



Funding available for students in England on a Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (DTLLS*) course 2011/12

* If accredited by a Higher Education Institution, the title may vary

The following information is based on information provided by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS).

Whether starting a pre-service course (before you have a teaching post) or in-service course (when you have a teaching post) and whether starting a full-time or part-time course, trainees on DTLLS courses are eligible for funding provided they meet the general criteria set out below.

- ✓ Full-time course or part-time course of at least one academic year's duration
- ✓ DTLLS course is endorsed by Standards Verification UK. You can view a list of all the endorsed DTLLS courses by going to the SVUK website at <http://www.standardsverificationuk.org> and then selecting "Endorsement"
- ✓ If the DTLLS course is accredited by an awarding body and not a Higher Education Institution the course must be on the "designated institutions" list, which you can view by going to: <http://practitioners.studentfinanceengland.co.uk> and following the instructions below:
 - Click on the "Practitioners' Resources" tab at the top of the screen.
 - Click on "Designated Courses", on left hand tab bar
 - Scroll down and click on "Specifically designated DTLLS courses"

Specific information is given as follows:

- Grants and Loans page 2 - 5
- FAQs page 6 - 9

Alternative formats: if you would like this information sheet in an alternative format, such as large print, please email us at advice@lluk.org



1) Grants and Loans

Most new students starting initial teacher training courses in 2011/12 will be able to apply for a package of support.

Students who are **continuing** a part-time initial teacher training course that started in 2010/11, or earlier should check with Student Finance at:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/Applyingfortheirstime/DG_171531

New full-time DTLLS students will be eligible for:

- (a) a non-repayable means-tested **Maintenance Grant** of up to £2,906.
(Alternatively, students who are, in principle, eligible for means-tested benefits from the Department for Work and Pensions will be eligible for a means-tested **Special Support Grant** of £2,906.)
- (b) a repayable non-means-tested **Fee Loan** of up to £3,375
- (c) a repayable means-tested **Maintenance Loan** for cost of living expenditure of
 - up to £4,950 for students living away from the parental home and studying outside London,
 - up to £6,928 for students living away from the parental home and studying in London
 - up to £3,838 for students living in the parental home. The amount students receive will be reduced if they are also in receipt of a Maintenance Grant but not if they are in receipt of a Special Support Grant [see (a) above].

The table below provides further information about the means-tested support for full-time DTLLS students.

Table 1 – Student Support Arrangements for full-time DTLLS students starting their course in the 2011/12 Academic Year. (Figures quoted for loans for living costs apply to students living away from the parental home and studying outside London.) Please note that the Fee Loan has not been included in the table below as it is not means-tested.



Table 1

Household Income ¹	Maintenance Grant (non-repayable)	Maintenance Loan (for living costs - repayable)	Maximum Total
£25,000	£2,906	£3,497	£6,403
£30,000	£1,906	£3,997	£5,903
£34,000	£1,106	£4,397	£5,503
£40,000	£711	£4,595	£5,306
£45,000	£381	£4,760	£5,141
£50,020	£50	£4,925	£4,975
£50,778	£0	£4,950	£4,950
£55,000	£0	£4,106	£4,106
£57,708	£0	£3,564	£3,564

¹ Students over 25 years are classed as independent. The income of any spouse or co-habiting partner of these students will be included in an assessment of household income. Unless married or with a dependent child or permanently estranged from their parents, students under 25 are normally classed as dependent. The income of their parents or parent plus any cohabiting partner (if relevant) will be included in the assessment of household income.

New part-time DTLLS students, including those on integrated Skills For Life (SfL) courses and SfL Additional Diplomas, will be eligible for:

- (a) a fully means-tested **Fee Grant** (see Table 2) of up to £1,230 to support the cost of the course fees. There are three bands of grant, depending on ‘the intensity of study’ of the course: these are shown in Table 2. The tutor of your part-time course will be able to tell you which of these bands applies.
- (b) a fully means-tested **Course Grant** (see Table 2) of up to £265 for books, travel and other expenditure relating to their course.
- (c) A non-means-tested **Employer’s Grant** of £400 towards the cost of your course fees, if you are following an in-service part-time course and are a trainee on a DTLLS/PGCE. This grant continues to be offered in 2011-2012 and will be administered by the Institute for Learning. It is applied for by the trainee teacher’s employer. For this scheme the employer must be either an FE/6th form college, or an employer in receipt of SFA funding. The trainee must be working on SFA funded provision. New teachers who are not employed in the sector (for example those who are doing their teaching practice as an unpaid placement) will not be eligible for the £400 grant, nor will those employed by teaching agencies website, click [here](#). There is more information on the Institute for Learning website (www.ifl.ac.uk).



