



Further Education Adult Funding Guidance

ESOL

English & Maths

Entry/Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

Professional Level 4/5/6

This guide provides an outline to the funding and support available to adults aged 19+ studying at Loughborough College Group. It includes information on eligibility, tuition, loans and fee remissions.

Please note that funding is subject to individual circumstances which includes age, residency status, location and prior qualifications. In line with the Adult Skills (ASF) funding rules, learners who live in a devolved authority area may not be eligible for funding with Loughborough College Group, and may need to seek funding in their local authority.

If you are unsure about eligibility, please contact our Enrolment Team for advice.

Digital Skills

Learners aged 19 years or over, will only be fully funded for an Essential Digital Skills Qualification (EDSQ) or Digital Functional Skills Qualification (DFSQ) up to Level 1

Learners eligible for full funding must be:

- **Aged 19 or over**
- **Have the Right to Study in the UK**
- **Be assessed as having digital skills below level 1**

Entry /Level 1 Study Eligibility

Places on Entry/Level 1 courses are subject to individual circumstances for adult learners and may not be available/suitable for all learners. Curriculum staff will make you aware of these limitations at Applicant Events.

Tuition Fees and Fee Remissions

Students eligible to join Entry/Level 1 courses (not including ESOL – See separate ESOL Page) will be funded if they are 19-24 and in receipt of an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP), are 19+ earning a low wage or unemployed with/without benefits.

There will be a disclaimer to sign as part of the enrolment paperwork where applicable. Loughborough College can then use this to claim full funding on your behalf, making the course tuition fee free.

English and Mathematics

Study Eligibility

Adult learners can access adult English and Mathematics at either Functional Skills or GCSE level. This will be determined by the existing qualification level held and current ability level, which will be determined by undertaking a diagnostic assessment.

Tuition Fees

All adult learners are entitled to free tuition when studying a Functional Skill or GCSE English or Mathematics qualification providing they have not already achieved a pass at the same level (Functional Skill) or grade A*-C or 9-4 in GCSE.

Level 2

Study Eligibility

Places on Level 2 courses are subject to individual circumstances for adult learners and may not be available/suitable for all learners. Curriculum staff will make you aware of these limitations at Applicant Events.

Tuition Fees

First Full Level 2

Adult learners aged 19-23 as at 31st August, who will be completing a full qualification at Level 2 for the first time may be able to claim full funding from the Adult Skills Fund if they enrol on an eligible course.

There will be a disclaimer to sign as part of the enrolment paperwork. The enrolment team will then check your Prior Learning Records to confirm your eligibility for this funding against national education records. Loughborough College Group can then use this to claim full funding on your behalf, making the course tuition fee free.

Unemployed With/ Without Benefits

Adult learners who are unemployed and claim/do not claim benefits will be eligible for full funding from the Department for Work and Pensions. You may need to evidence this at the enrolment stage.

Priority is given to adult learners accessing courses who want to secure employment, are actively looking for work, and where this course will help them to get a job.

There will be a disclaimer to sign as part of the enrolment paperwork. Loughborough College Group can then use this to claim full funding on your behalf, making the course tuition fee free. You will need to provide your National Insurance number and evidence of unemployment at the enrolment stage.

Employment and Earnings Threshold

Adult learners earning less than £26,800 annually before tax could be eligible for full funding from the Education Skills Funding Agency. You would need to evidence this with your 3 most recent wage slips or a copy of a current employment contract which clearly states gross monthly/annual wages.

If you are self-employed, we would need an SA302 as evidence of your earnings. enrolment paperwork. Loughborough College Group can then use this to claim full funding on your behalf, making the course tuition fee free. You will need to provide your National Insurance number at the enrolment stage.



Level 3

Study Eligibility

Places on Level 3 courses tend to be subject to more stringent entry criteria, but are more readily accessible to adult learners. Funding is slightly different at Level 3, which we will cover below.

Tuition Fees

First Full Level 3

If you are aged 19-23 as at 31st August and this will be your First Full Level 3 qualification, then you may be able to claim full Adult Skills Funding if you enrol on an eligible course.

There will be a disclaimer to sign as part of the enrolment paperwork. The enrolment team will then check your Prior Learning Records to confirm your eligibility for this funding against national education records. Loughborough College Group can then use this to claim full funding on your behalf, making the course tuition fee free.

Advanced Learning Loans

Learners aged 19 and over studying eligible Further Education qualifications at Level 3 will be able to apply for an Advanced Learner Loan which will cover all or part of the tuition fee costs for the qualification they wish to study.

