Learner Support Programme

Dance and Drama Awards (DaDA) – Information for non-DaDA learning providers 2008/09

June 2008

Of interest to stakeholders involved in delivering learner support
Further information
Further information on the scheme is available from the following sources:

Learning providers can contact the Learner Support Service for advice in administering the scheme on 0845 600 7979.

Learners should be directed to the Learner Helpline on 0800 121 8989.

Alternatively the Learner Support Service can be contacted via e-mail at DaDA@liberata.com

Learner Support Directorate
Learning and Skills Council
(National Office)

The Straddle
Wharf Street
Victoria Quays
Wharf Street
Sheffield
S2 5SY

T: 0845 019 4171
www.lsc.gov.uk
Contents

Introduction 2
Background 3

The Learner Support Service (LSS) 4
  What is changing? 4
  What help is available? 4
  Additional support 4

Eligibility 5
  Eligibility of learner 5
  Eligibility of learning providers 5
  Eligibility of courses 5

How to Apply 6
  How learners apply for support 6
  Rates for students living in England, Scotland and Wales 6
  Rates for students living outside England, Scotland and Wales 6

Links with other Support 7

Marketing and Support Materials 7

Audit Requirements 7

Sources of Further Information 8
Introduction

This document provides information for learning providers who are not involved in delivering the Dance and Drama Awards (DaDA).

This document is aimed at key stakeholders who may be required to provide information, advice and guidance to individuals who are interested in entering specialist education and training in the performing arts including non-DaDA learning providers, partners delivering information, advice and guidance (IAG), the Learner Support Service (LSS) that provides helpline, assessment and payment services for the scheme, and Learning and Skills Council (LSC) colleagues at an area, regional and national level.

This document sets out the key points that will enable non-DaDA providers to provide individuals with appropriate information, advice and guidance about the DaDA Scheme and how they apply for funding. It does not provide detail about the delivery of the Award Scheme, this is made available to those providers who are involved in delivering Dance and Drama Awards. These providers are issued with Requirements for Providers as part of their contract with the LSC.

Issued by Ian Pursglove,
Young Peoples’ Learner Support Director

June 2008
Background

The Dance and Drama Awards Scheme is a strand of the LSC Learner Support Programme. The Scheme aims to enable the most talented individuals to train to become actors, dancers and stage managers, regardless of their family income.

Dance and Drama Awards are scholarships funded by the LSC. They offer greatly reduced tuition fees and income assessed support with living and learning costs, at some of the leading independent Dance and Drama schools in England. A Dance and Drama Award is made up of two parts:

a) Support towards fees which is non-income assessed and paid directly to participating schools by the LSC; and

b) Income-assessed student support which provides extra support for fees and maintenance costs.

Students who are offered a place under the Dance and Drama Awards Scheme will receive a government assisted place and will only be charged £1250 (2008/09 rate) as the student contribution towards the tuition fee. Students who hold a Dance and Drama Award for a course of further education may apply for income-assessed assistance to help meet the £1250 student fee.

Students from England, Scotland and Wales may also apply for help with their maintenance costs. Assistance with maintenance costs is not available from the fund for students who normally live in other countries in the EU.
The Learner Support Service

As many of you are aware, the way in which we administer the nationally delivered elements of the Learner Support Programme (Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA), Adult Learning Grant (ALG), Care to Learn, Dance and Drama Award, Sixth Form Childcare Scheme and Residential Support Scheme) is changing. Many of you have been keeping up to date with developments through our e-bulletin [DN hyperlink here to http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/moneytolearn/lss/ebulletins]

What is it changing?
The EMASYS system, previously used for EMA, and the EMS system previously used for ALG, will be replaced by the new Learner Provider Portal (LPP) before the end of September.

The LPP will be very similar to the old EMASYS system so existing users will find the appearance and navigation familiar. We are providing training and support materials to help those who are not familiar with EMASYS.

The Learning Provider Portal is web-based and we will send EMASYS users details of their username and password prior to the system being made available.

What help is available to support me?
We are developing a number of resources to help you with using the new system:

- **Operational Manual** – with detailed guidance on using the LPP
- **Handy Hints** – containing hints and tips on using the LPP
- **Quick Start Guide** – a brief overview of how to use the LPP

These will be available later in the Summer. Please check the Learner Support Service section of the website [DN hyperlink here to http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/moneytolearn/lss/] for the most up to date information.

We are also running a series of training seminars across the country to provide an end-to-end walkthrough of the new system. The objectives are:

- To explain the operation of the Learner Portal and the Learning Provider Portal
- To highlight the key differences between EMASYS, ALG system and the Learning Provider Portal
- To reinforce the availability of the new channels for application; i.e. on-line and telephone supported.

If you want to find out more about when and where the events are being held please go to www.livegroup.co.uk/lssportals

Additional Support
The Learner Support Service Provider Helpline number will also be on hand to help with your queries on 0845 600 7979.

A dedicated Field Force is also being developed to provide information, support and advice to learning providers and stakeholders. More information about this is in the May edition of the e-bulletin [DN hyperlink here to http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/moneytolearn/lss/]
Eligibility

Eligibility of learner
The learner must be:

• aged 16 or above to apply for a dance course;
• aged 18 or above to apply for an acting or stage management course;
• an EU or EEA national and have three years continuous residence immediately before the start of the course, or have settled status or indefinite leave to remain in the UK

Eligibility of learning providers
Dance and Drama Awards are available only at the 21 private dance and drama training providers who are part of the Award scheme. For a full list of the training providers visit the DaDA website at www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama.

