

Important announcement

More people entitled to free courses

The guidance for eligibility to a concession for those courses with a qualification for 2011-2012 has been reviewed by the Government as of 12 August 2011.

You are currently entitled to a concession for courses with a qualification if you are: in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance; in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance (work-related activity only); studying a Skills for Life course; or studying an entry, level 1 or level 2 course (not ESOL) and you do not already possess a full level 2.

In addition, you are now eligible to apply for a concession with Oldham Lifelong Learning Service if you are:

- unemployed and
- in receipt of an income based benefit and
- you want to enter employment and will benefit from skills training to do so

Eligible benefits include:

- Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit (excluding Single Person Discount)
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit with a household income of less than £15,276. (Child Tax Credit is not eligible)
- Pension Guarantee Credit (Saving Credit only is not eligible)
- Unwaged dependant of someone in receipt of the above benefits.
- Asylum seeker in receipt of Asylum Support assistance

Remember: When you enrol you will need to

- bring proof of the income based benefit and
- sign a declaration form confirming that you want to enter employment

What if you have already enrolled, paid full or partial fee and / or applied to the Discretionary Learning Support Fund for a course with a qualification?

Please call into a centre near you. You will need to bring proof of your benefit and sign a declaration form confirming that you want to enter employment.

If you have already paid for your course (or made a partial payment) a refund will be made - please note that this may take a few weeks.

If you have applied to the Discretionary Learning Support Fund your application will be reviewed and refunds made as appropriate.

