

# Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)



## What is EMA?

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a payment made every 2 weeks to eligible 16-19 year olds to help with the costs of further education. If you decide to stay on at school or go to college in Northern Ireland you may be able to get Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA). EMA is a fortnightly payment of up to £60 for students who are aged 16, 17, 18 or 19 years.

It is paid directly to young people from households with an income of £33,950 or less who stay on in education after they reach statutory leaving age (i.e. after the end of their compulsory schooling).

## More information

More information can be found on the Education and Maintenance Allowance pages on NIDirect. **This information relates to applications for the 2012/13 academic year.**

If you need further help:

- [www.nidirect.gov.uk/education-maintenance-allowance.htm](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/education-maintenance-allowance.htm)
- [www.delni.gov.uk/little-book-of-ema-2012-13.pdf](http://www.delni.gov.uk/little-book-of-ema-2012-13.pdf)
- Tel: **0845 601 7646**