Y Ganolfan Dysgu Cymraeg Genedlaethol — National Centre for Learning Welsh

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

THE FINANCIAL CONTINGENCY FUND

CYMRAEG Dysgu Learn

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

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The Financial Contingency Fund for Learners

Frequently Asked Questions

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Who is eligible to claim from the fund?

The fund is available for learners with the following criteria:

- attend a 50+ hours Learning Welsh course with one of the Providers of the National Centre for Learning Welsh,
- be 16 years of age or older on 31 August 2026 ,
- be a settled, legal, UK resident for at least 3 years; or meet the conditions of residence in the post-16 Funding Framework (details in the policy on the website),
- confirm that it would be difficult to access your studies without support from the Fund due to financial considerations being a barrier.

Priority will be given to learners who are:

- A parent with childcare needs (child/children under 18 years old)
- A single parent with childcare needs (child/children under 18 years old)
- A carer; have been in care, on probation or are otherwise considered at risk
- On low income, including learners who do not qualify for income support, or students from low income families
- Resident in an area with an overall ranking of 190 or less according to the latest Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation
- Facing particular financial difficulties because their families will cease to receive the children element of universal credit as of the 1st September following their 19th birthday

However, not being in one of the priority groups above doesn't automatically mean that you will be unsuccessful.

I'm not sure if I am eligible, what should I do?

The policy outlines eligibility. You must confirm that the following apply to you:

- That you are enrolled in a Learning Welsh course with one of the Providers of the National Centre for Learning Welsh,
- That you are 16 years of age or older on 31 August 2026
- be a settled, legal, UK resident for at least 3 years; or meet the conditions of residence in the post-16 Funding Framework (details in the policy on the website),
- That you can confirm that it would be difficult to access your studies without support from the Fund due to financial considerations being a barrier.

If you are still unsure, talk to your tutor or provider, or contact The National Centre for Learning Welsh by e-mailing cyllid@dysgucymraeg.cymru.

Can I use the Financial Contingency Fund for Learners to help with my fees?

No, unfortunately it is a stipulation by the Medr that this fund cannot be used to help with course fees.

You may wish to discuss with your provider if they offer any concessions on course fees for which you may be eligible.

What can the fund be used for?

It can be used for the following, provided the correct evidence (as stipulated in the policy) is submitted with the claim:

- Childcare
- Essential resources to participate in course e.g. books, equipment
- Travel Costs - Mileage
- Travel Costs - Bus / Train
- Parking Costs
- Disability

The fund cannot be used for course fees.

How do I apply?

Simply fill in the Claim Form provided on our website, and submit by the deadline date noted in the policy.

You can send your claim electronically or by post – whichever is easiest for you.

When should I submit my claim?

Your claim should be completed by the end of each term, and then submitted by the deadline noted in the policy, which can be found on our website.

Why can I only claim at the end of each term, and not at the beginning or during the term?

- Ensure fairness
    - As the fund is limited, collecting all claims at the same time means that those with highest priority will receive the fund first, rather than a fist come first serve basis.

- To ensure that evidence can be provided
    - As you require evidence to support your claim, it is likely that the evidence will not be readily available at the beginning of your term.
    - Also, as you should only claim travel for the lessons you attend, you will not be able to guarantee this at the beginning of each term. Circumstances may change, which means that the number of lessons you actually attend are less than anticipated. We ask your provider to confirm the attendance in class, so providing the correct number of lessons attended is essential.

- To avoid possible duplication of claims
    - By producing a claim for each term, it also protects against overlapping claim periods and possible confusion.

Why must I fill in the claim termly?

It means that your repayment happens at the end of each term, rather than having to wait until the end of year. It also ensures that we have the correct and up to date details for you.

Who is my Course Provider?

