

# ADVANCED LEARNER LOANS

If you are aged 19 or over and studying a Further Education course at Levels 3, 4, 5 or 6 you can apply to the Student Loans Company (SLC) for an Advanced Learner Loan to help cover the cost of your course fees.

**Eligibility for the Loan doesn't depend on your income and there's no credit checks. Interest is charged from the date the first payment is made to the college.**

The Advanced Learner loan, plus any interest, must be paid back to the SLC through the tax system starting from the April after you complete or leave the course and your income is over the weekly, monthly or annual repayment threshold. For more information, please visit GOV.UK [www.gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan](http://www.gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan)

It is important you consider your financial circumstances and investigate all options for paying for your course before choosing to take out a loan. You will be responsible for paying your course fees if your Advanced Learner Loan application is not approved.

#### **To be eligible, you must be:**

- Aged 19 or over on the first day of your course (there is no upper age limit)
- Enrolling on a Level 3 to Level 6 Further Education funded course.
- Meet the Student Loans Company's nationality and residency rules.
- Other rules apply.

#### **How do I apply for an Advanced Learner Loan?**

You will need a Learning and Funding Information Letter from the college. If you been offered a place on an Advanced Learner Loan eligible course you will receive your letter from July onwards.

Once you have received your Learning and Funding Information Letter, you can apply for a loan online at GOV.UK [www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan](http://www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan)

#### **How is the loan paid?**

If you choose to take out a loan, the Student Loans Company (SLC) will pay your agreed tuition fees to the college once your attendance on the course has been confirmed.

#### **Access to HE Diploma**

If you're undertaking an Access to HE Diploma and then go on to complete your first approved HE qualification, the outstanding balance of your Advanced Learner Loan may be written off. To qualify for this write off you must have fully completed both courses. Your HE qualification must be eligible for funding by Student Finance England. The HE course does not have to relate to the Access to HE course you complete.