The table below provides further information about the support for part-time DTLLS students.

Table 2 – Student Support Arrangements for part-time undergraduate and postgraduate ITT students starting their course in the 2011/12 Academic Year

(Figures for a single student with no dependent children).

Household Income	Entitlement
N/A	Employer's Grant of £400 towards the cost of your course fees if you are following an in-service part-time course and are a trainee on a DTLLS/PGCE or Skills for Life Additional Diploma.
Below £16,845	<p>Full Course Grant of £265.</p> <p>Amount of fee grant</p> <p>Full Fee Grant (or the fees charged by the college whichever is lower).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Course equivalent to 50% to 59% of a full-time course – £820 - Course equivalent to 60% to 74% of a full-time course – £985 - Course equivalent to 75% or more of a full-time course – £1,230
£16,845	<p>Full Course Grant of £265</p> <p>The Fee Grant is reduced by £50.</p> <p>Amount of fee grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Course equivalent to 50% to 59% of a full-time course – £770. - Course equivalent to 60% to 74% of a full-time course – £935. - Course equivalent to 75% or more of a full-time course – £1,180
£16,846 to £25,419	<p>Full Course Grant of £265.</p> <p>Fee Grant as follows (or the fees charged by the college whichever is lower).</p> <p>Amount of fee grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course equivalent to 50% to 59% of a full-time course – £770 less £1 for every £11.91 of income (before tax) over £16,845. • Course equivalent to 60% to 74% of a full-time course – £935 less £1 for every £9.69 of income (before tax) over £16,845. • Course equivalent to 75% or more of a full-time course – £1,180 less

Alternative formats: if you would like this information sheet in an alternative format, such as large print, please email us at advice@lluk.org



	£1 for every £ 7.59 of income (before tax) over £16,845.
£25,420	Full Course Grant of £265. £50 fee grant.
£25,421 to £26,029	Full Course Grant of £265. No Fee Grant
£26,030 to £28,064	Course Grant of £265 less £1 for every £9.47 of income (before tax) over £26,030.
£28,065	£50 Course Grant.
£28,066 and over	No support

On the direct.gov website, there is a student finance calculator which you can use to calculate the amount to which you should be entitled. The web link is:

http://www.studentfinance.direct.gov.uk/portal/page?_pageid=153,4680136&_dad=portal



2) Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I apply for the new funding?

Part A: Full Time

You can apply on line through Student Finance -

http://www.studentfinance.direct.gov.uk/portal/page?_pageid=153,4680119&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

If you are unable to apply online, contact Student Finance on **0845 300 5090**.

Part B: Part Time

Part-time students need to download a PTG1 form from Student Finance England. Updated forms for 2011-2012 will be available later in the year. Complete the form and take it with you to your course provider when you start your course. The administration office will complete the rest of the form (waiting until you've attended for two weeks), confirming that you are a student there, how intensive your course is and what the tuition fees are. You will then need to send the form to Student Finance England. Please check that the form has been officially stamped by your course provider, otherwise Student Finance will not be able to process it.

Please note that applications received later than 9 months after the start of the course are unlikely to be accepted.

2. How do I apply for continuing funding?

Student Finance England recommend you apply online through their website. If you are unable to apply online, please contact Student Finance England.

3. How much are tuition fees?

Under the Higher Education Act 2004, course providers in England can charge tuition fees to new entrants on initial teacher training programmes. Course fees vary on both full-time and part-time courses.. The rates for 2011/12 are up to £3,375 for full-time courses

4. Do I get a local authority grant to pay my tuition fees?

No. Local authorities no longer pay mandatory grants for tuition fees. New full-time trainee teachers are eligible for a non-means-tested loan to cover their tuition fees, depending on the actual fee charged by their institution (see Table 1 on page 3). Depending on their household income, part-time trainee teachers might be eligible for a means-tested grant to cover the cost of their course fees (see Table 2 on page 4)

5. How does the loan for tuition fees work?



If you are a full-time student, you can take out a variable rate loan to cover the cost of the tuition fees raised by your course provider (see Table 1). The loan is not means-tested. The maximum value of this loan is £3,375, but you cannot borrow more than the tuition fees actually charged by your course provider. Repayment of the loan begins after you complete your course and when your annual income is over £15,000. Repayment is based on your actual income and will be deducted from your salary, like national insurance contributions.

6. Can part-time students get a loan for tuition fees?

No. Only full-time students are eligible for a fee loan to cover their tuition fees. Instead, part-time students are eligible for a means-tested fee grant to support the cost of their fees (see Table 2).

7. What is the maintenance grant?

This is a non-repayable grant, intended to help full-time students from households with low incomes.

