



Part-time higher education and professional qualification grant

Q. Can you tell me about this £500 funding from ILA Scotland?

A. This is an annual £500 part-time higher education and professional qualification fee grant for new and existing students who are studying 40 Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) credits or more in an academic year.

Q. Does this replace the current £500 loan facility?

A. Yes. This funding is not a loan and so it does not have to be paid back.

Q. Who can get this funding?

A. This support is only available to people aged 16 or over, resident in Scotland and with an individual income of £22,000 a year or less. Learners who receive the £500 ILA Scotland funding cannot open a £200 learner account.

Q. Where can learners find out about courses that are eligible for this funding?

A. Approved ILA500 learning providers such as colleges and universities will be able to advise learners whether or not they offer their courses on a part-time basis and if a course meets the criteria to be eligible for £500 funding.

Q. Do learning providers have to be ILA Scotland registered for their learners to benefit from this funding?

A. Yes, only learning providers who are registered with ILA Scotland can offer learners ILA Scotland funded courses.

Q. What happens if a learner already has a £200 learner account and wants to apply for £500? Will they have to wait until their account renews to apply?

A. Yes, Learners will have to wait until the end of their learner year before they can apply for a £500 account. However, they should be encouraged to call the ILA Scotland helpline to discuss what type of account is best for them.

Q. Where will learners obtain application packs for the £500 offer?

A. Application packs are available by calling the ILA Scotland helpline on **0808 100 1090** or by completing the online application request form at www.ilascotland.org.uk. Learning providers need to stamp the application form and confirm that the course meets the eligibility criteria

Q. Is the income assessment process the same as the £200 learner account?

A. Yes, the process will be the same.

Q. Will the learner receive a £500 account card?

A. No, there is no account card required as the course booking process works differently to the £200 offer. Courses must be certified at application stage by the learning provider and once the application has been processed and approved, the funds are then set aside for payment to the learning provider.

Q. What happens at the end of the academic year?

A. Funding is granted for an academic year and it is not automatically renewed. So if the learner wants to continue with an eligible course they will need to re-apply.

Q. Can you have a £500 account one year and a £200 one the next?

A. The £500 account will run for one academic year. It will not be automatically renewed so after that time has lapsed, learners can apply for a £200 learner account. It is not possible to have two learner accounts at the same time.