

Failed Asylum Seekers Reaching the age of 18 with no Recourse to Public Funds

This leaflet is designed to help you understand the financial support you can receive from Hertfordshire Children's Services now that you have reached the age of 18. All financial support will be based on a human rights assessment, an assessment of your financial needs and will be set out in your Pathway Plan.

From April 2020



Accommodation Costs

Children's Services will pay for your accommodation costs up to the equivalent of the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rate for the area in which you are living if you have no recourse to public funds. Where required, Children's Services may also pay the deposit on your accommodation. The level of the rent should be within the Local Housing Allowance level/rate.

Leaving Care Maintenance Allowance

Following a human rights assessment, young people with no recourse to public funds will continue to be entitled to a Leaving Care Maintenance Allowance (LCMA), as follows:

- If you're living in independent accommodation and paying for your bills and food you will receive a) £58.90
- If you're living in semi-independent accommodation and paying for your food but not bills, you will receive b) 48.52
- If you're living in supported lodgings accommodation your bills are paid and food is also provided, therefore you will receive c) £38.52

Note: Due to the Coronavirus crisis and through-out the financial year 2020-2021 the three rates of allowance set out above will increase by £20.00 per week to a) £78.90, b) £68.52, c) £58.52 per week.

Education or Training Equipment

If you are eligible and depending on your needs and the type of education/training activity you are undertaking, you may be entitled to a grant of up to £475.00 per year to cover all of your equipment needs (e.g. stationary, software, education visits, books etc.)

Assisted Returns

Where you have agreed to return to your country of origin, Children's Services will assess your needs and may provide practical and financial assistance to ensure an enduring and positive return home occurs. Assistance may include providing employment equipment and training in your home country and on your return.

Other Financial Needs

All other financial matters will be dependent on an assessment of your needs. Specific items linked to health, religious, cultural or exceptional needs can be provided up to the age of 25 depending on your circumstances.

Questions?

Your personal adviser will be able to help you understand which allowances these are. Children's Services will provide support in line with your entitlements stemming from you being a Former Relevant Young Person and taking account of current immigration legislation. If you are unsure about any financial matter or allowance you can talk it through with your worker.

