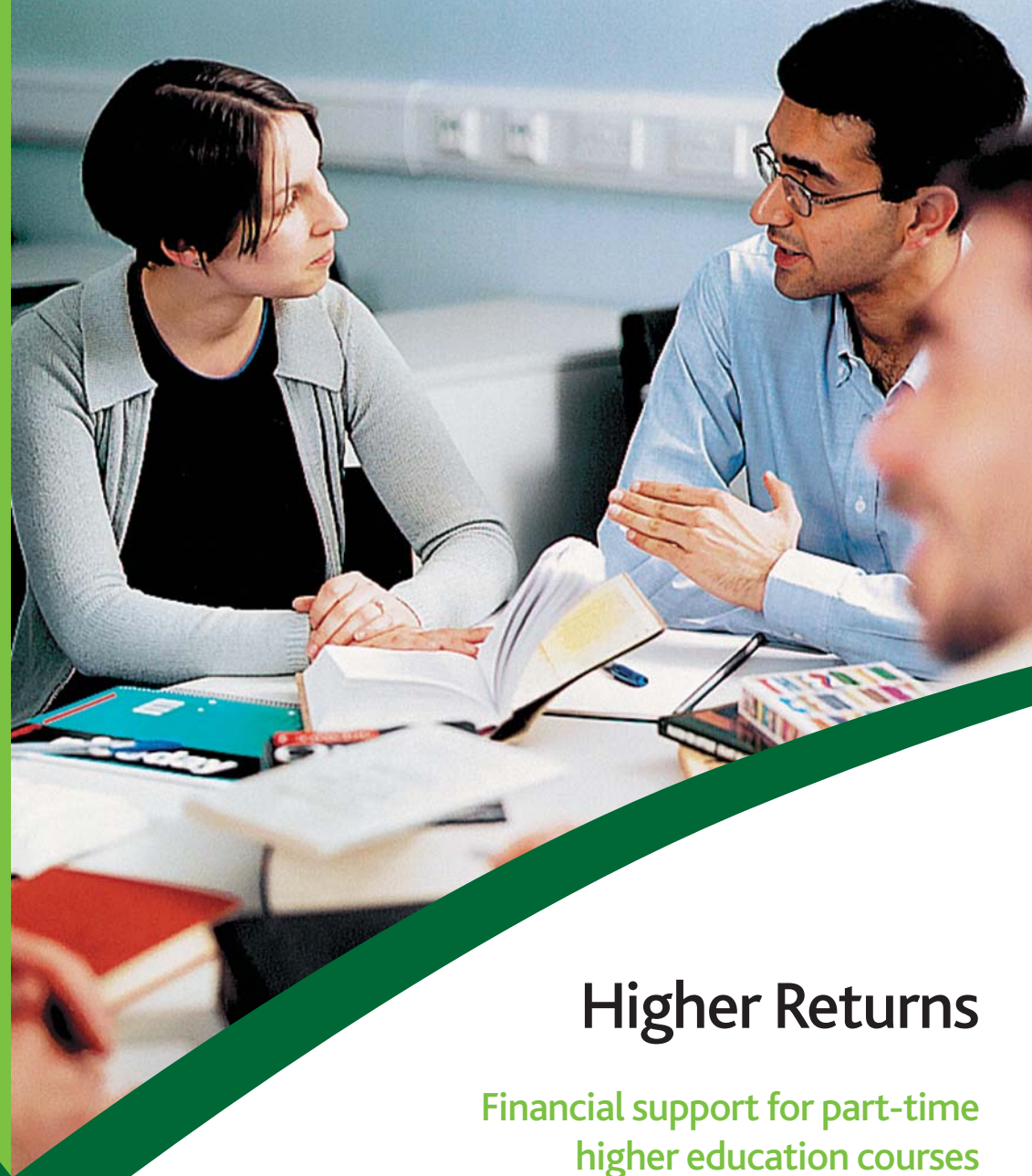


London Higher is a membership organisation that promotes and acts as an advocate for London's higher education. It represents over 40 publicly funded universities and higher education colleges in London and is the largest and most varied of the regional university associations in the UK. *London Higher* works closely with the London Development Agency, the Greater London Authority, the Association of Colleges London and with the business sector and London First.

