



19+ Advanced Learner Loan

Aged 19 or over and thinking about further education?

What you need to know

Advanced Learner Loans are to help adult learners 19 years or over to manage the costs of further education and training. These loans cover tuition fees for a range of Level 3 to Level 6.

The amount of money you can borrow depends on your course. The minimum amount you can borrow is £300. The Student Loans Company pay your loan directly to the college throughout your study.

You can apply for up to four loans. You can get more than one at the same time if the college agree you're ready to take more than one course at the same time. There are no restrictions due to your previous level of attainment but you can only receive one loan for an Access to Higher Education diploma.

Getting a loan doesn't depend on your income and is not subject to credit checks. There are certain criteria you must meet to be eligible for an Advanced Learner Loan.

- You should be aged 19 or older on the first day of your course.
- You must currently live in the UK and have been living in the UK three years before starting your course.
- You must be a UK citizen or have a 'settled status'. This means there are no limits on how long you can stay in the UK.
- You are enrolled on an eligible Level 3 to 6 qualification.

Repayments

Loan repayments are linked to what you earn when you've finished the course, not how much you borrowed. Repayments start the April after you complete or withdraw from your course.

You pay back your loan (plus interest) when you finish your course and earn more than £25,725 a year. Your repayments will stop if your income drops below £25,725 a year. Your annual repayment amount will be 9% of any income you earn over £25,725. If you're employed, loan repayments will be taken directly from your salary through the UK tax system.

Example: Your monthly repayments would be:

- £9 a month if you earned £27,000 a year
- £32 a month if you earned £30,000 a year

You can make voluntary repayments at any time. Before taking out any loan, you should consider all of your options. If you want advice on managing your finances, visit the Money Advice Service at *moneyadviceservice.org.uk* for impartial advice.

Bursary

You may also be eligble for our 19+ Advanced Learning Loan Bursary as part of our College Support Scheme. This is a means-tested capped discretionary fund that may assist learners with a variety of course related costs and travel. For more information on this, please contact Student Services on the details overleaf.



How to Apply

Once you're enrolled, we'll provide a 'Learning and funding information' letter - you need this to complete an application via *www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan,* It contains the details about your course.

You'll then get a letter confirming your loan - usually within 2 weeks if you apply online (postal applications take longer). You'll need to provide a copy of this letter to the college.



For more information on loans and to apply, visit *gov.uk/advancedlearnerloan* or contactthe relevant department using the contact details below:

Admissions admissions@buckscollegegroup.ac.uk 01296 588 595

Student Services studentservices@buckscollegegroup.ac.uk

www.buckscollegegroup.ac.uk

