



Learning and Development Opportunities Fund

The Learning and Development Opportunities Fund is a short-term fund available until July 2023 or until the funds are exhausted. The fund supports students to access learning and development opportunities such as conferences, short courses, training and online courses. It can be used to part fund more expensive opportunities. To receive money from the fund, students are required to apply following the process and guidance below.

The fund is not to be used in relation to tuition fees or towards course materials or costs (such as trips). Please see below for full details on criteria.

We anticipate a high volume of applications. These will be considered on a first come, first served basis until the funds are exhausted. We may temporarily close the fund to manage the volume. The fund will close on 30 June 2023 if funds have not already been exhausted.

Eligibility to apply

The fund is available to any registered taught student (undergraduate or postgraduate taught) at the University of Nottingham on a full or part-time mode of study.

Opportunity criteria

The Learning and Development Opportunities Fund can be used to pay for learning opportunities of most kinds, including conferences, short courses, training courses, online courses and part-payment of longer or more expensive learning opportunities. The fund cannot be used to pay for tuition at the University of Nottingham or another institution, for books, course materials, course expenses (such as for trips) or tutoring.

Funding is set at £250 regardless of the cost of the opportunity, whether lower or higher than £250. Applicants do not need to have paid for the learning opportunity in advance in order to make a claim but do need to provide evidence of the learning opportunity to the application. The learning opportunity must be taken by 31 March 2024.

Examples of learning and development opportunities include:

- Short courses (non-credit bearing and with no formal degree/diploma/certificate qualification)
- Online courses (non-credit bearing and with no formal degree/diploma/certificate qualification)
- Language course
- TEFL/TESOL/CELTA course
- Conference
- Continuing Professional Development course
- Sport coaching course
- First Aid qualification
- Music lessons

Opportunities which will NOT be funded through this route include:

- Payment towards tuition fees
- Credit-bearing courses
- Books and materials
- Course costs such as trips

- Tutoring
- Claims that are purely for accommodation and travel
- Training opportunities or events that have already happened
- Assistance with rent
- Software/equipment
- Driving lessons or tests

This list is not exhaustive and we reserve the right to refuse an application if it is not considered to meet the learning and development opportunity criteria. The decision of the panel is final and there is no right to appeal if your application is rejected.

Application Process

You can apply for funding [here](#).

You will be asked to provide evidence of the learning and development opportunity. Please note that a maximum of one payment will be made per student.

In order for payment to be made to students, students need to check that their Nottingham Hub record is up to date with bank account details as money will be transferred here if applications are successful.

Please note it may take a few weeks for your application to be processed due to high volume. Once the fund is exhausted it will be closed, therefore there are no guarantees of funding being offered even if the criteria is met. We reserve the right to temporarily halt the fund if a high volume of applications need processing.

Payment will be made in pounds sterling to a UK bank account only, direct to the student applying for the fund.

The fund will close on 30 June 2023 if funds have not already been exhausted.

Evidence of using the fund

The expectation is that students will use the fund in good faith. Successful applicants will be asked to provide a blog post for the Careers and Employability following the opportunity. Spot checks will also be made at random of successful applicants for evidence of taking up the opportunity, for example through providing receipts.

Contact

If students have questions specifically about the Learning and Development Opportunities Fund that are not answered here, please direct questions to careers-team@nottingham.ac.uk