These guidelines relate to the Training and Development fund. The guidelines for our welfare grants can be found here.

The aim of Education Support Partnership's Training and Development Fund, is to assist education professionals with their training needs. We will consider applications if your course meets one or both of the following criteria:

- To ensure that education staff can enhance their current career and/or improve their employment prospects, to enable education staff to meet a current gap in their skill set, and/or to improve the outcomes for students, pupils or children in education
- To assist applicants transition from their career in education to an alternative profession

Applications will be assessed in a similar way to our welfare grants programme. We will review an applicant’s income, expenditure and debt. Successful applicants to the fund may receive assistance following an assessment of their individual circumstances. This assistance could include the provision of appropriate advice and guidance related to funding, signposting to suitable alternative sources of funding and/or financial assistance.

Please note that all funds awarded by the charity are discretionary.

Training and Development Fund Criteria

Ideally, we would like to focus specifically on keeping education professionals in the education sector however; we will consider applications from applicants who are seeking a career change.

Eligibility

In order to assess applicants for an educational grant, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- You must have been employed within the Education Sector, e.g. a school, college or university.
- You cannot own more than one property
- You cannot have more than £4000 in available funds (excluding the value of your property)
- If you are currently employed in education you must have discussed funding of your course with your employer.

Course Type
1. We want to fund courses that enhance your employability or will have a positive impact on the students you teach. We hope that because of the course, you will be able to either secure employment or improve the teaching you deliver.

2. Grants will not ordinarily be considered for post-graduate qualifications such as MAs due to the high costs involved, however if you can demonstrate both the impact of the MA on your career and that you have the majority of the funding in place and that you have taken up all bursaries and grants available to you.

3. We may be able to assist you if you are a PGCE student; we will consider living costs or a contribution to the course fee (provided you can meet the remainder of the course cost). You must be able to demonstrate that you are in receipt of all funds to which you are entitled e.g. Student Loans, Maintenance Loans and Bursaries.

   We are not able to award cash grants to you personally; we pay all of our grants directly to either the college or course provider or towards enabling you to remain enrolled e.g. accommodation fees, courses costs or travel costs.

4. Unfortunately, we are unable to consider recreational courses that do not lead to a recognised qualification or standard.

**Process and payments**

5. You must complete the Ed Support application form and provide supporting statements that clearly state why you would like to pursue a course of study and what impact it [the course] will have on your career opportunities in the future.

6. All course fees are payable to the educational institution, and any refunds (if for example you do not start the course) will be returned to Education Support Partnership.

7. If the course cost is more than the grant awarded, you must be able to demonstrate that that you have the remainder of the funds in place before we will award funds.

8. If you are a union member you may be directed to your union to see if the same type of course is offered as part of your union membership.

9. Unfortunately if you do not complete a course financed by the Training and Development Fund you will not be able to apply for future funding, unless there is/was an exceptional reason why you are/were unable to complete the course (e.g. due to severe ill-health).

10. If you are successful in your application we require that you:

    - Complete a post-grant feedback and evaluation survey (we will send you the survey if you are successful)
    - Agree that your 'story' be used as a case study (this can be anonymised if you prefer)
    - Provide us (Ed Support) with confirmation that you have completed the course, e.g. a certificate (we love good news stories)

Sharing your feedback, your stories and confirmation of your studies can help us to secure future funding so we can, in turn, help more people.

**How to complete the Training and Development Fund Page**
Have you read the Guidelines?

You must say yes in order to progress with the application, there are some conditions to funding your course, please see section 10.

If you are currently employed in education have you approached your school, college or university for funding for this course?

If you answered yes to this question please tell us how much funding your employer has made available for your course.

If you answered no to this question please can you tell us if funding is possible? If funding is not possible please tell us why receiving funding from your employer is not possible.

You must agree to be a case study to be considered eligible for funding. Please click/see here to know why.*

Please tell us the name of the course you would like us to consider funding and its course code (if applicable). We will need evidence of the course you are intending to study the easiest way for you to do this is copy and paste a link from the provider’s website.
Please use this section to tell us about your course

We need to know as much about your course as you can tell us. We are really interested in the reasons why you chose the course, your ambitions and what the next stage of your career is. We will use this section to make a decision. We recommend that you type this section separately and cut and paste it into this section. Good Luck!

Why are we asking you to be a Case study?

Part of the funding for the Training and Development fund was raised from an external partner the CSIS Charity Fund. We were able to secure this funding based on the number of people who were disappointed by the lack of provision in the education sector for training and development.

We want to continue this fund beyond the pilot phase, but we can only do this if we can celebrate both its success and its impact on the people who apply.

Put simply by telling us how successful your course was to you, we can share this good news and hopefully achieve more funding in the future.

How long before I know if I am successful?

We will aim to complete your application in 10-14 working days, however at busy times this may take longer. It is always best to get your application in as early as possible.