

School Clothing Grants

Main Details

School clothing grants are payments given at the discretion of local authorities to assist with the cost of school clothing for pupils attending state maintained schools.

From 1 April 2006, the County Council agreed to discontinue the issue of school clothing grants previously available to families eligible for free school meals.

However, in cases where very exceptional circumstances exist, the Council will consider applications for assistance with school clothing costs.

Parents/Carers are advised to view the criteria for consideration of applications on exceptional grounds which can be downloaded.

Contacts

Address: Area Education Office North
Area North - Lancaster, Wyre & Fylde
Lancashire County Council, White Cross Education Centre, Quarry Road
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA1 3SF

Phone: 01524 581 134

Address: Area Education Office South
Area South - Preston, South Ribble, West Lancashire & Chorley
JOINT DIVISIONAL OFFICES
EAST CLIFF
PRESTON
PR1 3JT

Phone: 01772 533 608

Address: Area Education Office East
Area East - Ribble Valley, Hyndburn, Burnley, Pendle & Rossendale
Area Education Office East
44 Union Street
ACCRINGTON
BB5 1PL

Phone: 01254 220 717

Financial assistance with school clothing in exceptional circumstances

The County Council will only consider offering assistance with school clothing in very exceptional circumstances. Details of the criteria are listed below.

The County Council will generally only consider applications for assistance where the applicant is eligible for free school meals (*see below) **and** one of the following grounds is also satisfied:-

1. Where a pupil is the victim of severe family dislocation, especially where there is a need for the pupil to be relocated with the result that a change of school is necessitated.

2. Where a pupil's household has been affected by fire or flood, with a resultant loss of or damage to school clothing.

3. Where a pupil is the subject of a statement of Special Educational Need and where the terms of the statement require a change of school during the academic year.

4. Where a pupil's medical condition warrants additional support.

The Authority will also consider applications for assistance where there are other exceptional circumstances.

A low income in itself would not generally be considered as an exceptional circumstance.

* Note To meet the eligibility criteria for free school meals parents/carers must be in receipt of Income Support; Income Based Jobseekers Allowance; Income Related Employment Support Allowance; support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; Guarantee element of State Pension Credit; or get Child Tax Credit and **are not entitled to Working Tax Credit** and your annual income does not exceed £16,190 (April 11 figure), except where you receive Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week.

If you feel you may qualify for assistance please contact your local area education office (see contact tab above for details). Applications should be made in writing, stating why you feel an award should be made, what pieces of essential uniform you require and the cost of these items.

If your application is refused you can ask for your case to be reviewed by the County Welfare Benefits Policy Officer.

If your request is refused by the County Welfare Benefits Policy Officer then you may submit a written appeal to the Student Support Appeal Panel.