

Financial Support

Free School Meals and Clothing Grants

Your child may be entitled to free school meals or a clothing grant to help support towards the cost of uniform. These grants are confidential

Follow the link to find out if you qualify for free school meals and clothing grants.

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

Applications for the new academic year (2021/22) are available now.

Will I qualify?	Clothing grant	Free school meals
Employment and Support Allowance (Income related)	Yes	Yes
Income Support	Yes	Yes
Job Seekers Allowance (Income based)	Yes	Yes
Child Tax Credit only with a gross annual household income of less than £16,105 for 2020/21	Yes	Yes
Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit with a gross annual household income of up to £7,500 for 2020/21	Yes	Yes
Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit with a gross annual household income of below £16,105 but above £7,500 for 2020/21	Yes	No
Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999	Yes	Yes
Housing benefit	Yes	No
Universal Credit - where your maximum monthly earned income from employment does not exceed £625	Yes	Yes
Council tax reduction	Yes`	No



Free School Transport

Your child may be entitled to free school transport.

Secondary school pupils

Distance pupil lives from catchment secondary school:

- 3 miles away or more
- 2 miles away or more and gets both a clothing grant and free school meals (in agreement with qualifying benefits)

ERC check the distance by the shortest safe walking route.

When to apply

You should apply when your child starts primary or secondary school.

For any other time, apply 4 weeks before you need transport.

Information on the eligibility and the application process can be found here:

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-transport>

Money Advice and Rights Team (MART)

MART provide free, expert and confidential advice about debt, benefits and appeals. They can also help with Universal Credit and income maximisation.

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/money>



Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) Session 2020/21

We would like to bring to your attention the EMA which senior pupils may be entitled to receive.

An Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a weekly allowance of £30 paid to support young people in education beyond the statutory school leaving age of 16.

The entitlement to an EMA is dependent on household income as well as further criteria relating to attendance at school.

Details of the eligibility as well as the application form is available via this link <https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/ema>

ERC have requested that pupils print the form and either return by post to the council offices or photograph the completed form and email their application, as well as the relevant documents, to ema@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

Do you qualify for EMA?

You qualify for an EMA for the 2021/22 school year if:

- your birthday is between 1 March 2002 and 28 February 2006
- you go to an East Renfrewshire school
- your study involves at least 21 hours of guided learning a week
- you sign a learning agreement with your school
- your household income is within the agreed government levels

Household income levels

Income	Dependent children	EMA amount per child
0 - £24,421	1	£30
0 - £26,884	2+	£30

