

Information sheet 005: Funding of DTLLS Courses 2012-2013

The following summary is based on information provided by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and is correct at the time of writing.

General

You are likely to be eligible for financial support if you are following a DTLLS¹ course

- before you are appointed to a teaching post (i.e. a pre-service course), or
- when you already hold a full-time or part-time teaching post (i.e. an in-service DTLLS course)

To be eligible for financial support, the DTLLS course must be:

- of at least one academic year's duration
- an endorsed course accredited by a higher education institute (HEI) or, if accredited by an award body, the course must be on the list of "designated institutions". You can find this list on: <http://www.talent.ac.uk/courses.asp>

The package of financial support to which you might be entitled depends on your circumstances. A brief summary is provided below.

1) New full-time DTLLS students will be eligible for the following support:

a) Tuition loan

This loan is not means tested. You will, however, only receive a loan to cover the actual tuition charge for your DTLLS course. The maximum that you can be charged for a full-time course in the 2012-13 academic year is £9,000.

b) Maintenance loan

This loan is affected by where you live and is means tested.

- If you are under 25 years old, you are classed as "dependent" and your parents' income will be taken into consideration.
- If you are co-habiting with your spouse or partner, her/his income will be taken into consideration.

c) Maintenance grant /Special support grant

In addition to the tuition loan and maintenance loan, you might be able to apply for a maintenance grant or special support grant of up to £3,250. This grant is means tested in the same way as the maintenance loan.

If you receive this grant, the maintenance loan to which you might also be entitled will be reduced by £0.50 for every £1 of maintenance grant you receive.

¹ If accredited by a higher education institute (HEI), the Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (DTLLS) might have a different course title.

2) New part-time DTLLS students will be eligible for the following support:

a) Tuition loan

This loan is available if you are studying in a publicly funded institution at an intensity of at least 25% of an equivalent full-time course. If in doubt, ask the admissions tutor at your intended place of study.

This loan is not means-tested. You will, however, only receive a loan to cover the actual tuition charge for your DTLLS course. The maximum that you can be charged for a part-time course in the 2012-13 academic year is £6,750.

b) Course grant

A grant of up to £265 is available to help with the cost of books, travel and other expenditure relating to your course. Your entitlement to this grant is means tested. The amount you might receive is reduced by £1 for every £9.47 of reckonable income above £26,030.

3) Students who are continuing their DTLLS course:

a) All continuing students

If you are continuing a DTLLS course that you began in a previous year, you will also be eligible for financial support. The extent of support depends on when you started the course. For further details, please check with your course tutor or refer to the Student Finance website at:

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/Applyingfortheirstime/DG_171531](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/Applyingfortheirsttime/DG_171531)

b) Fee grant

If you are a lecturer following an in-service DTLLS course and you received a fee grant of £400 in the 2011-12 academic year, you might also be eligible to receive this grant for the second year of your course in the 2012-13 academic year. To be eligible:

- your employer must be a college of further education, a sixth form college or an employer in receipt of funding from the Skills Funding Agency (SFA)
- you must be teaching SFA-funded provision.

As in the 2011-12 academic year, the grant is paid to your employer by the Institute for Learning (IfL), which administers the scheme.

4) Training bursaries for full-time and part-time DTLLS students:

In February 2012, the minister for higher education announced that two types of bursary would be introduced in September 2012.

a) Bursaries of £1,000 would be available for up to 10,000 trainees who follow an HEI-accredited DTLLS course or level 6 PGCE qualification.

b) Bursaries of £1,500 would be available for up to 1,000 trainees who follow an HEI-accredited DTLLS course and who intend to teach basic mathematics or basic English in the sector.

On the date at which we sent this information sheet to you, the government had yet to announce further details about the eligibility for these bursaries or about how the bursaries will be administered. We expect these details to be announced later in year. You might like to wait a few weeks and then contact us again on:

fe.advice@lluk.org or 0300 303 1877.

5) Supplementary loans and grants

Further support is available for full-time students with particular needs. These include:

- Disabled students allowances (these are also available to part-time students)
- Grant in respect of an adult dependant
- Childcare grant
- Parents' learning allowance

You can find further information about these funding streams from:

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/Typesoffinance/index.htm>

6) Financial support for students from other EU countries

If you are from another EU country, you might be eligible for financial assistance.

You can find out more about this on the Student Finance England web site, page:

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/StudentsFromOtherEUCountries/index.htm>

7) How to Apply for funding

You will find further information about how, and when, to apply for funding on the following web page of Student Finance England:

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/Gettingstarted/index.htm>

You will also find a link to the application form for starts in the academic year 2012-13, as well as guidance on how to fill in the form, on the right-hand side of the above web page.

8) Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills has produced a FAQs document that you might find useful. You can download this document from:

<http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/higher-education/docs/f/11-790-faq-student-finance-from-september-2012.pdf>

The FAQs document also contains tabulated information that will enable you to work out how much you might be entitled to receive.