

Care Leaver Package 2025/26

1. Students leaving local authority care, may be eligible to receive the Care Leaver Package.

What you could receive

2. Successful applicants will be awarded a total of **£3,600**; this is made up of:
 - The maximum of £2,100 from the Student Success Scholarship, and
 - A Care Leaver Bursary of £1,500.
3. Part-time students will receive a proportional award.
4. You can only receive the package once per academic year, and you need to reapply each academic year.

Who can apply

5. To be considered for an award, you must:
 - be eligible for, and have applied for, the Student Success Scholarship – exceptions may apply (please see paragraph 6),
 - have spent three or more months in local authority care in the school years including and after year ten, and
 - be aged 25 or under at the time of enrolment at Sheffield Hallam.
6. In some cases, you may be eligible to receive the Care Leaver Package if you are a known Care Leaver and would not normally be eligible of the Student Success Scholarship due to the availability of additional funding.

How and when to apply

7. You must apply for the [Student Success Scholarship](#) in one of the application windows.
8. There are two application windows planned for the 2025/26 academic year. These dates are subject to change.

Applications open	Applications close	Student Success Scholarship payments are expected to be made
10am on Monday 8 September 2025	5pm on Sunday 2 November 2025	At the start of December 2025
10am on Wednesday 7 January 2026	5pm on Sunday 1 March 2026	At the start of April 2026

9. Subject to available funds, we reserve the right not to open an application window and to close an application window earlier than the published date. In the event of an application window closing early or not opening, there is no right to appeal.

10. For an application to be considered, it must be submitted before 5pm on the closing date. We cannot consider applications or accept appeals if you do not apply before 5pm on the closing date.
11. If you are eligible to apply for the Student Success Scholarship, the application form can be found in the scholarships section in My Student Record.
12. You must read the information about the Student Success Scholarship before applying.
13. The Student Success Scholarship application form will ask you to select the priority groups you are in. If you are a care leaver select 'yes' to this question.
14. If you have already had your eligibility for SHUProgress or the Care Leaver Package confirmed, evidence is not required, we will check this information internally.
15. If you were not part of SHUProgress and have not previously received the Care Leaver Package, you will need to provide a letter from your local authority, this must confirm your care leaver status, your age whilst in care and the dates you were in care.

What happens next

16. We will contact you about one month after the Student Success Scholarship application window closes to tell you the outcome of your application.
17. If your application is successful, we will confirm your Student Success Scholarship award amount, confirm your eligibility for the Care Leaver Bursary and give instructions on how to provide your bank details.
18. We will confirm your Student Success Scholarship payment date after you have provided your bank details.
19. When providing your bank details, please ensure that you have entered them correctly. Changes cannot be made easily after we have processed your payment. Mistakes will cause a delay in a payment being made to you and your payment may be cancelled.
20. Please **do not** include dashes in your sort code and **do not** enter a 16-digit card number.
21. If you apply in the first Student Success Scholarship application window, we will contact you again, normally in February, to confirm your Care Leaver Bursary payment date.
22. If you apply if the second Student Success Scholarship application window, we will contact you again, normally in April, to confirm your Care Leaver Bursary payment date.

General terms

23. The Care Leaver Package is subject to the [General Funding Terms and Conditions](#).
24. Scholarships and bursaries awarded in the 2025/26 academic year must be paid by July 2026. Payments will be cancelled if they cannot be paid by July 2026.
25. If you receive benefits and/or any other financial support, it is your responsibility to check whether receiving an award from this scheme will affect your entitlement(s)/payments.

Appeals

26. If your application is unsuccessful, you may have the right to appeal if you have valid grounds to do so. For information about the appeals process, please visit the [Appeals](#) page.

Need help

27. If you have any questions about the Care Leaver Package, please contact [Hallam Help](#).