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Funding for Participants on COSCA Validated Courses

Assistance with Course Costs

The Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS)

The Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) is Scotland's student funding agency. It provides Scottish Government money to colleges, universities and other education providers to pay for some course tuition fees. If you are a student on an eligible part-time course, the Part-time Fee Grant (PTFG) from SAAS can help you with the cost of your course tuition fees.

Some COSCA validated training providers are registered with SAAS and their courses are eligible for applications to be submitted to SAAS by their students.

SAAS provides a guide that lets you know who can apply for the PTFG support, how much you'll receive depending on the course, a list of part-time training providers, and how to complete an application. Please see the link to the guide below.

Part-time Funding Guide - SAAS

Please note that each part of the UK has its own funding agency. If you normally live in Scotland, you'll apply to SAAS. You will apply to a different funding organisation if you normally live in <u>England</u>, <u>Wales</u> or <u>Northern Ireland</u>.

Individual Training Account (ITA)

Individual Training Accounts have been axed by the Scottish Government for 2024-25. It is not clear if they will be available in future years.

Other sources of funding

If you are not able to receive any of the funding listed above, or if you are looking for additional funding, you may be able to consider the following options:

- **Grant making trusts:** many trusts or charities offer funding to certain people. There are various trusts in the UK, and the amount of money that they give varies. Each trust has its own criteria for whom it will offer help. There are some trusts that specifically offer funding to disabled people and/or students.
- **Professional and Career Development Loans:** The Professional and Career Development Loan scheme is now closed for new applications. These were bank loans to cover a wide range of vocational training or learning opportunities.
- **Sponsorships:** many industrial organisations and some government departments have schemes to support students. You may be able to get details of these from your local Jobcentre Plus office.

Benefits and Students

It is important to note that you cannot continue to claim many benefits if you are studying full-time. If you are studying part-time, you may be able to continue to receive certain benefits, such as Income Support, Employment and Support Allowance, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Reduction, Carers Allowance and Tax Credits.

Information on welfare benefits

Turn2Us offers advice on disability, sickness benefits, carers' allowances and grants.

You can carry out a grants search on the Turn2Us website using the link below:

Turn2us Grants Search

There is also a Benefit Calculator on the Turn2Us website that allows you to check your benefit entitlement – see the link below.

Turn2us Benefits Calculator

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