

**Our Ref: 010/23**

As of 1 October 2012, Edinburgh's Telford College, Jewel & Esk College and Stevenson College merged to create a single college called Edinburgh College.

We refer to your request for information dated 26 February 2023. The College has considered your request as a request for information under section 1 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("FOISA").

I would be grateful if you could tell me, separately, for the current academic year and the for the academic years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022:

**010/23 (1):** The day that student bursary payments are paid to students in the college?

Friday

**010/23 (2):** How many student bursary payments were stopped for reasons related to attendance/engagement?

2020/2021	500
2021/2022	212

**010/23 (3):** The policy on informing students that payments are being stopped?

The College adheres to the Scottish Funding Council's National Policy for Further Education Bursaries.

2020-21: <https://www.sfc.ac.uk/publications-statistics/guidance/2020/SFCGD082020.aspx>

2021-22: <https://www.sfc.ac.uk/publications-statistics/guidance/2021/SFCGD082021.aspx>

Please note, there are no separate College bursary policies.

**010/23 (4):** If not included in the policy, the amount of notice that students are given prior to payments being stopped?

2020-21 session:

Academic weeks 1-14: Students received an SMS alert on the Wednesday morning for the Friday payment.

2020-21 session (Academic week 15 onwards) and 2021-22 session: Due to the pandemic, the College moved to a system whereby staff monitored attendance and payments were suspended by staff request. There was no specific notice period and students were informed directly by staff if their payments were being suspended. This is a formal notice under section 17(1) of FOISA that the College does not hold the requested information.

**010/23 (5):** How many of those who had their bursary stopped for reasons related to attendance/engagement were Care Experienced students?

	Total	Age 16-17	Age 18-25	Age 35+
2020/2021	34	19	15	0
2021/2022	0	0	0	0

For those Care Experience Students:

**010/23 (6):** What age they were they when payment was stopped? (I would be grateful if you could provide the data in the age categories of 16 and 17, 18-25 and 35+)

Please refer to response **010/23 (6)**

**010/23 (7):** If not included in the policy noted above, after how many hours/days of absence/disengagement was the bursary stopped?

Bursary awards are made based on students engaging appropriately in their studies. The expectation is that, normally, students should attend classes (whether these are in person or online) and Edinburgh College monitors student attendance on a regular basis.

**010/23 (8):** The college policy on managing bursary money that is unpaid to students?

Unpaid instalments are treated as committed but unpaid bursary funds.

**010/23 (9):** Overall, the total amount of money that was withheld from care experienced students for reasons related to attendance/engagement in each academic year?

2020/2021	£9576.05
2021/2022	£0

**010/23 (10):** Whether an equality impact assessment has been undertaken by your institution in relation to the bursary policy and withholding/stopping of payments?

N/A

**010/23 (11):** If it has, can you please provide a copy of that equality impact assessment?

N/A

Edinburgh College is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act (FOISA) 2002. If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may ask the college to review this decision. To do this, please contact the Director of Communications, Policy and Research at the postal address below or e-mail the Director of Communications, Policy and Research at [governance@edinburghcollege.ac.uk](mailto:governance@edinburghcollege.ac.uk) describing your original request and explaining your grounds for dissatisfaction. (Please include in your review request, your name and address (email or postal) for correspondence).

You have 40 working days from receipt of this letter to submit a review request to:

Director of Communications, Policy and Research  
4th Floor  
Edinburgh College (Milton Road Campus)

24 Milton Road East  
Edinburgh  
EH15 2PP

When the review process has been completed and if you are still dissatisfied, you may ask the Scottish Information Commissioner to intervene.

You can make an appeal to the Commissioner by email or post.

To appeal by email, send your application form or email to mail to:  
[enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)

To appeal by post, send your application form or letter to:

Scottish Information Commissioner  
Kinburn Castle  
Doubledykes Road  
St Andrews  
KY16 9DS

Full details on how to make an appeal to the Commissioner are available from their website:  
<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal>

You must appeal to the Commissioner within six months of receiving the review decision.

You also have the right to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law following a decision of the Commissioner.

Regards  
FOI Team