

# **PCA Education Funding Policy**

From 1st January 2023 the PCA have reviewed and amended their education funding policy. Unfortunately the PCA are no longer able to part fund education claims that are being fully funded by the Student Loan Company. Where courses are self-funded in part or full the member can apply for PCA funding for longer-term courses as outlined in the policy below.

The PCA will honour all claims up until 31st December 2022, on its previous funding policy.

The PCA recognises that this should not affect any educational pursuits as members will still have access to be supported by the Student Loan Company.

## Any concerns around this policy change should in the first instance be directed to your Personal Development Manager

The aim of the education funding is to provide financial assistance to current and former players to support their personal development plans through educational/ career development opportunities. The funding aims to support players for life after professional cricket.

Our team of PDMs offers comprehensive advice on everything from short courses to full-time degrees, and members can get in touch with their regional PDM to speak about preferred course providers and find out more about funding options.

The PCA currently funds per annum:

50% of a member's personal development course costs, up to a maximum of  $\pm 1,500$  (e.g. a  $\pm 3,000$  course qualified for a reimbursement of  $\pm 1,500$ ).

All funding applications should be made online via the PCA website.

https://www.thepca.co.uk/personal-development/#

### 1.0 Eligibility

Applicants must be members of the PCA. This includes current playing members of the PCA or former fully contracted\* players from either a First Class County Club, England Women's team (from 2011) or one of the 8 Regional Women's Centres.

\*any player who has been contracted to a county at any point from 1967 onwards, or any player that played first-class cricket prior to 1967.

Academy players only become eligible for education funding once they have signed their first fulltime rookie contract.

Overseas members should in the first instance apply for funding from their home country player association. Evidence of this will be required for the funding application to be considered.

There is a lifetime cap for funding of £10,000.



The course undertaken must be accredited with a registered training, educational or vocational institution\*.

\*Courses or other forms of personal development that fall outside of the stated guidelines, for example private classes or tutoring, will be judged on a case by case basis.

#### 2.0 Applications

Applications for PCA educational funding must be made on completion of a course or a completed year of a longer-term course.

If a longer-term course is not completed the PCA reserve the right to request the funding back.

All applications for longer term courses need to provide evidence for completed year's results or study when applying for further funding.

All applications need to reference the Personal Development Manager the applicant has worked with where relevant.

#### 3.0 Payment

Payment will be made by BACs transfer once all criteria has been met and approved by Director of Members Services and Financial Director of the PCA

Funding payments will only be made upon receiving a dated receipt or other proof of payment, an invoice for the claimed amount and proof that the player has completed and passed the year's study/course.

No payments or reimbursements will be made beyond 6 months after the course has been completed.

If, in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the PCA, money is paid up front and the course is not completed or doesn't run, the full amount must be reimbursed to the PCA.

The education funding does not cover items such as text books, stationery and course resources including computer software.

#### 4.0 PCA Education Policy for Coach Education

ECB coaching courses:

Level 2: Fully supported on successful completion of course.

Advanced course: £1,500 fully funded on successfully completion.

Specialist course: A contribution of £1,500 per year against a cost of £5,400 (inc VAT), equalling £3,000 over two years.

#### **5.0 PCA Education Policy Panel**

If any member feels their application has been dealt with unfairly they should email Ian Thomas <u>ian.thomas@thepca.co.uk</u>. He will then refer the application to the Education Policy Panel. This panel is made up of Ian Thomas, Sasha White, Paul Garrett, Charlie Mulraine, Lynsey Williams and Ali Prosser.

As at 1/1/23