

Northumberland College

Care to Learn



Learner Information 2010/2011

Care to Learn allows eligible learners to receive financial childcare support over the course of an academic year.

Care to Learn will pay up to £160 per child per week from August 2010 – July 2011 for:

- Childcare while you learn, are on placement, doing private study or travelling to/from your childcare provider
- Any registration fees (up to £80) and any deposit normally charges (up to £250)
- A childcare taster and/or settling your child in before the learning starts
- Childcare fees you may need to pay during the holidays
- Additional travel costs you may have to pay in order to take your child to the childcare provider.

Eligibility Criteria

A young parent can get help with their childcare if they are:

- Under 20 years of age
- On a course that they started before they were 20
- On a course that receives some public funding
- At a college, school or other course
- A non-employee trainee on work based learning
- Caring for their own child/children
- Using registered childcare.

For more information about who qualifies for Care to Learn, contact the Learner Support helpline on 0800 121 8989.

How to apply?

If you want to start learning on or after 30 August 2010, you need an application pack for 2010/11.

The easiest way to get a Care to Learn application pack is to request one online at:

www.direct.gov.uk/caretolearn

You can also get an application pack by calling the Learner Support helpline on 0800 121 8989.

You should apply for Care to Learn as soon as you can and make sure you begin your course before you reach your 20th birthday if you want to benefit from the scheme. For your childcare provider to be paid from the day you start learning, you'll need to apply before your course starts or within 28 days of starting.

Where to send your application form

Send the completed application form to the Learner Support Service in the pre-paid envelope provided in the application pack. If you've lost the pre-paid envelope, you can send your completed Care to Learn application form to:

Care to Learn, Freepost RSHC-XEXS-TGXE, Learner Support Service, Darlington, DL1 4WD



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Northumberland College Ashington Campus, College Road, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 9RG
Tel: **01670 841200** Email: **advicecentre@northland.ac.uk** Web: **www.northumberland.ac.uk**

*Information is correct at time of going to press and may be eligible to change without notice.

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What happens after you apply?

If your application is accepted, the Learner Support Service will send you a:

- Notice of Entitlement
- Childcare provider registration form
- Learning provider registration form.

If you're not eligible for Care to Learn, you'll get a letter explaining why.

Notice of Entitlement

The Notice of Entitlement explains what financial help you are eligible for through Care to Learn.

Childcare provider registration form

You'll need to take your childcare provider registration form to your childcare provider when you make arrangements for your childcare. The registration form tells your childcare provider:

- The amount they will receive for looking after your child (up to £160 per week)
- How to register you for Care to Learn.

Learning provider registration form

You'll need to take your learning provider registration form to your chosen learning provider. The registration form tells your learning provider how to register you for Care to Learn. You should also show the learning provider your child's birth certificate - to prove your eligibility for Care to Learn. If you have any travelling costs, your learning provider can also help you to get payments to cover these through Care to Learn.

When do childcare payments start?

Childcare payments start when your childcare provider and learning provider have both completed your registration for Care to Learn.

What to do if your circumstances change

If any of the following has changed since you applied, you'll need to let the Learner Support Service know:

- Your personal details
- Your childcare provider - or the fees charged by your existing childcare provider
- The cost of travelling between home and your childcare provider
- Your course or learning programme
- The number of hours you're learning (you may have forgotten to include private study or time to revise and take exams)

To confirm the change, you (or your learning or childcare provider) will need to complete another form, to request a form, call the Learner Support helpline on 0800 121 8989.

If you leave your current childcare provider, you may need to give one month's notice.



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