# PCA EDUCATION
# FUNDING POLICY 2026

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## PCA Education Funding Policy 2026

- From 1st April 2026 the PCA have reviewed and amended their education funding policy and funding levels.
- The PCA does not part fund education claims that are being fully funded by the Student Loan Company.
- The PCA recognises that this should not affect any educational pursuits as members will still have access to be supported via 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.
- Any queries 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 courses and to enhance career development opportunities.

The funding aims to support players preparing 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 £2,000 (e.g. a £4,000 course qualifies for a reimbursement of £2,000).

All funding applications should be made online via the PCA website. The PCA currently funds driving lessons to a maximum of £250 on completion of application form and submissions of receipts. (Annually reviewed but agreed for 2026)

www.thepca.co.uk/personal-development/

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## Eligibility

- Applicants must be full members of the PCA with subs fully paid for current players. (Tier 1 female professional counties only)
- Former fully contracted players. *
- Any female contracted to the ECB women's team from 2011 onwards.

*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 or full professional 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 education funding of £12,000. This is separate to coach education funding and is reviewed annually by the PCA.
- 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 and therefore members should enquire prior to starting any non-registered courses.

## 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.
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- All applications for longer term courses need to provide evidence of completed year's results or study when applying for further funding.
- All multiyear courses applied for, must be claimed for in the year of study for each year.
- All applications need to reference the Personal Development Manager the applicant has worked with where relevant.
- The PCA does not part fund education claims that are being fully funded by the Student Loan Company.

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## Payment

- Payment will be made by BACs transfer once all criteria has been met and approved by the PCA Managing Director 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 textbooks, stationery and course resources including computer software.

## PCA Education Policy for Coach Education 2026

**ECB coaching courses:**

- Core Coach Level 2: Fully supported on successful completion of course.
- Level 3 (Advanced): £2,000 fully funded on successful completion of course.
- Level 4 (Specialist): A contribution of £2,000 per year against a cost of £9,500 (inc VAT), equalling £4,000 over two years.

## PCA Education Policy Panel

If any member feels their application has been dealt with unfairly, they should email Ian Thomas ian.thomas@thepca.co.uk. He will then refer the application to the Education Policy Panel. This panel is made up of Ian Thomas, Nil Neale, Alison Prosser and Lynsey Williams.

The PCA will annually review the education funding policy in line with PCA budget constraints.

**As on 2nd October 2026**