



BUILDING CRAFTS COLLEGE

Building Crafts College Funding Policy and Information

The Building Crafts College has a long tradition in delivering high quality education and training in building crafts and building conservation. The College was founded by the Worshipful Company of Carpenters in 1893 and its current site in Stratford was purpose built in 2001.

The College has a well-earned reputation as a centre of excellence and it is our mission to offer both craft and technical education at the highest level to all our students. We are fully committed to providing equality of opportunity and celebrating difference amongst our students. We aim to support students regardless of their background in reaching their full potential and with the support of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters, offer a range of Bursaries and Scholarships.

Overview

The College is sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Carpenters who bestow each year, a number of grants in the form of Bursaries or Scholarships to students studying for Diplomas in Bench Joinery, Fine Woodwork and Stonemasonry.

- First and Second Year students of Bench Joinery, Fine Woodwork and Stonemasonry may be granted funding (**Bursaries**) based on means testing supported by references
- Second year students of Fine Woodwork may also be granted funding (**Scholarships**) based on excellence demonstrated in interview and by portfolio examples and/or from first year studies
- Application to either or both grants does not guarantee that you will be successful. Funding is granted to those most in need and those who have achieved well or show the most potential in their field
- All funding from the WCC and BCC is in the form of a grant. It is not a loan and therefore does not need to be paid back unless a student, having received funding, withdraws from the course for reasons, which the College Funding Committee warrants, are inadequate
- The grants cover College fees only and are not intended to cover living costs which students are responsible for sourcing elsewhere

- All grants are subject to continued commitment and progression by the learner in their course of study

Grants from the College, in either form, are not available to students undertaking Apprenticeships, for students under 19 or for those undertaking most Short Courses.

Timetable

Applications for all grants – Bursaries and Scholarships - must normally be received no later than 01 September for the following academic year's study which normally starts in mid-September of that year.

All applications are considered together by senior members of the College (the College Funding Panel) who then put forward recommendations to the Board Funding Committee. Decisions (which are full and final) are usually announced shortly afterwards.

However the College often allocates funds in a number of tranches and the deadline for each will be highlighted on the College website. Please keep an eye out for these.

If sufficient funds are left unallocated, the College will consider later applications but this is not guaranteed. However if you are struggling to pay your fees, please do approach the Admissions team for help.

Please use the Application Form and when complete, send to admissions@thebcc.ac.uk

BCC Bursary

Bursaries are awarded to students who are most in need financially for funding support to allow them to study at the College

Entry requirements:

- Age: 19+
- Confirmed place at the College for the following academic year
- Willing to act as an ambassador for the College and for the Fund from which your Grant has come. This may mean representing the College at events at Carpenters' Hall and elsewhere
- Means tested financial support for a portion of the annual fees. Support is normally awarded to students between 25% and a maximum of 50% of fees. Awards of 100% are rarely given but may be in exceptional circumstances
- Awards are split equally between the three terms of study per year and paid direct to the College, leaving the balance to be paid by the student or parent/guardian

Means testing will necessarily include the income of everyone in your household, so your parents, if you live at home or your co-habitees such as spouse/partner, if relevant, plus information on household outgoings and details on any dependent children you have. It will not include fellow tenants if you live in a flat or house share. We may ask for or seek evidence of your status and who lives at the property with you. Please note that all information given in support of your application will be treated in the strictest confidence.

You will be expected to give two references from referees both of whom are independent from the family but who are able to vouch for you

You must also give a personal statement with reasons for your application. In this we expect to hear about your personal circumstances, aspirations, ambitions and reasons for applying for the grant.

Students may be invited for an interview with the College Funding Panel

Bursary awards are subject to repeat testing meaning that you will have to provide updated details of household income etc for each year of study.

BCC Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded for achievement and potential in the field of study.

Entry requirements:

- Age 19+
- Confirmed place at the College for the following academic year
- Willing to act as an ambassador for the College and for the Fund from which your Grant has come. This may mean representing the College at events at Carpenters' Hall and elsewhere
- Students of Fine Woodwork may be considered
- Awards may, by exception, cover full fees but more usually cover a percentage of the annual fees in the range of 10% to a maximum of 50%
- Awards are split equally between the three terms of study per year and paid direct to the college, leaving the balance to be paid by the student or parent/guardian

To apply, students must first have been approached by a tutor who will recommend they apply. The student must complete an application form as for Bursaries including the names of referees plus a personal statement. All candidates must also submit a portfolio of their work which must include sketches, drawings and outlines of projects undertaken or underway. Second Year Students must also include a written report from the Head Tutor.

Students will also be invited for an interview with the College Funding Panel. The Panel and Board Funding Committee will be looking for essential qualities in each candidate and their work including enthusiasm for the subject, self motivation, skills in drawing and/or design plus any extra curricula activities that relate to the course or which show commitment to a project.

Other Funding

The amount of College funding available each year is finite and not all candidates will be successful in their application for a grant. Here is a list of other sources of income for students or general advice on funding. There will be many more so this list is not exhaustive but will help you start in your search for funding. Please note that we are not responsible for the accuracy of information on any other site.

For Stonemasons

www.masonslivery.org/our-craft/#apprenticeships

Once completed, please send with your CV to CraftFund@maonslivery.org.uk

First go to gov.uk website for general information on student finance

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/education/student-finance>

This will link you to a number of useful pages including:

Adult Dependants' Grant

Childcare Grant

Funding for postgraduate study

Parents' Learning Allowance

Advanced Learner Loan for courses at Level 3-6 so, mainly for Second Year students

<https://www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan>

Ex-Services financial support

<https://www.questonline.co.uk/funding>

Scholarships Hub

<https://www.thescholarshipclub.org.uk/>

Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (Qest) Supporting Excellence in British Craftsmanship

<https://www.qest.org.uk/>

Your local council may offer assistance. Check via the government website to find your local council's website. You will have to search for funding from there

<https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council>

Princes Trust

<https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/help-for-young-people/get-funding-train-learn>

Turn2Us

<https://grants-search.turn2us.org.uk/>

MoneySavingExpert

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/grants-education/>

Which?

<https://www.which.co.uk/money/university-and-student-finance/student-finance/extra-funding-bursaries-and-scholarships-for-university-amrvt3j7t958>

Save the Student

<https://www.savethestudent.org/>

Other places to try include:

- your old school
- your usual religious centre/place of faith
- your country's embassy if you are an ex-pat with leave to remain in the UK. There may also be clubs and associations affiliated to your home country that can help. Try a Google search
- friends and family – set up a Go Fund Me page - <https://uk.gofundme.com/start/education-fundraising>