For more information visit
www.londonhigher.ac.uk

"Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere"

Chinese Proverb



LONDONHIGHER
Promoting and Advocating London's Higher Education

Senate House
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU

www.londonhigher.ac.uk

Electronic copies of this leaflet are available at:
www.londonhigher.ac.uk/publications.html.

Image on front cover reproduced courtesy of Birkbeck, University of London.

Design and Print by Abbey DPM.
This publication is supported by funding from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE).

© London Higher 2008
PTHEF0908

Source: Some of the information in this leaflet has been taken from 'A guide to financial support for part-time students in higher education 2008/2009' (Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills, 2008) and www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance and has been reproduced under the terms of the Click-Use Licence and is subject to Crown Copyright protection.

Higher Returns

Financial support for part-time
higher education courses
2008/2009

LONDONHIGHER
Promoting and Advocating London's Higher Education

Did you know that financial support is available from the Government for employees who study for part-time higher education (HE) courses?

Part-time education provides your employees with the opportunity to enhance their professional and workplace skills enabling your business to gain a competitive advantage. Read on to find out how to access the Government funding available.

What financial support is available?

- A **fee grant** of up to **£1,180** a year (towards tuition fees). This is non-repayable and paid direct to the education institution.
- A **course grant** of up to **£255** a year (towards books, travel expenses and other course costs). This is non-repayable and paid direct into the employee's bank account in one lump sum.
- Extra financial help may also be available for eligible employees.

The fee and course grants depend on the employee's income and if the employee has a partner and/or children. The maximum fee grant available depends on the intensity of the course.*

| Intensity of course (rate of study) | Maximum fee grant | Maximum course grant | Total maximum support |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 75% or more full-time course intensity | Up to £1,180 a year | £255 | £1,435 |
| 60% to 74% full-time course intensity | Up to £945 a year | £255 | £1,200 |
| 50% to 59% full-time course intensity | Up to £785 a year | £255 | £1,040 |

*Go to www.londonhigher.ac.uk/services-ptfunding.html to work out course intensity.



Study

Examples of financial support available:

| An eligible employee who is single (i.e. an employee without a partner or dependants) could be entitled to: | |
|---|--|
| Income (including London Weighting allowance) | Entitlement |
| below £16,090 | the full fee and course grants |
| between £16,090 - £24,280 | a partial fee grant, the full course grant of £255 |
| between £24,281 - £24,874 | no fee grant, the full course grant of £255 |
| between £24,875 - £26,825 | no fee grant, a partial course grant |
| £26,826 and over | no fee or course grants |

| An eligible employee who is married, has a civil partner, or is living with a partner (of either gender) with: |
|--|
| - no dependent children with a joint income up to £28,825 could be entitled to a partial grant |
| - two dependent children with a joint income up to £31,825 could be entitled to a partial grant |

Who's eligible?

- Employees must be studying for a part-time HE course at a publicly funded UK education institution.
- Employees must be studying at a rate equal to 50% or more of an equivalent full-time course (so employees must be able to complete the course in no more than twice the time it would take to complete the equivalent full-time course). The course must last for at least one year.
- Employees who already have a degree cannot usually apply for fee or course grants.
- Employees are not entitled to fee or course grants for more than one part-time course at a time.
- Employees can be new students or continuing their studies.
- There is no age limit.
- Eligibility is not dependent on employment status.

What to do next?

- Visit www.londonhigher.ac.uk/services-ptfunding.html to find out more, including answers to FAQs and how to apply.
- Download the booklet 'A guide to financial support for part-time students in higher education in 2008/2009' from www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance or order a copy by telephoning 0800 731 9133.
- London's HE institutions offer an extensive range of part-time courses, so visit www.londonhigher.ac.uk.

This leaflet applies to the 2008/2009 academic year for employees living in England and is for guidance only and does not cover all circumstances.