



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

Additional Easter study support funding in AY 2021-22

SFC Announcement

Issue Date: 18 March 2022

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Summary: Announcement of additional Easter study support funding for senior phase learners in 2022.

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Additional Easter study support funding in AY 2021-22

1. I am writing to announce £97,242 of additional funding for colleges in Academic Year (AY) 2021-22 in order to boost Easter study support for senior phase learners.

Background

2. The Scottish Government has made a commitment to enhance Easter study support for senior phase learners in 2022. This support is to help address the impact of disruption to learning experienced by the cohort of learners currently taking National Qualifications (NQs). Up to £97,242 of funding has been earmarked for colleges to provide additional support.

Eligible students

3. This funding is intended to target NQ learners most in need of support during the Easter holiday period – those from the most deprived backgrounds, who have additional support needs, or whose attendance and/or attainment have been most impacted by the pandemic. For example, you may wish to consider broadening existing Easter study offers through promotion of extra sessions, or covering transport costs to remove barriers for students to attend study sessions. You will judge best what is needed by this cohort of learners and, therefore, the exact nature of the required support remains a matter for individual colleges, who are best placed to know their learners' needs.
4. The college allocation is intended to target learners studying for a NQ(s) at college who are in the senior phase age range but not linked to a school. Separate funding is being provided to local authorities and schools; and local authorities have the option of using this investment to support school-based learners studying at college, if they consider that appropriate.
5. Given that local authorities are receiving separate funding for the senior phase cohort, we expect colleges to identify opportunities to work collaboratively with partners and to join up Easter study support activities locally, to maximise best value from the funding available.

Funding allocations

6. The distribution of funding in the **Annex** attached provides a breakdown by college/region. Colleges Scotland has helped collate the assessment of need across the sector, recognising that not every college will require the same level of support.

Monitoring and reporting

7. Colleges should use the flag (EASTER STUDY) in brackets in the FES 'Title of programme' field in their next FES quarterly returns for the NQ students that have received additional support with these funds. If requested, colleges/regions should also be prepared to provide any additional detail on the use of these specific funds.

Payment of funds

8. Payment will be made in April 2022.

Conditions of grant

9. Funds must be used for the purposes for which it is being allocated. These funds relate to the provision of additional support during the Easter holiday period for college learners undertaking NQs, focusing on those from the most deprived backgrounds who have additional support needs, or whose attendance and/or attainment have been most impacted by the pandemic. If colleges require more flexibility beyond the Easter holidays, the Scottish Government has agreed that the funding can be used in the run-up to exams, if that would provide greater benefit to learners at a local level.

Further information

10. If you have any queries please contact the Funding mailbox (funding@sfc.ac.uk) in the first instance.



Karen Watt
Chief Executive

Annex

Additional Easter study support funding allocation in AY 2021-22 by college/region

College/region	Funding allocation
Ayrshire College	£1,583
Borders College	£1,583
Dumfries And Galloway College	£226
Dundee and Angus College	£4,071
Edinburgh College	£14,473
Fife College	£9,272
Forth Valley College	£2,488
Glasgow Region	£14,473
Highland Region	£27,590
Lanarkshire Region	£5,201
North East Scotland College	£9,498
West College Scotland	£6,332
West Lothian College	£452
Total	£97,242