Students on household incomes of £25,000 or less will be eligible for the full grant. The grant is then reduced for incomes above £25,000 in the following way.

- For household incomes up to £34,000, the grant is reduced by £1 for every £5 by which the income exceeds £25,000.
- For household incomes exceeding £34,000, the grant is reduced by £1 for every £15.17 by which the income exceeds £34,000.
- For household incomes above £50,020, there is no eligibility to a grant.

8. Can part-time students get a maintenance grant?

No. Only full-time students are eligible for the fully means tested maintenance grant. The amount of fee grant that a part-time student will receive depends on the rate at which the student studies their course each year; this is referred to as 'intensity of study'. There are three bands of fee grant, £820, £985 and £1230 (maximum amounts) Each is measured as a percentage of a full time equivalent course: 50 -59%, 60 -74% and 75% or more.

New part-time ITT students are also eligible for a fully means tested course grant (see Table 3) of up to £265 for books, travel and other expenditure and a non means tested grant of £400 (see (c) Page 3).

9. Is there any other help with cost of living?

Maintenance loans for living costs are available to full-time students for help with living and study costs, such as rent, food and books. The value of these loans depends on where you live.

- £2,385 to £3,838 for students living in the parental home
- £3,497 to 4,950 for students living away from the parental home, outside London
- £4,988 to £6,928 for students living away from the parental home in London



Please note the amount of loan you might receive will be reduced if you are also in receipt of a maintenance grant. For household incomes of less than £50,020, the maximum amount of loan for living costs will be reduced by £0.50 for every £1 of maintenance grant payable.

A **Professional and Career Development loan** is a bank loan you can use to help pay for work-related learning. Provided you meet the relevant criteria, you can borrow from £300 to £10,000 from a participating bank to help pay for your course. For more information telephone the Professional and Career Loan helpline on 0800 585 505 or visit www.direct.gov.uk/pcdl.

10. I am disabled. Is there any help?

Yes, further assistance is available for students with disabilities or with specific learning difficulties. You need to complete **Form DSA1**. If you tick the relevant box on your main student finance application, you will be sent a copy of the DSA1 form automatically. You can also download one from the direct.gov website, where you will also find further information about the financial support to which you might be entitled. The relevant website page is:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/EducationAndTraining/HigherEducation/DG_10035904

11. I am responsible for the care of another. Is financial help available for this?

There are two types of financial assistance available:

Childcare grant – the amount payable will be based on 85% of the actual childcare costs and will be subject to a maximum grant of £148.75 per week for one child or £255 per week for two or more children. To apply for this grant, you need to complete Form CCG1, obtainable from the direct.gov website. On this website, you will also find further information about the financial support for trainees with children, such as the Parents' Learning Allowance. The relevant website page is:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/Extrahelp/DG_171503

Adult dependant's grant – in 2011/12, the maximum grant in respect of an adult dependant will be £2,642. You apply using the relevant section of your student finance application form. You can obtain further information from the direct.gov website at:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/Extrahelp/DG_171617

12. Will my course provider offer any financial assistance?

If you are in hardship and need extra financial support, universities and colleges in England can provide it through their **Access to Learning Fund**. You can apply if you're a full-time or part-time student. For more information, please see:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/Extrahelp/DG_171615



13. Are training bursaries available?

In 2010-2011 training bursaries were available for some pre-service trainee teachers offering designated 'shortage subjects'. Discussions are currently underway within BIS to clarify the scope and size of the bursary scheme for 2011-2012. More information should be available by March 2011.

The training bursary scheme is administered for BIS by HEFCE who allocate bursary places and funding to universities running pre-service FE ITT courses. In England, the number of bursaries each university in the scheme is able to give is limited by the Higher Education Funding Council (England). **You should contact your preferred university provider(s) for further details.**

14. Is there any financial help available for housing?

There are various schemes to help teachers with housing. Details of these schemes are available on:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/HomeAndCommunity/BuyingAndSellingYourHome/HomeBuyingSchemes/DG_4001347

A summary of these schemes is as follows:

- **Homebuy Direct Scheme**

You could get an equity loan for up to 30% of the cost of a home

- **New Build Homebuy**

This can help you to buy a share of a newly built property and pay rent on the remainder

- **Social Homebuy**

This is a scheme for tenants of participating councils and housing associations. It helps tenants to buy a minimum of 25% of the cost of the home and pay rent on the remainder.

- **Rent to Homebuy**

If you cannot afford to buy a share of your home through one of the above schemes, you could get help through *Rent to Homebuy*. You could rent a newly built property for a fixed length of time.

This information was accurate at the time it was sent. Updates will be made as new information is received.