

PROFESSIONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT LOANS BRIEFING DOCUMENT

Overview

The application by the BMG to be included on the Learning Provider List (LP List) of courses that can be funded by a Professional and Career Development Loan (PCDL) has been approved.

The BMG organisation is now registered with the PCDL program with registration number **21214**.

What does this mean?

This enables a Learner who is accepted on the BMG training scheme to have access to low cost finance during the period of their study.

Professional and Career Development Loans are bank loans used to pay for courses and training that help with your career or help get you into work. Learners may be able to borrow between **£300** and **£10 000** towards the cost of the course fees for the BMG Training Scheme.

Current 2015 BMG Training Scheme course fees are **£10 165**.

Loans are usually offered at a reduced interest rate and the government pays interest whilst the Learner studies.

How does a Learner apply for a PCDL?

The application procedure can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/career-development-loans/overview>

Important Points for the Learner

1. It is you who must apply for the loan by filling in the application form and sending it to the bank of your choice.
2. The bank will decide if you qualify for a loan.
3. You take out the loan with the bank and agree to their repayment conditions.

4. You should apply 3 months before 31st August in the year you complete your inductions and are accepted onto the BMG training scheme. This is to give the bank enough time to process your application.
5. The maximum loan period that the government will pay the interest for is 3 years (plus a 1 month “grace” period after completion of the scheme). The banks specify that the start date of your loan can be a maximum of 36 months in advance of your anticipated completion date of the training scheme.
Therefore if your anticipated completion date for the BMG scheme is September 2019 your bank will not accept an application for a loan starting before September 2016.
6. Professional and Career Development Loans are bank loans that have to be paid back. You start repaying the loan (plus interest at a reduced rate) 1 month after leaving your course.
7. The government pays the interest while you study and for 1 month after you leave your course. After this time, you start repaying the loan and interest.
8. You have to repay your loan even if you don’t complete the course or your course provider goes out of business.

The way that the loan will be managed by the BMG Office

On approval of the loan for the Learner the chosen bank will pay the BMG Training Scheme course fees direct to the BMG organisation. *The money is never paid direct to the Learner.*

The BMG office will create a separate column in the accounts for each Learner supported by a PCDL loan.

When a Learner wishes to book onto a “module” of the training scheme they must contact the BMG office. Part of their loan will be transferred to pay for the cost of the course. Learners must adhere to all normal booking requirements for BMG training scheme courses including the timeframe for booking onto a course.

Normal Booking terms and conditions apply to PCDL candidates.