

Welsh Government Learning Grant Further Education Independence Evidence

You need to send evidence to prove your current status, use the information below to find out what you need to send.

You should send **photocopies** of your evidence unless otherwise stated. We will return any original documents.

If on the first day of the first academic year of your course, you'll be aged 25 or over

You need to send us:

- your **original** birth/adoption certificate; **or**
- your **original** valid passport.

If you provide your valid UK passport details in section 5 of the application form you do not need to send us your passport.

If on the first day of the first academic year of your course, you'll be responsible for a child

You need to send us:

- your most recent Child Benefit statement; **or**
- your child's **original** birth certificate **and** confirmation of your current address.

If on the first day of the first academic year of your course, you'll have financially supported yourself for three or more years

You need to send us:

- your P60 dated at least 3 years ago; **or**
- your benefits statement dated at least 3 years ago.

If on the first day of your course you'll be, or have been, married or in a civil partnership or you're currently living with a partner

You need to send us:

- your **original** marriage or civil partnership certificate.

If on the first day of the first academic year of your course, you are either estranged from your parents or both your parents are deceased

You need to send us confirmation dated within the last year from a professional person outside your family who knows about your circumstances.

By estranged we mean you've had no contact with your parents for at least 12 months.

You can send **one** of the following:

- a letter from your social worker; **or**
- **if you claimed Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit when you were under 18** – a letter from your local Jobcentre Plus office showing that you received benefits due to your estrangement; **or**
- **if your relationship with your parents broke down when you were at school or college** – a letter from an advice worker/personal tutor/teacher confirming your circumstances.

If on the first day of your course you have not lived in the legal care of your parents

This only applies to students under 25 and we will not ask you for financial evidence.

If you'll be 25 on the first day of the next academic year of your course, we'll ask you to provide financial information.

If at any point from the age of 14 to the first day of the first academic year of your course you:

- have not been under the legal care of your parents for a combined total of at least 13 weeks; **or**
- were under a special guardianship order, in the custody or legal care of, or have been given accommodation by a Local Authority for at least 13 weeks.

If you returned to the legal care of your parents between the ages of 14 and 16 (before the start of your course), you may still be considered a care leaver.

You need to send us:

A letter from your Local Authority confirming your current address and whether you are, or have been, in care.

This letter must be on headed paper. It needs to be signed and dated by an authorised official from your Local Authority, with an official stamp.

Both your parents are deceased

You need to send us:

- both **original** death certificates or certified copies of the death certificates.