

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)

PAYMENT SCHEDULE 2026-27

The table below lists all possible payment dates and which weeks they are for.

Weeks you are eligible to receive payment (subject to 100% attendance) Weeks ending:		Number of weeks	Total Amount Paid (£)	Payment Dates (Fridays unless stated)
14 August 2026	21 August 2026	2	60	4 September 2026
28 August 2026	4 September 2026	2	60	18 September 2026
11 September 2026	18 September 2026	2	60	2 October 2026
25 September 2026	2 October 2026	2	60	16 October 2026
9 October 2026		1	30	30 October 2026
23 October 2026	30 October 2026	2	60	13 November 2026
6 November 2026	13 November 2026	2	60	27 November 2026
20 November 2026	27 November 2026	2	60	11 December 2026
4 December 2026	11 December 2026	2	60	24 December 2026 (Thursday)
18 December 2026	8 January 2027	2	60	22 January 2027
15 January 2027	22 January 2027	2	60	5 February 2027
29 January 2027	5 February 2027	2	60	19 February 2027
12 February 2027		1	30	5 March 2027
26 February 2027	5 March 2027	2	60	19 March 2027
12 March 2027	19 March 2027	2	60	2 April 2027
26 March 2027	2 April 2027	2	60	30 April 2027
23 April 2027	30 April 2027	2	60	14 May 2027
7 May 2027	14 May 2027	2	60	28 May 2027
21 May 2027	28 May 2027	2	60	11 June 2027
4 June 2027	11 June 2027	2	60	25 June 2027
18 June 2027	25 June 2027	2	60	9 July 2027

Important notes:

- Students are not paid EMA during school holidays – the following weeks ending:
 - 16 October 2026
 - 25 December 2026 & 1 January 2027
 - 19 February 2027
 - 9 April 2027 & 16 April 2027
- Independent schools – payment dates may vary depending on your school's term dates, please check with your school if you're unsure.
- If your award starts after the first payment date your first payment will be backdated as a lump sum – you can calculate how much you are due to be paid using this table.
- If your award starts in January 2027, the earliest you will receive a payment is 22 January 2027 **for £30 only**
- Final payment for school students leaving after exams will be made on 11 June 2027