



## Skills Fund

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Who is eligible to apply for funding through the Skills Fund?**

**A:** To be eligible for funding through the Skills Fund you must live, work, or have a genuine desire to work (on a paid or voluntary basis) in a sport and physical activity role in either Boston, East Lindsey or South Holland.

This means that individuals who are currently employed in the sports sector, as well as those seeking to enter or re-enter the field, may be eligible for funding.

**Q: I am not currently employed in the sport and physical activity sector, can I apply for funding?**

**A:** Absolutely! Whether you're looking to start a new career, transition from a different field, or simply explore your passion for sports and physical activity, the Skills Fund is open to individuals from all backgrounds. Our funding can help you acquire the necessary skills and qualifications to enter the sector and pursue your goals.

**Q: Can I apply for funding if I am already employed in the sport and physical activity sector but want to take an additional qualification?**

**A:** Absolutely! The Skills Fund is designed to support individuals at all stages of their careers. Whether you're looking to advance your current role, specialise in a particular area, or transition into a new position within the sector, our funding can help you achieve your professional goals.

**Q: I have a volunteer role in the sport and physical activity sector, can I apply for funding?**

**A:** Absolutely! Whether you're currently volunteering or interested in taking on a new volunteer role, the Skills Fund can support you in developing your skills and making a greater impact. Our funding can help you acquire the necessary qualifications or training to enhance your volunteer experience and contribute more effectively to the sector.

**Q: Can I apply for funding if I am retired but want to volunteer in the sport and physical activity sector?**

**A:** Absolutely! Whether you're looking to give back to your community, share your expertise, or simply stay active, the Skills Fund can support your volunteer efforts. Our funding can help you acquire the necessary skills and qualifications to make a meaningful contribution to the sector and enrich the lives of others.

**Q: Can I apply for funding if I have received funding from the Skills Fund previously?**

**A:** Yes, you may be eligible to apply for funding again, even if you have received support from the Skills Fund in the past. We encourage individuals to continue their professional development within the sport and physical activity sector. However, each application will be assessed based on its own merits, the relevance of the proposed course to increasing physical activity opportunities within the community, and the availability of funds.

**Q: Can I choose any course or qualification I want to take?**

**A:** Yes, you can apply for funding to pursue any course or qualification that aligns with your role or ideal role in the sport and physical activity sector. If you're unsure where to start, we're happy to help you identify suitable programs based on your interests and experience level.

**Q: Can I apply for funding for a course that has already started or been completed?**

**A:** No, the Skills Fund generally supports future learning and development. To be eligible for funding, your course or qualification must not have started or been completed before your application is approved. We recommend applying well in advance of your desired course start date.

**Q: Is there a minimum or maximum funding amount available per application?**

**A:** While there isn't a fixed minimum or maximum funding amount, we aim to cover the full cost of your chosen course or, where no course was specified, a recommended course based on the details provided in your Skills Fund application.

**Q: Can I apply for funding for multiple courses?**

**A:** While you can only submit one primary funding application for one specific course, we offer a unique benefit for all approved applicants: access to a comprehensive suite of digital/online courses. This library of courses covers a wide range of topics, including essential areas like Safeguarding and Mental Health awareness. By completing these online courses, you can gain valuable knowledge and skills in multiple areas, enhancing your overall expertise in the sport and physical activity sector.

**Q: How do I apply for funding from the Active Lincolnshire Skills Fund?**

**A:** To apply for funding, please visit our website <https://activeskillshub.co.uk/skills-fund/> where you will find further information and an online application form. If you have any questions or require further assistance, don't hesitate to contact our Skills Manager Laura Spurr via email at [Laura.Spurr@ActiveLincolnshire.com](mailto:Laura.Spurr@ActiveLincolnshire.com)

**Q: Is there a deadline for submitting my Skills Fund application?**

**A:** Yes, the deadline for submitting your application is Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025. However, we encourage you to submit your application as soon as possible.

**Q: Am I guaranteed to receive funding if submit an application to the Skills Fund?**

**A:** While we encourage you to submit your application to the Skills Fund, there is no guarantee of funding. Eligibility criteria apply, and all applications are subject to review.

**Q: When will I know if my application has been successful?**

**A:** Applications will be reviewed for eligibility every month, and a decision will follow shortly after each monthly review. You'll receive an email notification regarding the outcome. Please note that while we strive to provide decisions as quickly as possible, the review process can take time due to the volume of applications received. We appreciate your patience during this period.

**Q: What sort of time will I need to allocate to learning?**

**A:** The time commitment required will vary based on the course you are completing. While estimated timeframes are typically given on the course providers website or materials, it's crucial to plan for flexibility.

**Q: Can I access the digital/online courses at a time to suit me?**

**A:** Yes, digital/online courses offer flexibility to learn at your own pace. You can access course materials, complete assignments, and participate in discussions whenever it suits your schedule. This helps allows you to balance your studies with other commitments.

**Q: What support is available to help me complete my course or qualification?**

**A:** The specific support available to help you complete your course or qualification will depend on the course being funded via the Skills Fund. Examples of support may include access to online learning materials such as workbooks, videos, and interactive exercises. Teaching and support from qualified tutors and assistance with using technology and online platforms.

**Q: Is there a deadline for completing my chosen course or qualification if my Skills Fund application is approved?**

**A:** Yes, you will need to complete your chosen course or qualification by March 2026 unless otherwise agreed in writing with Active Lincolnshire. Please note that this deadline may vary depending on the specific course or qualification you select.

**Q: What happens if I am unable to complete my course or qualification by the deadline?**

**A:** While we encourage applicants to adhere to the deadline, we understand that life can deal us unexpected personal or professional challenges. Please contact us directly to discuss your situation.

**Q: Are there any specific qualifications or experience required to apply for funding?**

**A:** No, you do not need to have any experience or previous training in sport and physical activity to apply to the Skills Fund. While some courses or qualifications may have certain entry requirements, such as minimum educational qualifications or specific skills, we will help you find a suitable program that aligns with your current knowledge and abilities. We can provide guidance on potential options and assist you in meeting any necessary criteria.

**Q: Can I apply for funding if I am a student?**

**A:** Yes, you can apply for funding if you are a student. The Skills Fund is open to individuals aged 16+.

**Q: Will I receive a certificate upon completion of my course?**

**A:** It depends on the course or qualification chosen. Some courses offer certificates upon completion, while others do not. However, all approved applicants will gain access to our comprehensive suite of digital/online courses, many of which do offer completion certificates, providing an additional opportunity to gain certified knowledge.

**Q: Will I receive any assistance in finding a job in the sport and physical activity sector after completing my course?**

**A:** Yes, you will have access to resources and guidance to help you find a job in the sport and physical activity sector. However, your success will likely depend on factors such as your own efforts, the specific job market, and the relevance of your course to the roles you are seeking.