Important information regarding claiming Carers’ Allowance

Typically, full-time students are not eligible to claim Carer’s Allowance. If you are claiming Carers’ Allowance prior to starting your university course, your eligibility for this benefit will cease upon enrolment at University and it is important that you notify the Benefits Agency that you have commenced full-time study to ensure you do not accrue any kind of subsequent overpayment.

Our dedicated member of staff for Young Adult Carers can advise you as to your entitlement for other sources of funding, including bursaries and scholarships.

Contact details
Email: imagine@ljmu.ac.uk
Tel: 0151 231 3149
Starting university is an exciting time for all students. If you’re a Young Adult Carer and are thinking about coming to LJMU or are already studying with us, there is a wide range of support available to ensure that you have the best possible student experience during your time at the University.

This leaflet outlines the range of support offered by LJMU. Not everyone will need to use these extra support services and you are under no obligation to do so. Our goal is to work with you to ensure that the right support is in place to enable you to succeed in higher education and achieve your goals in the future.

Who is a Young Adult Carer?

Young Adult Carers are individuals between the ages of 18 and 25 who provide unpaid support or look after a family member, partner or friend who needs help because of their age, physical or mental illness, or disability. The Young Adult Carer does not need to live at the same address as the person they care for.

Young Adult Carers often juggle their caring responsibilities with university study yet many Young Adult Carers do not realise that they are undertaking a caring role. Managing caring responsibilities alongside student life can at times be challenging. LJMU is committed to ensuring that Young Adult Carers receive appropriate support to enable them to effectively balance their academic studies with their caring responsibilities.

Before you apply

Even before you start your course, we can provide you with information about the University and help establish what support you might require during your time at LJMU.

We can arrange for you to visit the campus and meet members of staff from your chosen subject, along with other students and tour our partner accommodation sites.

Our dedicated member of staff for Young Adult Carers within Student Advice and Wellbeing Services can arrange an initial chat with you, at your convenience. All you need to do is get in touch by emailing imagine@ljmu.ac.uk or calling 0151 231 3149.

So why not set aside some time to talk to us? It could be really beneficial.

A bespoke package of support

All students are different, requiring different levels of support. At LJMU, we recognise the particular challenges that can be faced by Young Adult Carers in balancing caring responsibilities with student life. We will work with you to develop your own unique personalised package of support. This can be reviewed as and when appropriate to reflect your personal circumstances.

The University is working in partnership with Liverpool City Council and Barnardos’ Action with Young Carers Service to ensure that Young Adult Carers and those they are caring for receive a full assessment of their support needs by appropriate agencies.

Support from a dedicated member of staff

Our dedicated member of staff for Young Adult Carers can provide you with information, advice and support with all aspects of university life, including:

- Developing a package of support that suits your needs including support with Study Skills and a mentor, should you wish;
- Meeting you at university events such as Open Days, interview and applicant days;
- Support with applying for student funding (for example, from Student Finance England) and advice on accessing additional sources of funding (including bursaries, scholarships and benefits) to support you during your studies;
- Support and advocacy with academic issues including liaising with your academic department and course tutors, should you wish;
- Discussing your accommodation options should you wish to live in student accommodation while continuing with your caring responsibilities;
- Acting as a link between you, the University and appropriate external support agencies to ensure that both you and the person you are caring for receive a full assessment of your support needs;
- Signposting towards other LJMU services including LiverpoolSU and the World of Work Careers Centre;
- Or simply just someone to talk to if you need to.