

GWT Educational Financial Assistance Guidelines

The Gamekeepers Welfare Trust Educational Financial Assistance Fund can provide grants to help young, aspiring gamekeepers gain a suitable educational qualification in game keeping or allied subject.

Funding is provided on an annual basis. If your course runs for more than one year you will need to reapply for funding for any subsequent years and provide evidence of grades achieved.

Who can apply for funding?

You should apply for funding from the Gamekeepers Welfare Trust after you have exhausted other avenues of funding. Other areas of funding include, but are not limited to:

- Hardship grants from the college
- A Tuition Fee Loan to cover tuition fees
- A Maintenance Loan to help with living costs
- A Maintenance Grant or Special Support Grant
- Local educational grants and funding through county / district / parish councils
- Sponsorship

Do You Qualify?

Stage 1

You will not normally be considered unless you are **24 years of age or under** unless you feel there are extenuating circumstances.

Stage 2

Please consider the groups below and assess whether you will qualify under these terms. Evidence is also requested where applicable. Preference may be given to students in the following circumstances:-

Circumstance	Evidence required to be provided with application
Household affected by redundancy in previous 12 months	Copy of letter of redundancy
Member of family suffering a long term illness or disability	Letter from GP
Has not been not in education, employment or training for more than 26 weeks	Letter from Connexions
Gamekeeping interest (self)	Letter from a member of the game keeping profession
Gamekeeping background (family)	Letter from family employer / previous employer

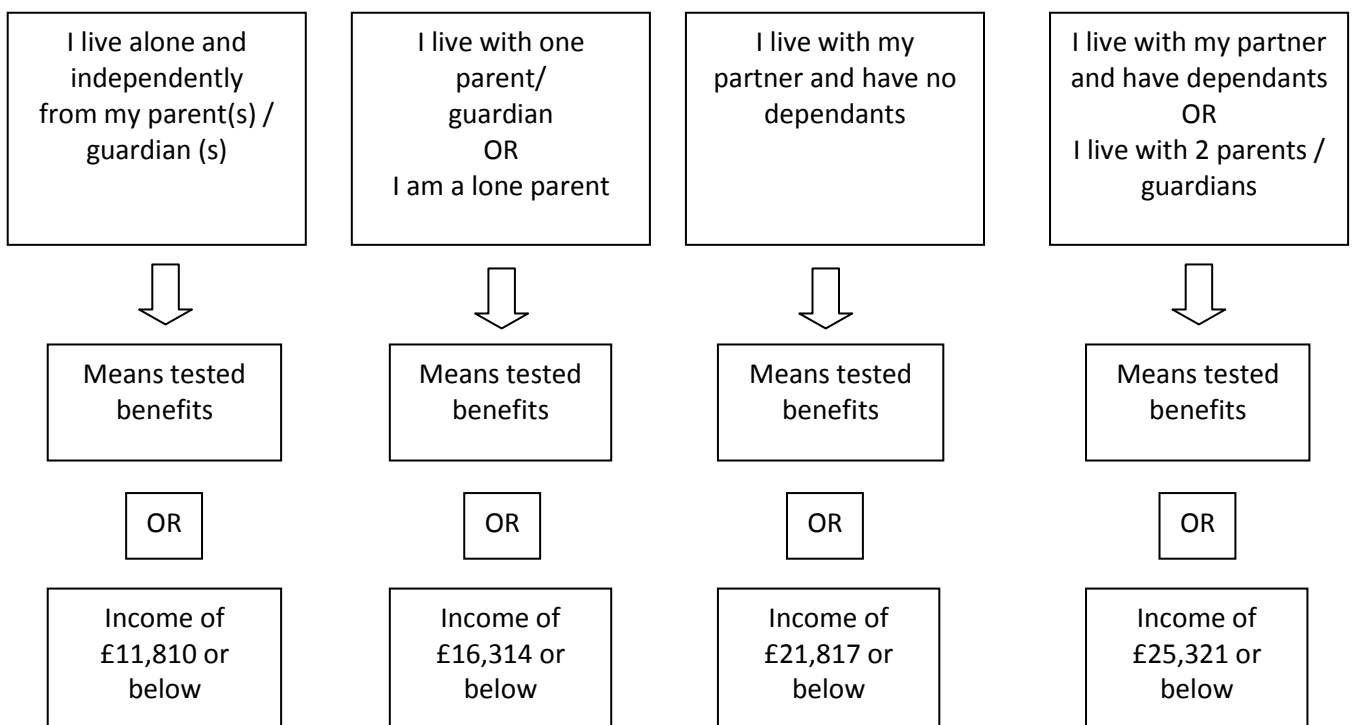
If you feel you have an exceptional circumstance which should be considered then you should write a letter explaining your reasons.

Stage 3

In addition to the circumstances outlined in stage two you should also consider the following when making an application.

Are you able to demonstrate financial hardship? To do this you, your partner, or your parent(s) or guardian(s), would normally be in receipt of a means tested benefit or have a household income of below a certain level.

Consider the chart below and if you feel you qualify under those terms submit an application or contact us for further information.



Means tested benefits include Housing Benefit, Income Support, Working Tax Credit and Council Tax Benefit. For more information on means tested benefits please see www.direct.gov.uk/en/MoneyTaxAndBenefits/index.htm

How do I apply?

Complete the Application for Educational Assistance Form along with a letter explaining your reasons for application along with any relevant evidence required. The letter and form should include sufficient justification for funding from GWT and why the student wishes to make gamekeeping their career. An offer letter or letter of acceptance from the educational establishment should also be sent with your application along with a prospectus or course leaflet.

Please do contact us if you require assistance in completing the application or any other query.

All grants are made at the discretion of the trustees.

Useful Links

Educational Funding

England - <http://studentfinance-yourfuture.direct.gov.uk>

www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/index.htm

Northern Ireland - www.studentfinancenir.co.uk

Scotland - www.student-support-saas.gov.uk

Wales - www.studentfinancewales.co.uk