The National Centre for Learning Welsh have 10 providers throughout Wales that deliver Welsh Courses. The providers are:

- Learn Welsh Ceredigion-Powys-Carmarthenshire
- Learn Welsh North West
- Learn Welsh Cardiff
- Learn Welsh North East
- Learn Welsh Gwent
- Learn Welsh Pembrokeshire
- Learn Welsh Swansea Bay Region
- Learn Welsh Glamorgan
- Learn Welsh The Vale
- Learn Welsh Nant Gwrtheyrn

If you are unsure who your provider is, please ask your tutor.

What is my Registration Number?

Your provider may allocate you a Learner or Student Number when you enrol. Please ask your tutor or provider for details.

What is the WIMD? Do I need to answer this question?

The WIMD is the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation. It is a ranking system developed by the Welsh Government to recognise areas of deprivation within Wales.

There is no need for you to answer this question on the claim form, as this will be checked against your postcode by the Finance Officer when processing the claim.

Why must I fill in the section regarding "that it would be difficult to access your studies without support from the Fund due to financial considerations being a barrier"?

This fund is provided by the Medr specifically for learners where access to education might be inhibited by financial considerations, or who, for whatever reason, including physical or other disability, face financial difficulties.

Generally, this means that this fund is to be used for learners who would be unlikely to attend the lessons, without some financial assistance.

Your claim will not be considered if you leave this section blank, or state that the statement is not true for you.

What evidence do I require?

The policy stipulates that the following evidence must be provided in order to make a claim:

- Childcare
    - Receipt by a registered childminder stating the dates
        - Note, the childminder/setting must be registered with Care Inspectorate Wales, and their registration number should be on the receipt/invoice
    - Details of the dates of lessons / sessions attended

- Resources
    - Receipts showing details of the items and amount paid

- Travel Costs - Mileage
    - Completed Travel Form with dates of journeys to lessons, journey details and mileage

- Travel Costs - Bus / Train
    - Copy (or original) tickets, with amounts and dates which correspond to lessons attended

- Parking Costs
    - Copy (or original) parking tickets, with dates and amounts

- Disability
    - Official letter providing evidence

Note that reimbursement cannot be claimed against an invoice issued by a company owned by the individual making the claim

I have no receipts, what should I do?

Unfortunately, we cannot process any repayments without receipts.

If you have paid your provider, and haven't received a receipt, you can ask them to e-mail a confirmation of payment. This confirmation must come from their work e-mail with their details (such as name and position) as well as the amount.

You do not require any receipts if claiming for the mileage travelled by car.

Is there a maximum amount I can claim?

Yes, the policy stipulates the maximum amount you can claim for individual items. Any amounts above the maximum amounts in the policy will not be considered.

The maximum amounts that can be claimed are as follows:

- Childcare
  - Up to 3.5 hours at £5 per hour (£17.50) per child for each lesson / session
- Resources
  - Up to £200 in an academic year
- Travel Costs - Mileage
  - Up to 60 miles per lesson x £0.25 per mile (£15 per journey)
- Travel Costs -Bus / Train
  - £15 per journey
- Parking Costs
  - £5 per lesson / session
- Disability
  - £10 per lesson / session

Can I claim for traveling in advance?

No, you should only claim travel for the lessons you attend, so you will not be able to guarantee this at the beginning of each term. Circumstances may change, which means that the amount of lessons you actually attend are less than anticipated. We ask your provider to confirm the attendance in class, so providing the correct amount of lessons attended is essential.

Who should I ask for advice filling in the form?

You can ask your tutor or provider, or you can contact The National Centre for Learning Welsh by e-mailing cyllid@dysgucymraeg.cymru.

Who funds this?

This fund is provided to The National Centre for Learning Welsh by Medr. The National Centre is allocated a set amount of money to be used solely for the Financial Contingency Fund for Learners.

Any other questions?

If you haven't found the answer to your question here, please ask your tutor or provider, or you can contact The National Centre for Learning Welsh by e-mailing cyllid@dysgucymraeg.cymru.