Learners can choose to self-fund and pay these costs themselves should they not wish to apply for an Advanced Learner Loan.

FREE courses for jobs offer

Learners aged 19+ can access a qualification on the Level 3 adult offer qualification list. There are over 400 qualifications available in areas such as engineering, social care and accounting.

From August 2026, the qualifications list has been expanded to now include several Level 2 courses including construction, manufacturing and engineering.

This offer is also available to adults in England who earn less than the Minimum Threshold of £26,800 gross annually or who are unemployed. This is regardless of their prior qualification level.

To find out if the course you wish to study is included in this offer, please contact **Student Recruitment** at enrolments@loughcoll.ac.uk and they will advise.

**COMING
SOON
IN 2027**

Lifelong Learning Entitlement

From January 2027 the Lifelong Learning Entitlement will provide learners with a funding pot of up to £39,160.

The funding can be used for Higher Education study at Levels 4-6, which includes Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) and some Distance Learning provisions.

For more information visit see **GOV.UK LLE's**.

Level 4 and above

Study Eligibility

Places on Further Education courses at Level 4 and above tend to be subject to more stringent entry criteria, but are more readily accessible to adult learners.

Learners will be able to apply for an Advanced Learner Loan which will cover all or part of the tuition fee costs for the qualification they wish to study. Learners can choose to self-fund and pay these costs themselves should they not wish to apply for an Advanced Learner Loan.

Advanced Learning Loans

Learners aged 19 and over studying eligible Further Education qualifications at Level 4, 5 or 6 will be able to apply for an Advanced Learner Loan which will cover all or part of the tuition fee costs for the qualification they wish to study.

Learners can choose to self-fund and pay these costs themselves should they not wish to apply for an Advanced Learner Loan.

ESOL Courses

Fees and Supporting Information 2026/2027

Please note the course fees detailed below only apply to UK/EU residents. For International students an hourly rate will apply.

ESOL Courses		
LNG6590 - Daytime	Part Time - 4 hours a week College Campus	£400
LEG6591 - Evening	Part Time - 2 hours a week College Campus	£210
LPE1001 - Community	Part Time - 2-4 hours a week	£400
Pre-Entry	Part Time - 1 hour a week Careers Hub	Free

Learners who meet the residency criteria at the start of their ESOL course, may be eligible for full funding if they are unemployed with or without benefits, or are employed and earning less than the minimum earnings threshold of £26,800 gross annually.

Asylum seekers are eligible for funding if they;

- Have lived in the UK for 6 months or longer
- Are receiving local authority support under section 23C or section 23CA of the Children Act 1989, or the Care Act 2014

Additional Information

Payment Options

If you are required to pay for your course then you will have one of four options;

1. Pay the balance in full - we accept credit/debit cards

2. Take in instalments

This will mean paying 25% of the balance when you enrol, then setting up a direct debit to pay three further instalments over three consecutive months.

3. Apply for an Advanced Learning Loan

4. Employer Paying

We will need confirmation from your employer that they will fund your tuition.

Students accepting places on a course with fees due are liable for those fees until they are paid in full.

Income and Unemployment Evidence

If you are in receipt of state benefits, are not working, or earn below the national Minimum Threshold of £26,800, then you may be able to get free tuition. If you are eligible for funding due reasons listed above, we will need to see evidence of this. This could be one of the following:

Benefit
3 months payslips
Employment contract
Universal Credit statement
Bank statement
SA302 form

Identification Evidence

We are required to confirm positive identification of all students. Therefore, at enrolment you will be required to provide one of the following forms of identification;

Passport (current)
Driving Licence (full/provisional)
Birth Certificate
ARC Card (Biometric card)
National Identification card

Right to Study

Proving your 'Right to Study' in the UK is a requirement for Colleges to verify eligibility to study a programme before enrolment.

If you do not hold a UK passport, you will need to evidence your immigration status.

From 1st January 2025, UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) upgraded to a new e-visas system, which has made it easier for people to obtain immigration evidence.

4 Steps To Proving your RIGHT TO STUDY



1. Set Up Your Account

Go to the UKVI website to create an account: <https://www.gov.uk/evisa>

2. Prepare Your Documents

You will need your passport, BRP or existing visa application number



3. Follow the Instructions

Go through the questions and opt for sharing your Immigration Status Share Code

4. Send Us Your Share Code

After you obtain your e-visa, you will receive a share code to prove your Immigration Status.





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