

Free Meals in Further Education

What is it?

Woking College offers Free Meals to eligible students for each day they are attending their study programme.

Who is eligible for Free Meals?

To qualify students must be aged 16 – 19 and meet the residency requirements. Students aged over 19 who are continuing with a study programme that they started before they turned 19 or who have an education, health and care plan (EHCP), are also eligible for a free meal where they meet the criteria.

Free school meals are available to students in receipt of, or whose household is in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit

Additionally, students who were eligible to receive free meals at secondary school in the year before starting at Woking College may be eligible for Free Meals in Further Education under transitional protection arrangements.

A student is only eligible to receive a free meal when they, or a parent or carer on their behalf, has successfully applied for free meals at Woking College.

How does it work?

Eligible students will be allocated a credit of £5.00 per day to cover the cost of a meal from the College canteen. This credit will be loaded onto the students' College ID Card to 'pay' for their meal. The credit cannot be carried over and will be lost if not used.

Eligible students participating in a college trip will be able to pre order a meal to take home the night before, and for students participating in a work experience placement, organised through the college, a daily lunch allowance will be made available.

Please speak to the Catering Team if you have any dietary requirements and they will be happy to assist you.

For further information please visit: [Free meals in further education funded institutions guide 2024 to 2025 academic year - GOV.UK](#)