire  
Leaving Care  Team

# Higher Education

Financial Support for  
NYCC Care Leavers<sup>^</sup>

North Yorkshire County Council  
Virtual School 2021

## How much does university cost?

Universities in England & Wales can charge upto £9,250 per year for tuition fees which you will have to pay for. Some universities offer a lower rate to care leavers (See [www.propel.org.uk](http://www.propel.org.uk))

You will also have to pay for your day to day living costs (rent, food, utility bills, travel costs, books, clothes, entertainment etc.)

## Can I afford it?

1. Maintenance Loan & Tuition Fee Loan (both must be paid back but only in very small amounts and only after you start earning over £26,575 a year. It automatically comes off your wage each month)
2. Bursaries from charities and universities. [www.propel.org.uk](http://www.propel.org.uk) for more info
3. NHS Bursary for Social Work, Medical and Dental students, [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-bursary-students](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-bursary-students) for more info.
4. NYCC Bursary through your Leaving Care Team (non repayable) subject to eligibility and leaving care status.

## Am I eligible for the NYCC Bursary as detailed in this leaflet?

- Your course must be eligible for Student Finance support and at undergraduate level.
- You must be a Former Relevant Young Person under the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 (please ask your Leaving Care Case Worker for details).
- Upper age limit is 25.

(If you turn 25 part way through your course different financial arrangements apply. Please speak to your Leaving Care Case Worker).

# What can I expect to get?

Full time students get £236 p/wk! (NYCC bursary + Maintenance Loan)

## Undergraduate

	Full Time Courses *	Part Time Courses
<b>Money From Student Finance England:</b>		
Tuition Fee Loan (paid directly to your university, not you)	Upto £9,250	Upto £6,935
Maintenance Loan (for living costs)**	£9,488	X
<b>Money from NYCC:</b>		
HE Bursary for Living Costs (including rent, food, bills, entertainment etc):	£3,100 per year (for up to 4 years)	£2,000 one off payment (not yearly)
Course costs including ICT, books etc.	Upto £650 (one off amount)	X
Travel Costs	You pay the first £3 of travel. If more, then NYCC will pay upto £5 per day	X
Graduation Bursary (payable upon graduation)	£2,000	X
Graduation Costs (robes, photos etc)	Upto £150	Upto £150

\*Speak to your college or university if you are unsure whether your course is full or part time.

\*\*slightly higher for courses in London. See [www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance).

Living away from home 2021/2022, reduces in final year.

## Postgraduate

You may be eligible for a tuition fee loan upto **£11,222 (repayable)**.

## What if I have children or a disability?

You may be eligible for additional funds from welfare benefits and your university. Please speak to your Leaving Care Case Worker.

## Staying Put?

You can get all of the above AND be Staying Put. You can choose to commute to university, or move away to student accommodation and come back in the holidays.