

04 February 2011

Dear

**IfL membership fees from April 2011**

I am writing to let you know that the Institute for Learning (IfL) will be charging individual teachers and trainers £68 for standard membership from April 2011. We are in the process of writing to our members about the changes and want to advise employers on a confidential basis. **Please treat this letter as embargoed until Tuesday 8 February 2011.**

As you may know, the government confirmed in late 2010 that it would no longer subsidise fees for IfL membership having done so since 2007 and that as a consequence IfL would need to become self-financing. Since that announcement, government has confirmed its commitment to membership of IfL being mandatory as the licence to practise for teachers and trainers in further education and skills.

I am pleased to inform you that IfL has negotiated some transitional funding from government for 2011/12 which has made it possible to offer membership for an 18 month period, from 1 April 2011 until 30 September 2012, for the standard annual fee of £68. Membership renewal will be open from early February 2011 for the period commencing 1 April 2011, allowing teachers and trainers time to prepare for this change. Professional fees, such as membership of IfL, are eligible for tax relief. There is a concessionary rate for teachers and trainers below the income tax threshold. Further details of subscriptions and payment are available on our website [www.ifl.ac.uk](http://www.ifl.ac.uk)

IfL member benefits include:

- continuing professional development (CPD)
- support for excellent teaching and training
- regular news and policy updates and a member journal with a focus on CPD and practice-based case studies
- the conferral of the professional status of Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills (QTLS) and Associate Teacher Learning and Skills (ATLS) through IfL's supportive system of professional formation.

Some colleges and providers intend to reimburse their teachers or trainers fully for their IfL membership fee, as they do for other professional fees such as CIPD or accountancy bodies. As with any other professional body, this is an investment in the professional development of individual staff and offers value for money.

Other colleges or providers intend to partly reimburse the IfL fee to teachers or trainers to reinforce that there is a shared commitment by the individual and the employer to professional body membership. Some intend to leave it to the individual to pay their IfL membership fee as this is what they expect of other employees for their individual professional body membership.

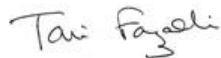
We are happy to talk to you or a senior colleague about support for payment of IfL membership fees for your teachers or trainers. Please email [lucy.pollard@ifl.ac.uk](mailto:lucy.pollard@ifl.ac.uk) if you are interested.

You may like to read [IfL's Review of CPD](#) for 2009/10 which gives a framework for CPD to support individual practitioners, colleges and providers and to see examples of the ways IfL supports teachers and trainers in their practice and their drive towards excellence in teaching and training.

IfL is strongly committed to supporting IfL members in achieving brilliant teaching and training practice for the sector and learners. IfL's role is distinctive as the professional body for the sector, and we work in partnership with a range of agencies, including LSIS, to ensure that IfL gives low or no cost services that benefit individual teachers and trainers and in turn their learners and the further education and skills sector.

I have attached a copy of the personal letter which we are sending to individual teachers and trainers who are IfL members in the next few days and a briefing note we hope will answer the questions you or your staff might have. You may like to read a copy of our most recent [Impact Review](#) and I invite you to visit the IfL's website [www.ifl.ac.uk](http://www.ifl.ac.uk) and register in the [employers' area](#) to find out more about IfL's work and the way we can help you provide the very best teaching and training, including data on IfL membership for your organisation.

Kind regards



Toni Fazaeli  
Chief Executive