

Financial Provision for Ordinands

Financial Support for Ordinands in Full-Time Training Guidelines for the Academic Year 2020/21– ‘Family Support During Maternity’ (p.6)

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-07/DDO%20Finance%20Book%202020.pdf>

‘Arrangements for individual cases continue to be a matter between the ordinand, DDO and TEI. However, the Finance Panel has agreed that dioceses may pool any financial support they provide for the family for up to a maximum of 52 weeks.’

Student Parents Allowance

Ordinands are not eligible for student finance. However, if you fill in the online form for Student Finance and apply, you will be sent an email of rejection, and on that email you will get prompted to apply for student parents allowance, for which you are eligible.

Student Parents Allowance – as an allowance – does not need to be paid back. It is means tested on your household taxable income. You may receive up to c.£1,600 in our experience.

To apply: Log in to ‘Student Finance’ (<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login>). Fill in the application forms. Within 2 weeks you will receive a rejection email, including a list of other allowances. Apply for Students Parents Allowance.

Childcare Allowance

Every diocese has a duty of care to clergy and also to ordinands training on Full-Time Context-Based pathways. The allowance pays for childcare for 3 days. You can use that allowance for work and for study days. Some diocese may offer up to 5 days.

To apply: use the ordinand maintenance grant application form, or some dioceses have a separate childcare allowance form. Identify the type of care you wish for your child and send proof of monthly costs.

Healthy Start Vouchers Scheme

You can claim vouchers for fruit and veg, and milk and formula milk as soon as you know you are pregnant until your child starts primary school. It is for mothers who have 0% taxable income. See <https://www.gov.uk/healthy-start>.

To apply: go to <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/healthy-start-vouchers/how-to-apply/>.

Also, don’t forget to apply for Child Tax Credit and Child Benefit.