

Northumberland College Education Maintenance Allowance



Learner Information 2009/2010

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) can give eligible learners up to £30 per week to help make continuing learning more affordable.

Eligibility Criteria

- You are aged 16 – 18
- You are joining a
 - Learning and Skills Council (LSC) funded E2E programme (no income assessment will take place)
 - Full time further education course at college
 - Programme led apprenticeship
- Your annual household income is below £30,810

Payment Information

EMA payments are either £30, £20 or £10 per week. The exact amount received is dependent on household income:

Income is:	Amount per week
Up to £20,817 per year	£30
£20,818 - £25,521 per year	£20
£25,522 - £30,810 per year	£10

Payments are made directly into your bank account (which will need to be set up before the application is made). Bonuses of up to £500 may also be paid.

EMA does not affect any other household benefits – your parents or carers are still free to claim child benefit, tax credits etc. Also, if you have children, you could receive EMA at the same time as Care to Learn – meaning you get extra help with childcare costs.

How to apply

Application forms are available from the Info Zone or any college reception area. You can also order an application form by contacting 0800 121 8989 or by visiting www.direct.gov.uk/ema

