



# **GMB Members National Lifelong Learning Fund**

## **Fund Details & Application Procedures**

**The application for funding contained in this exclusive offer is available to GMB members only.**

**If you require any assistance please contact any of the GMB individuals below:**

### **GMB Contacts:**

Colin Kirkham (National Project Director RERHSO)

[colin.kirkham@gmb.org.uk](mailto:colin.kirkham@gmb.org.uk)

Tom Rigby (Regional Education Officer)

[Tom.rigby@gmb.org.uk](mailto:Tom.rigby@gmb.org.uk)

Paul Ward (Regional Education Officer)

[Paul.ward@gmb.org.uk](mailto:Paul.ward@gmb.org.uk)

## **History & Background Information**

On August 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 we launched the GMB National Lifelong Learning Fund.

This fund is available to members to help them access education.

The fund was launched to coincide with the first meeting of the GMB National Lifelong Learning Committee which was created in line with Congress Motion 74 2015. Any member who meets the requirements of the terms and conditions laid out in this document can apply to it for financial assistance in pursuance of education and training.

This membership benefit is viewed as both an organising tool and a retention tool.

As an organising tool non-members of the GMB have to become members and have at least 53 weeks continuous subscriptions to apply.

As a retention tool it is aimed at members who may have recently lost their employment and need financial assistance to assist them to upskill and reskill.

It is also available to members who want financial support to help them progress in education or their career.

## Terms and conditions

GMB Members can apply by completing a National Lifelong Learning fund application form for financial assistance towards any course that they have enrolled on, or would like to enrol on, to help them to achieve a qualification or skill which will enable them to improve their present & future employment and career opportunities.

## Application Criteria

- The applicant must have been a fully paid up member, on either the full-time, part-time, Sick/Unemployed or any other type of membership rate for more than 53 weeks.
- Successful applicants will be expected to retain their membership throughout the whole process with regards to the funding received.
- Further to this, depending on the amount applied for, the funding would be set out in three time-served union membership tiers. The amount of funding for each tier is down to the panel's discretion.

Tier 1	Individuals who apply for <b>£100</b> or less, must have paid <b>53 weeks</b> continuous membership to the GMB.
Tier 2	Individuals who apply for between <b>£100</b> up to <b>£300</b> , must have paid <b>106 weeks</b> continuous membership to the GMB.
Tier 3	Individuals who apply for between <b>£300</b> to the maximum of <b>£500</b> , must have paid <b>159 weeks</b> continuous membership to the GMB.

**Any application for alternative funding within the applicants own region does not disbar the member from applying to the National Lifelong Learning Fund.**

## **Application Process & Criteria**

Applications should be made prior to the commencement of a course of study or during the application stage when the individuals knows they are eligible to undertake the course.

A GMB member must complete the application form in full and return it to one of the panel members listed below, electronically or paper version to the following address, Colin Kirkham, National Project Director, GMB, Grove Hall, 60 College Grove Road, Wakefield, WF1 3RN. A member must have paid at least 53 weeks subscriptions and be fully financial at the time of application.

No commitments should be entered into on the assumption that an award will be made.

The awards do not apply to any other college, institution or training provider.

**If you would like further advice, information or guidance  
please contact one of the following:**

### **GMB Panel Members:**

Colin Kirkham (National Project Director RERHSO)

[colin.kirkham@gmb.org.uk](mailto:colin.kirkham@gmb.org.uk)

Tom Rigby (Regional Education Officer)

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