

EMA Extension

from 9th April 2006

What is EMA?

- Payment to encourage young people to stay in post-16 learning.
- Income assessed payment of £10, £20 or £30 per week for households with income up to £30,810 pa
- ‘Something for something’ agreement, with payments to reward attendance
- Periodic bonuses for achieving positive results

Who is eligible?

- 16-19 year olds from households with income up to £30,810 (tax year 2005-06)
- In full-time education in school or FE college, or (from April) LSC-funded E2E and
- Satisfy EMA residency criteria

Why extend EMA?

- Ensure learners' families get additional benefits, for example, Child Tax Credit, Child Benefit
 - Maximum weekly value of complete support package to £90 versus £40 under Minimum Training Allowance (MTA)
 - As with current EMA, young people from households with an income of more than £30,810 (tax year 05/06) will not get EMA but will now attract Child Tax Credit and Child Benefit
 - Individual learners on Income Support will receive up to £74.50 per week.

What does this mean for young people?

- Minimum Training Allowance (MTA) will cease for new starters on 9 April 2006
- From 10 April 2006, starters on LSC-funded E2E with learning providers can apply for EMA
- **Learners starting before 10 April will receive MTA until end of course or December 2006, whichever is earlier**
- Payments will be income assessed; maximum payment £30 per week

What does this mean for young people?

- Young people must have or must open a bank account
- **One application covers Education and Training and valid for a year**
- **Travel continues to be funded as part of work-based learning budget**

What does this mean for you?

- Young people will seek information, advice and support from a range of partners
- All will need an understanding of criteria and application process for EMA
- Some will need extra support, particularly with household documentation
- Important that young people who are independent seek Income Support (and otherwise engage with Agencies)

Marketing EMA

- TV advertising
 - three waves in February/March, May/June and August
- Leaflets and posters will be available to support TV advertising
- National PR (from January)
 - EMA ambassadors
 - tabloid-friendly news and feature stories
- Ongoing programme of internal, partner and stakeholder communications including potential future events

How will it work?

- Application
- Notice of Entitlement (NoE) sent to young person
- Young person uses NoE to enrol with provider
- No payment until NoE 'cashed in'
- Provider makes payment decision
- APB makes payment directly into young person's bank account

Bonuses

- Flexible approach to E2E bonuses for learners
- 4 bonuses:
 - 1 x £25 for agreeing learning agreement,
 - 2 x £25 for achieving learning goals,
 - 1 x £50 for E2E who progress to Apprenticeship, FE or a job; or
- Learners are rewarded with bonuses for continued commitment and development

Application process

- Learning providers will support learners
- Connexions and partners working with young people should also help raise awareness and offer support
- Recognise the importance of working with schools and parents to ensure smooth application process
 - plans being developed
- Encourage all eligible yr11's to apply regardless of planned destination

Bank accounts

- Encourage people to set up bank account *before* their course begins to give them a head start
- Work with your local partnership and bank managers to help those with difficulties

Basic Bank Accounts: Further Information

■ Financial Services Authority

- *No Bank Account?* Leaflet
- www.fsa.gov.uk/consumer

■ BBA

- www.bba.org.uk
- The Banking Code

Which EMA Application Form?

Everybody use
2005/06 Orange

Born 1/9/87 to 31/8/89
2005/06 Orange

Born 1/9/89 to 31/8/90 (Y11)
2006/07 Green

Everybody use
2006/07 Green

10th April 2006

3rd July 2006

1st September 2006

EMA Application Resource Pack LSC-P-NAT-060054

connexions

HERTFORDSHIRE

Support and help

- Email the EMA team at emaextension@lsc.gov.uk or contact the EMA co-ordinator at your local LSC
- Latest issue of EMA *Extension Update* can be downloaded from the Reading Room at www.lsc.gov.uk
- Visit www.directgov.uk/ema for more information
- APB helplines:
 - Young person/parent helpline: 080 810 16219
 - Partner enquiries: 0800 056 2811

Your EMA Champions are:

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