

Whatever your situation, if you are an adult thinking about any type of learning you may require some assistance with funding. It is not easy to obtain help with funding, especially if you are already in receipt of benefits but there are a number of websites which aim to help you.

### Adult Learner Grants

If you are not in receipt of benefits you may apply for an adult learner grant which enables you to obtain up to £30 a week towards the cost of learning. [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk) is the website which will explain fully how to apply for this grant.

### Funding Directory

There are a number of non-charitable organisations that may provide assistance towards course fees, examinations, etc, visit [www.advice-resources.co.uk](http://www.advice-resources.co.uk) which will take you through a short questionnaire.

### Career Development Loans

It is sometimes possible to arrange for a loan which is paid back over an agreed period of time and is interest free. A Career Development Loan is a bank loan designed to help you gain the experience, training and qualifications to improve your job skills or change your career. Courses qualifying for a loan cover almost every area of work and industry. To qualify they must be offered by a Career Development Loan registered provider. You can contact them on **0800 585505** or visit [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk).

### 50+ Clients

Prime is a new programme to help people over the age of 50 to become self employed or set up their own businesses. It is part of a registered charity and provides guidance about the pros and cons of self employment, help with developing your ideas, assistance in working out your business plan, business training, advice on funding, access to a small loan fund for clients without capital, and continuing support after business start up. Contact Prime on **01817657879** or visit [www.fastlinksolutions.co.uk](http://www.fastlinksolutions.co.uk).

### Under 24 Clients

If lack of money is stopping you from getting into work, training or education a Development Award offering grants from £50 to £500 may be available to help you. There is also support available to help you set goals and make decisions. Funding is not available to pay for higher qualifications such as NVQ L4, HNC, HND, degree or post graduate courses, or for funding gap years. Visit [www.princes-trust.org.uk](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk) for further details.

### Apprenticeships

These are currently available up to the age of 24 but Adult Apprenticeships are going to be available in the near future. Visit [www.apprenticeships.org.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk) for further details.

### Already employed but need help to upskill?

The Government initiative Train to Gain offers support to all organisations who would like their staff to improve their skills whilst continuing to work. Employers can visit the website [www.traintogain.gov.uk](http://www.traintogain.gov.uk) for further information.

### Other useful websites:

[www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com): a pack on funding is available from this site.

[www.inourhands.lsc.gov.uk](http://www.inourhands.lsc.gov.uk): Financial support could be available for learning at any age, to help you take control of your future.

[www.grantsonline.org.uk](http://www.grantsonline.org.uk): a directory of agencies who may provide grants.

[www.fundingagents.com](http://www.fundingagents.com): a directory listing charity and non-charity based funding.

**Funderfinder**: a resource available through our helpline to find charitable organisations that may be able to assist with funding. A short questionnaire needs to be completed to assist in finding a suitable funder to meet your requirements. Call our freephone number to request a questionnaire on **0800 138 5550** or email [dorsetiag@tribalgroupp.co.uk](mailto:dorsetiag@tribalgroupp.co.uk).