

UNISON Educational Grants

Because we want to help you to get ahead and develop your career, UNISON offers the following grants to members studying at their own expense.



UNISON Learning Grants

These grants of approximately £70 are intended to help members who are undertaking study at their own expense on the following types of courses:

- Trade Union and Labour Studies where an applicant has not received a bursary
- Non-vocational education up to and including under-graduate level e.g. GCSEs, A-Levels, Access courses, leisure courses etc
- Vocational education relevant to public service work

UNISON Learning grant applications are dealt with on a first come, first served basis on 1 January and 1 September each year until funds are exhausted.



Open University Awards

These are available to UNISON members undertaking 30 and 60 point OU courses up to and including under-graduate level at their own expense. No awards are available for Masters Degree study or above. Awards are made as follows:

60 Point courses - £120

30 Point courses - £60

These are awarded on a first-come, first served basis and available on 1 January and 1 September each year until funds are exhausted.

Application form and criteria are set out on the UNISON website at:
<http://www.unison.org.uk/for-members/unison-learning/financial-support/>

For more information you can contact the Bursaries Administrator on 020 7121 5116 or **E-Mail:** learningandorganising@unison.co.uk

For the latest news on UNISON discounts and bursaries

Visit our national Learning and Organising Services (LAOS) web-site
<http://www.unison.org.uk/laos/bursaries.asp>

The Open University & UNISON Partnership

UNISON has a long history of working in partnership with the Open University and around 10% of people on shorter OU courses are UNISON members.

Study OU Access Modules for Free

If you want to study with the OU but you're not quite sure you are ready, an OU Access module is the ideal way to prepare. You may even be able to **study for free** if:

- You are a resident in England
- Have a household income of less than £25,000 (or in receipt of qualifying benefits)
- Have not completed any more than one year on a full-time undergraduate programme at NQF Level 4 or above, or completed 30 credits or more of OU study

Access modules start in October and February each year and there are currently three modules that could pave the way towards a qualification:

- Our **arts and languages** module is ideal preparation for studying towards a wide range of qualifications, including arts and humanities and languages.
- Our **people, work and society** module is ideal preparation for studying towards a wide range of qualifications, including business and management, education, childhood and youth, health and social care, law, psychology and counselling, and social sciences.
- Our **science, technology and maths** module is ideal preparation for studying towards a wide range of qualifications, computing and IT, engineering, design, technology, environment and development, mathematics and statistics, and science.

If you are unsure if you meet the criteria or would like further information, you can speak to an OU adviser on **01908 659253**.

Explore your world with free learning from The Open University

Get a feel for what studying with the OU is like by sampling some of the freely available materials on OpenLearn – the home of free learning from The Open University. There are thousands of free learning items across OpenLearn from games to full free online courses. Whether you're looking for a taste of university study or to expand your skills for work, there's something for you. You can start right away, work at your own pace and gain a free statement of participation.

Find further details about our partnership with the OU along with further information about OpenLearn and Access Modules on the dedicated website found at:

www.open.ac.uk/choose/unison

