



Guidance for ESOL Applicants

The College must confirm that you are eligible for funding before you enrol on an ESOL course.

• How does the College know if I am eligible for Funding?

In general, you will be eligible for funding if you have been resident in the UK for at least the previous three years on the first day of the course OR you are resident in West Yorkshire and have a lawful immigration status. This includes:

- Students with protected status, leave to remain/settled status and refugees
- Afghan citizens, resettled through the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP)
- Ukrainian citizens, supported through the Ukraine Family/Sponsorship Scheme
- Asylum seekers who have lived in the UK for 6 months (course will be free).

▪ What is my Citizenship/Country of Residence?

Your citizenship is the country that issued your passport (usually your country of birth). Your country of residence is the country you normally live in – your permanent/home address.

▪ What evidence do I need to provide?

If you have **not** been resident in the UK for the previous **3 years** you will need evidence to support your Right of Abode in the UK, usually, your eVisa (share code) or, for asylum seekers, your Application Registration Card (ARC).

▪ eVisa

You need to create an eVisa account **before** you enrol at Castleford or Wakefield College. Please visit www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status. Once you have an eVisa account you can apply for a 'Share Code' which we can use to check your immigration status when you enrol.

▪ What is the cost of an ESOL course?

Students who are eligible for funding may still have to pay the course fees. Your course may be free if you are unemployed, in receipt of certain benefits or on a low wage (less than **£25,750 a year***). Evidence of your income must be provided at enrolment (wage slip, employment contract, Universal Credit Statement).

**From 1 August 2025 Monthly £2,146; 4 Weekly £1,981; Fortnightly £990; Weekly £495*

| Course/Level | Eligible for Funding Fee is your contribution - the rest is funded by the government | | Not Eligible for Funding Fee is £13 per hour (class contact only) | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------|--|---------|
| | Daytime | Evening | Daytime | Evening |
| Pre-entry Level | £165 | N/A | £585 | N/A |
| Reading - All Levels | £180 | £180 | £819 | £819 |
| Writing - All Levels | £270 | £270 | £819 | £819 |
| Speaking & Listening Entry 1/Entry 2 | £360 | N/A | £1170 | N/A |
| Speaking & Listening Entry 3/L1 | £360 | N/A | £1170 | N/A |

▪ What are my payment options?

If you are paying your fees in full, there is 10% discount so, for example, a fee of £165 would be £148.50. If you are paying your fees in instalments, you will need to pay 30% deposit so, for example, a fee of £165 would be £49.50 deposit and 3 instalments of £38.50.

Further information about fees and fee concessions can be found on our website: <https://www.wakefield.ac.uk/study-with-us/fees-and-money-matters/> or please contact 01924 789119.