

Funding Information: ILA Scotland 2008/09

What is ILA Scotland?

ILA Scotland is a Scottish Government scheme which provides funding towards adult learning.

To qualify for an ILA Scotland learner account you must be 16 or over and living in Scotland, with an income of £18,000 a year or less or on benefits.

There are two types of learner account available and the amount of funding you receive depends on the level of study you want to do.

You can get up to £200 a year towards the cost of a wide range of short courses from learning providers throughout Scotland.

There are lots of courses to choose from and you can use your learner account with any ILA Scotland approved learning provider including learning centres, colleges, universities and private training companies.

If you are studying or thinking about studying a Higher Education course – such as an HNC, HND or degree course - part-time at college or university you can apply for a learner account that will give you up to £500 a year towards your course fees. You just need to be studying for 50% or more of the time needed to complete a full-time course.

Whatever type of account you apply for, the money is a grant not a loan, so you won't have to pay it back.

Eligibility

To make an application to ILA Scotland you must be

a British citizen;

or

a national of a member state of the European Economic Area who has utilised their 'right of residence';

or

settled within the United Kingdom within the meaning of section 33(2A) of the Immigration Act 1971;

and

you must be **ordinarily resident*** in Scotland.

***Ordinarily resident** means that you live in Scotland year after year by choice, apart from temporary or occasional absences such as holidays or business trips. Living here totally or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education may not count as being ordinarily resident. If you are not a UK national, you must be settled in

Scotland (as set out in the Immigration Act 1971) immediately before the date on which you made your application.

Asylum Seekers

If you have any restrictions on taking up employment or seeking benefits in the UK, then you may not be eligible to make an application. If you are not sure, please supply a photocopy of your most recent Home Office documentation (or stamp on your passport), confirming your status to remain in the UK, along with your application.

How to apply

For more information about ILA Scotland learner accounts and courses, or to apply for your learner account, visit the website at www.ilascotland.org.uk, or call the ILA Scotland helpline free on 0808 100 1090.