

What is meant by 'No Recourse to Public Funds'?

Migrants should not claim state benefits when employed by the College and need to show that they have enough money to support themselves and any dependents from the time they enter the UK until they start to receive an income.

Visas will state that migrants have permission to work but there must be no recourse to public funds. This document outlines what is meant by this and gives details of where to find further information.

'No recourse to public funds' refers to:

- local authority housing, either through homelessness law or a housing allocation
- income support and income-based jobseeker's allowance
- housing benefit and council tax benefit
- attendance allowance, severe disablement allowance, disability living allowance and carer's allowance
- child benefit
- payments from the social fund
- child tax credit and working tax credit
- pension credit.

If a person is paying National Insurance Contributions they will be entitled to claim the following:

- contribution-based jobseeker's allowance
- incapacity benefit
- retirement pension
- widow's benefit and bereavement benefit
- guardian's allowance
- Statutory Maternity Pay

Although healthcare and education do not count as public funds – an immigration status may affect eligibility.

Exceptions and Further Advice

There can be exceptions to these rules, therefore it is advisable to read the document <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/residency/publicfunds.pdf>

The Immigration Advisory Service provides specialist advice on immigration and asylum law:

Immigration Advisory Service (IAS)

County House

190 Great Dover Street

London

SE1 4YB

Tel: 0844 974 4000 (No advice given on this number - callers will be given the telephone number of their local office)

Fax: 020 7403 5875

E-mail: advice@iasuk.org

Website: www.iasuk.org