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If you're a Young Adult Carer, Care Leaver or Estranged from your family and are thinking about coming to the University of Hull or are already studying with us, we offer a wide range of support to ensure you have the best possible student experience.

Not everyone will need to access these extra support services and you are under no obligation to do so. What matters is that you know we are here to work with you, and that our goal is to ensure you have the right support in place to enable you to succeed in higher education and beyond.

This leaflet is designed to tell you about this support and to draw your attention to the Humber Grant, for which you might be eligible.

The Humber Grant

This is a grant paid in addition to any financial support you may receive from your local authority or Student Finance England (SFE) and does not need to be paid back. To qualify you need to be a home student, have permanent residence in the UK, be aged 25 or under on the first day of the academic year and provide evidence of your status as a Care Leaver or Young Adult Carer, or your estrangement from your family.

Young Adult Carer

Young Adult Carers are individuals aged 18-25 who provide unpaid support or care for a family member, partner or friend who needs help because of their age, physical or mental illness, or disability. To be eligible for the Humber Grant the Young Adult Carer does not need to live at the same address as the person

they care for. Parents cannot claim this grant for the care of their own dependent child.

The Humber Grant will award up to a maximum of £500 and will include book vouchers. It is paid in two instalments usually in December and May.

Young Adult Carers often juggle their caring responsibilities with university study. This can be challenging and the University of Hull is committed to make sure they receive the appropriate support, especially when many such students do not realise that they are undertaking a caring role. Please contact our Financial Support Team as there may be other options available.

Typically, full-time students are not eligible to claim Carers' allowance. If you are claiming this prior to starting your university course, your eligibility for this benefit will cease upon enrolment at university and it is important that you notify the benefits agency that you have commenced full-time study to ensure you do not accrue any kind of overpayment.

You will be asked to provide evidence, this can be obtained from your Social/Support Worker or Doctor.

Care Leaver/Experience of Care

We recognise that Care Leavers are under-represented in higher education and are committed to offering support for these applicants to study and succeed at the University of Hull.

Care Leavers are individuals who have been in care for a minimum of 13 weeks including their 16th birthday. You will be contacted if you have declared yourself as a Care Leaver and will be asked to provide evidence via your Social/Support Worker.

The Humber Grant will award up to a maximum of £1000 and will include book vouchers. It is paid in two instalments usually in December and May.

If you do not fit the criteria of a Care Leaver, you may be considered to have had 'experience of care'. If you have had experience of care please contact us for more information on eligibility.

Disclosing your Care Leaver status will not affect your chance of becoming a student at this University as the information will be treated as confidential and will only be shared with your permission.

365-day-a-year accommodation is available if you want it, and Student Support Services can help you secure the student accommodation of your choice.

Estrangement

Most students studying in Higher Education that are under the age of 25 are considered financially dependent on their parents when being assessed for their student funding. Although students estranged from their parents are an exception to this rule, it can nonetheless be difficult for them to access higher education without the support (financial and/or otherwise) of their families. This is where the Humber Grant can help you. You can receive up to a maximum of £1000, which will include book vouchers. It is paid in two instalments usually in December and May.



Students are classed as estranged if they are 'irreconcilably estranged' from their parents on or before the first day of the academic year for which they are applying for funding. And/or they have had no contact with their parents for a period of 1 year on or before the first day of the academic year for which they are applying.

For Student Finance England to award you the appropriate amount of funding most estranged students will be required to provide documentary evidence to prove that the estrangement is genuine and their circumstances are not likely to change in the foreseeable future.

Typically, this can be a letter from a professional who has been aware of your circumstances – a teacher, college tutor, your GP, Support Worker or other professional person.

If you are granted independence on the basis of estrangement, SFE will not take any parental income into account when assessing your eligibility for funding.

365-day a year accommodation is available if you want it, and Student Support Services can help you secure the student accommodation of your choice.

What support does the University of Hull offer?

All students are different, requiring different levels of support. At the University of Hull, we recognise the particular challenges faced by Care Leavers, Young Adult Carers and those individuals who have experience of care or are estranged. We have a range of support available:

- **Financial**

We have a team that offers help and advice to those experiencing financial hardship. Please email them at fst@hull.ac.uk for further information.

- **Health and Wellbeing**

We provide a free and confidential advice and support service offering a friendly face and a listening ear in a safe and non-judgemental environment. You can book an appointment with a member of the team by calling 01482 462 222, or emailing studentwellbeing@hull.ac.uk

- **Estrangement**

If you require help obtaining your evidence for Estrangement or declaring yourself estranged please email estranged@slc.co.uk alternatively please seek support from standalone.org.uk

01482 462222
fst@hull.ac.uk
www.hull.ac.uk/student/support



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