

Ellesmere College

Scholarships, Awards and Financial Support Summary



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Ellesmere College Awards and Bursary System

Key Terms

Award: a term used for scholarships and exhibitions, which are made on the basis of merit and without reference to parental financial circumstances.

Scholarship: usually an award with a value above 25% and up to 50% of school fees.

Exhibition: usually an award with a value up to 25% of school fees

Bursary: a reduction in fees based on an assessment of the merit of a pupil and consideration of parental financial circumstances, assessed following the completion of the College's financial circumstances form. Bursaries may be awarded separate from, but in addition to, scholarships and exhibitions.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are past papers available for scholarship exams?

No. No special preparation is required for our scholarship exams: they are designed for candidates following the National Curriculum.

Are awards made for the duration of a pupil's school career?

There are formal review points of scholarships on transfer from Lower School to Middle School and Middle School to Sixth Form. A student working hard and behaving well should have nothing to fear from a review.

Can an award or bursary be withdrawn by the school?

Yes. Under circumstances of poor behaviour, or failure to work, or to fulfil the commitments required of an award holder. The school will do its best to give reasonable warning if such circumstances seem likely to arise. However, in circumstances of seriously poor behaviour (such as behaviour leading to suspension from school), an award may be withdrawn without notice. Failure to maintain payment of fees in line with the College's terms and conditions would also lead to withdrawal of an award or bursary.

What is expected of an award or bursary holder?

An award or bursary holder is expected to work hard (effort grades should show better than "average" effort) and to be committed to the life of the College, both in general and specifically in relation to the award held. For example, a Music Award holder will be expected to take part in choirs, ensembles and performances as directed by the Director of Music. Similarly a Sports Award holder will be expected to represent the College as a priority (above external club commitments) and as directed by the Director of Sport. A pupil in receipt of an all-rounder award or bursary would be expected to show commitment to the life of the College in line with his or her particular talents.

Are bursaries awarded for the duration of a pupil's school career?

Bursaries are held on the same basis as scholarships in respect of effort and behaviour. In addition, parental financial circumstances are liable to reassessment on an annual basis, but in practice they are likely to be assessed less frequently than that. As a bursary is awarded to support a pupil whose parents could not otherwise afford to pay full fees it follows that an improvement in parental financial circumstances should normally lead to a reduction in the level of bursary awarded.

Are awards and bursaries available for award at other than the entry points listed in the table on the back page?

The entry ages identified (8, 9, 11, 13 and 16) are the principal points at which awards are made. In special circumstances the Headmaster has discretion to consider making awards on entry for exceptional candidates who do not join at the entry ages identified in the table on page 6. Bursaries may be awarded at any age.

What sort of income level is likely to attract bursary support?

An outline explanation of the factors that influence bursary decisions can be found online (see back page). However, as a very rough guide a family with a gross income of more than £70,000 (the figure is higher for Lower School, where the fees are lower) is unlikely to qualify for bursary support.

Awards throughout the College

All-Rounder

An All-Rounder Award holder will normally be above average academically, and where the talents to be recognised are also rewarded through other categories of award (Music, Academic, Sport, Art). These Awards are worth up to a maximum of 25% of the school fees.

Arts

Art Awards are worth up to a maximum of 25% remission of the school fees. Art Exhibitions are awarded annually on the basis of the submission of a portfolio of work and an interview with the Head of Art.

Drama

Drama Awards are awarded annually based on an audition at the College, a report or recommendation from the current school or arts organisation and meeting the school's academic criteria for entry. The award may be up to a maximum of 25% of school fees.

Schulze Organ

The Schulze Organ Award is reserved for Sixth Form candidates only; talented organists at other ages will be considered through the College's normal Music Award arrangements. The scholarship is to the value of 50% of fees. The Director of Music would be pleased to see potential organ scholars for a preliminary audition at any time.

Music

Music Scholarships entitle the Award holder to a fee reduction up to a maximum of 50% of school fees.

Music Exhibitions entitle the Award holder to a fee reduction of up to a maximum of 25% of school fees.

Music awards are made based on an audition at the College, a report or recommendation from the current school or music organisation and meeting the College's academic entry criteria. Auditions take place in late January or early February each year.

Sport

To be considered for a Sports Award a candidate would need to be performing at the equivalent of one level above County standard, where such a hierarchy exists. For the purposes of tennis and swimming, the national ranking and rating systems are used. Sports Awards may be up to a maximum of 50% of school fees, although entrants below Sixth Form level are unlikely to receive merit awards higher than 25% of school fees.

Woodard Award (Closed Award)

Funds have been reserved by the Governors to allow the College to offer Sixth Form scholarships to pupils from maintained schools affiliated to the Woodard Corporation, most particularly the Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School. These funds may also be accessed by pupils studying at other Woodard Schools. The successful candidate will show considerable academic promise or a combination of sound academic performance and a talent in at least one other area of school life such as sport, music or drama.

Woodard Foundation Award (Closed Award)

Funds have been reserved by the Governors to allow the College to offer up to four means-tested awards for day pupils in the Sixth Form. It is a condition of these awards that students should have previously attended local maintained schools to GCSE level. For the purposes of these awards "local" is defined as the area bounded by and including Shrewsbury, Chester, Oswestry and Whitchurch. The primary factor in determining receipt of these awards will be academic prowess.

TYPE OF AWARD	AGE ON ENTRY				
	LOWER SCHOOL			MIDDLE SCHOOL	SIXTH FORM
	8	9	11	13	16
Academic	X	X	X	X	X
All-Rounder	-	-	X	X	X
Art	-	-	-	X	X
Drama	-	-	-	X	X
Music	X	X	X	X	X
Schulze Organ	-	-	-	-	X
Sports	-	-	-	X	X
Woodard	-	-	-	-	X

For a detailed list of awards available and the application process, please download the Scholarship, Awards and Financial Support booklet at www.ellesmere.com then click Admissions/Scholarships and Bursaries.



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