

## **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ADULTS URGED TO CLAIM EDUCATION CASH THEY'RE DUE**

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Adults on track to change their life for the better may be missing out on payments of up to £30 a week.

Government figures show that despite some 29,000 adults having already been assessed as eligible to receive support from the Adult Learning Grant (ALG) this year, around a quarter still haven't claimed the money they could be due.

Since the national roll out of ALG in September 2007, over 42,000 people have received ALG, vastly exceeding expectations and making the scheme very successful.

A New College Nottingham student is a fine example of how ALG can give you a helping hand to head in a new direction.

Receiving ALG payments has enabled Caleb Stone, 21, from St Ann's, to cut down his working hours as a waiter so he can concentrate on studying towards his dream career and helping out his grandma.

He is currently heading towards completing a BTEC National Diploma in I-Media at New College Nottingham before he begins a multi-media degree course at Nottingham Trent University so he can become a web designer.

Caleb said:

“Although the Adult Learning Grant doesn’t keep up with the money I need to spend, it certainly helps with my lunches and the things I need for the course, like portfolio folders and paper. It’s also meant I can reduce the amount of time I work so I can really concentrate on the course and also spend more time helping out my grandma.”

Mick Brown, Area Director for the Learning and Skills Council Nottingham, said:

“Adult Learning Grants can make a real difference to the lives of adults who are studying. People can receive up to £30 a week and this can be used to help with anything from the cost of books and materials, through to childcare costs and really does give critical support to adults who might not otherwise have the opportunity to go back to learning. With all this to offer it’s important that those studying make sure they claim the money they’re due.”

If you have received a letter of entitlement please contact your local college or the learner entitlement support line on 0800 121 8989. If you are thinking about going back to college, ALG could help you. To find out more information and whether you are eligible, visit [www.direct.gov.uk/alg](http://www.direct.gov.uk/alg) or call 0800 121 8989

**- ENDS -**

**Notes to Editors:**

## **Learning and Skills Council**

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.

The Adult Learning Grant (ALG) is a weekly payment designed to help adults overcome the financial barriers to learning. Up to £30 a week during term time is available to adults over the age of 19 who meet the eligibility criteria. It is available to low income adults in England aged 19 or over who are studying full time for their first full level 2 (5 GCSEs at grades A\* to C or an NVQ2 or its equivalent) or a first full level 3 (2 A levels or an NVQ3 or its equivalent) qualification.

**Issued on behalf of the Learning and Skills Council by COI News & PR.**

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