

# **The Highland Council**

## **Briefing for Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)**

### **For Academic Year 2017/18**

Revenues and Business Support  
Policy Team Benefits and Welfare

## Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) provides financial support to eligible 16 to 19 year olds who want to continue learning.

### How to apply

The Scottish Government require a new application for EMA to be made each academic year. You can apply for EMA online using the Council's innovative 'Apply Once' application form on the Council's website at [www.highland.gov.uk/ema](http://www.highland.gov.uk/ema) This form will automatically identify any other available entitlements that are administered by the Council.

### Guidance

Guidance about EMA is available on the Council's website:

[www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/download/15/education\\_maintenance\\_allowance](http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/download/15/education_maintenance_allowance)

### Age Criteria

To be eligible for EMA for the academic year 2017/18 your date of birth must be between 1 March 1998 and 28 February 2002.

### Income Thresholds

Household income is assessed on gross taxable household income for the period April 2016 to March 2017. The household income thresholds for EMA for academic year 2017/18 are as follows:

Income	Number of dependant children in the household	Award per week
£0-24,421	One	£30 per child per week
£0-26,884	Two or more	£30 per child per week

### Apply without delay

To be eligible for a full year award the application must be received **by the EMA Unit by 30 September 2017.**

If your date of birth falls between 1 March 1998 and 30 September 2001 you may be eligible for an EMA from the start of the academic year 2017/18, 15 August 2017.

If your date of birth falls between 1 October 2001 and 28 February 2002 you may be eligible for an EMA from the start of the January term 2017/18, 8 January 2018.

### Help to complete an EMA Application Form

If you require help to complete an EMA application form, please contact the Council's Welfare Support Team on 0800 090 1004 or by emailing: [welfare.support@highland.gov.uk](mailto:welfare.support@highland.gov.uk)