

What do I need to do to get my EMA for 2020?

First you need to complete an EMA application form. It's worth applying as soon as you can, or you may have to wait for your money. The application form will be available from June 2020.

- Your parents or carers will need to give details of all the income coming into your household for the last complete tax year (this will be for 2019/2020). They also need to send, with the application form, evidence of the household income for that year.

They can send us their:

- Final Tax Credit Award Notice (TCAN) for April 2019 to April 2020, or
- P60 (2020)

These will be issued from April 2020.

- EMA payments will be paid direct to your bank account—so if you haven't got one already you will need to open an account in your name before you apply.
- You must sign an EMA Learning Agreement with your school. This agreement will set out what is expected of you in terms of: attendance, coursework and progress.

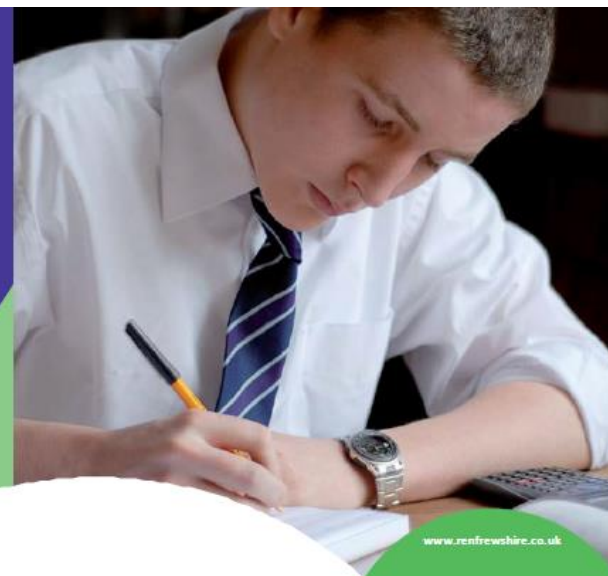
“The EMA has been a huge improvement towards the quality of my life.”

“Having an EMA helped me during 5th year because it gave me more time for my studying. I didn't have to worry about going to work because I got money every week so I could spend more time studying and concentrating on my school work. I think making EMA available to 5th and 6th years is a great thing. It really does make a difference to how people treat school and their studying”



Where can I find out more information about applying for an EMA?

Please check www.renfrewshire.gov.uk for regular updates on how to apply this year.



www.renfrewshire.co.uk

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Session 2020/2021

Education Maintenance Allowance

www.renfrewshire.gov.uk


Renfrewshire
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Do you want to stay in education after 16 but are worried about money?



You may be able to receive £30 a week Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) if you are 16 to 19 and staying on in full time education.

What is an EMA?

EMA is a weekly payment of £30, depending on your household income. This money is intended to help with the day-to-day costs when you stay on at school.

"My EMA helped me a lot this year. It allowed me to pay for my train fares to school without having to get a part time job. That freed up time to allow me to study. Also it was something to aim for each week and gave me even more encouragement to turn up for school."

Who will be entitled to an EMA?

You can get an EMA if:

- You are 16 to 19 years old and staying on in education from August 2020.
- Your household income is within the approved thresholds.
- Your course involves at least 21 hours of guided learning per week.
- You sign a valid Learning Agreement with your school.

How much will I get?

If you are applying and qualifying for EMA, the following income thresholds apply:

Zero – £24,421 (for families with a single child in full-time education).....	£30 a week
Zero – £26,884 (for families with more than one child in full-time education).....	£30 a week



How long can I get an EMA for?

You can get an EMA for up to three years. "Vulnerable" young people may receive support for up to three years within a four-year period. **A new application is required each academic year.**

How do we assess your household income?

We look at the income of the adults in your home who have a caring or parental responsibility for you. In most cases this will be your parent or parents, but could be grandparents or another family member.

Not all income is counted. For example, if your parents do not live together, we ignore any maintenance paid by the parent who does not live with you. Also, we do not count any money you earn from a part-time job.

Will EMA affect my family's/my benefits?

EMA is paid in addition to other support and benefits provided by the Government. Your family won't lose out on other money if you get an EMA.

- It will not affect your parent's Child Benefit.
- It won't affect any money you earn from a part-time job either.

"EMA really helped me in fifth year, because with the money I received, I bought more stationery and things I needed to study at school – such as folders, pens etc."