



Northamptonshire Local Offer

Quick Guide:

Post-16 Travel Assistance for SEND

Students with Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans from low-income families may qualify for free travel assistance from Northamptonshire County Council. They can cover transport to educational settings at the beginning and end of a typical academic day.

16 to 18 year-olds with EHC Plans

To be considered eligible for free travel assistance, the student must:

- Be aged 16 to 18 years
- Be in full-time education (12 hours or more a week)
- Be living 3+ miles away from their nearest suitable educational establishment
- Be on a low income (meaning their parents / carers receive one of the benefits [listed here](#))
- Have an EHC Plan that states a need for travel assistance
- Be attending their nearest suitable further education setting (which is named in the EHC Plan)
- Live within the administrative boundary of Northamptonshire

If the student meets the criteria, Northamptonshire County Council will first explore whether a parent / carer can provide transport themselves (and have their fuel costs reimbursed).

Young Adult Learners (19 to 25 year-olds) with EHC Plans

Free travel assistance will be provided to young adult learners where:

- The young learner is subject to an EHC Plan
- Free travel assistance is deemed necessary to facilitate the young adult learner's attendance
- The Council has secured the provision of education or training and the provision of boarding accommodation for an adult learner aged under 25

Other Transport Support for Post-16 Students with SEND

Some students and young learners will receive benefits to help with their mobility. It might form part of the [Personal Independence Payment \(PIP\)](#) or the [16 to 19 Bursary Fund](#). Northamptonshire County Council will take this into account when they assess an individual's need for financial help with transport. Many colleges provide subsidized bus passes and transport, so be sure to check with them too.

Appeals

If an application for free travel assistance is declined, parents may appeal by submitting a form to escalate the matter to a Stage One Appeal. For more information, visit [School Travel Assistance - Appeals](#).

Apply

Apply for post-16 travel assistance [here](#).

Applications must be received by the last working day of May (before the start of the academic year in September). A new application must be submitted each year.



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