FINANCIAL SUPPORT FACTSHEET
HOW TO MAKE IT WORK ON YEAR HERE

Year Here offers a range of support to make the course easier to manage financially. We strive to make the programme as accessible as possible to the widest pool of talent.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Bursaries

For each programme, we offer a small number of bursaries of up to £5000 for those who would not otherwise afford to participate. If you secure a bursary, you will receive it in 4 equal instalments during the programme. Our bursaries are funded by donations from our advisors, faculty members, and wider network.

We provide bursaries on a means-tested basis, which takes into account applicants’ family income and access to savings. Full details are at the end of this factsheet.

ADDITIONAL INCOME

Paid work

Most of our Fellows work during the course, in the evenings and on weekends and during scheduled holiday weeks. Previous Fellows have utilised their pre-existing experience – including advertising, management consulting, facilitating, event management, design and writing – to find freelance work alongside to complement the Year Here programme.

We have a partnership with tutoring company Tutor Fair who have employed Fellows and are keen to do so again. If you are interested in becoming a tutor, alongside your commitments as a Fellow, we can put you in touch with these agencies as soon as you are offered a place on the programme.

You’ll find more information in the paid work factsheet which you’ll have access to if and when you’re offered a place.

Recruitment support

Recognising that current Fellows are often best placed to spot new talent for forthcoming programmes, we pay Fellows to help us with recruitment twice per year.

Fellows are paid for writing for careers-related publications, speaking at relevant careers and social innovation events and meeting with prospective applicants.

These opportunities are shared with Fellows during each recruitment campaign.
REDUCING COSTS

Discounted accommodation

Through our relationship with Dot Dot Dot we are able to provide heavily-discounted accommodation – usually £50-75 per week.

Dot Dot Dot are a property guardianship social enterprise. They offer residents cheap housing in flats that would otherwise be empty. Typically, Dot Dot Dot residents must volunteer locally in exchange for the discounted cost of the housing. As a Fellow, your participation in Year Here would automatically fulfil this requirement.

While we do our best to support Fellows with their housing needs, we can’t guarantee that these organisations will always have availability for Year Here fellows. If you’re worried about finding affordable accommodation in London, apply and we can discuss the options with you during the interview.

Discounted travel

Along with covering your travel expenses during your placement and consulting project, we can offer a 30% discount on Transport for London Travelcards for the duration of the course – so your evening and weekend travel is cheaper than usual.

On being offered a place on the programme, you’ll be given an enrolment number that you can quote when applying for a student Oyster card. You pay a one off £20 fee for the card and notify us when you’ve applied so we can confirm your eligibility with TfL.

Discounted health costs

The NHS low income scheme will save you money on prescriptions, dental and eye care costs.

Discounted council tax

As Year Here is a full-time educational course, some councils will provide discount or exemptions from council tax. We will provide you with a letter once the programme starts. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee that councils will grant you council tax exemption.
MEANS-TESTING

Applications for bursaries and discounted accommodation are means-tested so that we prioritise Fellows who demonstrate need for support.

Eligibility

As a guideline, those applying for a bursary and/or accommodation should meet one or more of the following criteria, or be in the equivalent financial position:

- You have received free school meals in the past.
- While at university, you received a means-tested bursary or hardship grant and/or took out your maximum fee and maintenance loan entitlement.
- You are in receipt of Jobseeker’s allowance, income support or universal credit.
- Your parents are in the receipt of Jobseeker’s allowance, income support or universal credit.
- You, or your parents, have received any other type of financial assistance based on your circumstances such as carers allowance, child benefit or child tax credit, employment and support allowance or housing benefit.

If you are not a UK citizen, we will ask you to provide comparable evidence of your need for financial assistance.

Applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and you will be asked to provide evidence (e.g. scans of original documentation) of any financial assistance you have received in the past.

Process

Bursary and accommodation application forms will be sent to those who are invited to a selection workshop (and requested financial assistance in their application). You will then be expected to complete this by the time you attend your selection workshop. We will decide who receives a bursary and/or accommodation based on two factors: demonstrated financial need and performance during the selection process.

All information provided to Year Here will remain confidential and only used by Year Here for the assessment of the bursary. If you are awarded a bursary this information will remain confidential for the entirety of the programme.
FAQS

I’m applying for financial aid, but I don’t come from the UK. How do I fill in the application?

Please fill in the form with as much detail as possible (e.g. dates, places, and a brief mention of your nationality, hence the non-UK system). For example, where it asks about parental benefits, you could explain any welfare benefits you received in the earlier years, and your family situation. We are also assessing is your personal financial situation, so if in recent years you individually have received any aid or benefit, do also note that down.

I come from a country which until recently didn’t keep online records of financial support. What do I do?

Please try to find hard copies of the documentation and scan them through. We may in future ask for a hard copy. If you’re running out of time before the financial aid deadline, you can initially submit the documentation in the original language if necessary, and that will give you a bit more time to source a translation. In the box at the bottom of the form, I’d suggest explaining that your state support happened before online records began and that you’re doing your best to source the documentation.

How do I fit part-time work around the demands of the course?

Juggling part-time work and freelancing with the course itself can be challenging and tiring for Fellows. You need to take responsibility for not taking on too much and making sure you find a balance that works for both your financial position and your physical and mental health. The course is full time and you can assume to be working on Year Here projects 9am to 5pm during the three phases. Part-time and freelance work must be taken up out of hours, during the evenings and on weekends, and/or during scheduled holiday weeks. There are 5 scheduled holiday weeks through the programme. For those that progress to the incubator, there are a further 2 holiday weeks between Capstone Week, the last week of the programme, and the first day of the incubator. Typically, Fellows work part-time through the incubator while building up income to pay themselves through their fledgling venture.