Eligible providers are offered an allocation of Awards each year. Award rates are set by the LSC after a financial review of costs every three years.

Dance and Drama schools must apply to join the DaDA scheme on a three year cycle. The current cycle runs from 2006/07 to 2008/09. Accredited DaDA providers are inspected by OFSTED and are reviewed by the LSC on a three year cycle.

Learning providers that are part of the Dance and Drama Award Scheme are issued with Requirements for Funding that form part of their contract with the LSC.

Eligibility of courses
The courses/qualifications that are eligible for a Dance and Drama Award are:

National Diploma in Professional Acting (3 years)
National Certificate in Professional Acting (1 year)
National Certificate in Professional Classical Ballet (2 years)
National Diploma in Professional Dance (3 years)
National Diploma in Professional Musical Theatre (3 years)
National Diploma in Professional Production Skills (2 years)

The Awards are not available for academic or general courses in Dance and Drama. Only those courses detailed above, that are accredited by Trinity College London, are eligible. The Awards qualifications are set at Level 5 and 6.
How to apply

How learners apply for support
Once an individual has decided which course they want to apply for and which school they want to go to, they should contact the school to apply for an audition and tell the school that they want to apply for a Dance and Drama Award. The school will send an application form that should be returned to them.

The courses that are eligible for Dance and Drama Awards courses are very popular and we recommend that applications are submitted as early as possible. Dance and Drama Awards are given to students who show the most talent at audition, regardless of their financial circumstances. Where individual's display equal talent at audition, their financial circumstances will be considered.

When an individual applies for a DaDA, the school should also send an application form for help with living costs from the Income Assessed Student Support Fund (IASSF). An application form for the IASSF can also be obtained from the Learner Support Service:

Learner Helpline: 0800 121 8989
Provider Helpline: 0845 600 7979
Email: DaDA@liberata.com

Completed applications for the IASSF, together with evidence of household income, should be returned to the Learner Support Service (not the school) at:

Freepost RRUB-BEXE-TJLK
Learner Support Service
Darlington
DL1 4WD

The amount of extra financial support that the student can get towards their fees and living costs will depend on their family’s annual household income. The table below shows how much extra help the learner can get towards their fees and living costs in 2008/09.

Rates for students living outside England, Scotland and Wales
Assistance with student fee contribution only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household income</th>
<th>Help with fee contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under £21,000</td>
<td>£1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£21,001 - £23,000</td>
<td>£1,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£23,001 - £25,000</td>
<td>£825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£25,001 - £27,000</td>
<td>£625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£27,001 - £30,000</td>
<td>£413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£30,001 - £33,000</td>
<td>£0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full details of acceptable income evidence are supplied within the application form for the Income Assessed Student Support Fund.

Rates for students living in England, Scotland and Wales
Assistance with student fee contribution and living costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household income</th>
<th>Total support available – students living at home</th>
<th>Total support available – students living in lodgings outside London</th>
<th>Total support available – students living in lodgings in London</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under £21,000</td>
<td>£2,242</td>
<td>£4,711</td>
<td>£5,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£21,001 - £23,000</td>
<td>£1,966</td>
<td>£3,933</td>
<td>£4,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£23,001 - £25,000</td>
<td>£1,672</td>
<td>£3,129</td>
<td>£3,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£25,001 - £27,000</td>
<td>£1,403</td>
<td>£2,355</td>
<td>£2,661</td>
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<tr>
<td>£27,001 - £30,000</td>
<td>£1,120</td>
<td>£1,565</td>
<td>£1,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£30,001 - £33,000</td>
<td>£0</td>
<td>£742</td>
<td>£888</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Links with other support

Learners in receipt of a DaDA are not able to apply for Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) or Adult Learning Grant (ALG). EMA and ALG are available for qualifications up to/including Level 3 only.

Students benefiting from a DaDA initial Award may apply for a Career Development Loan (CDL) to cover their maintenance costs and/or the student fee contribution. When applying for a CDL, the applicant must be able to prove that the CDL money they apply for will not be used to fund something that is already funded by the DaDA.

Marketing and support materials

The following marketing and support materials are available for the Dance and Drama Awards in 2008/09. The marketing and support materials change each year and we ask providers to remove old stock and replace with new stock as soon as possible each year. In order to ensure you have the most recent materials, please check the website www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/moneytolearn

- Dance and Drama Booklet – aimed at the learner to provide information about the scheme and how to apply (ref: LSC-DD1)
- Exits and Entrances Students’ Stories – booklet that documents students’ exit from training and entrance into professional work
- Financial Help for Young People – A small booklet giving outline information about the financial help available to young people in learning (ref no LSC-P-NAT-070158)
- Financial Help for Adults – A small booklet giving outline information about the financial help available to adults (19+) in learning (ref no LSC-P-NAT-070147).

The Dance and Drama Booklet and Exits and Entrances Students’ Stories can be viewed and downloaded form the LSC website at http://danceanddrama.lsc.gov.uk/publications/dadpublications/. Printed copies of the Dance and Drama Booklet and Financial Help for Young People and Adults booklets can be ordered by contacting LSC Publications as follows Please quote the relevant reference number when ordering.

LSC Publications
PO Box 5050
Sherwood Park
Annesley
Nottingham
NG15 0DJ

Phone: 0845 602 2260
Fax: 0845 603 3360
Minicom: 0845 603 3360
Email: lsc@prolog.uk.com

Audit requirements

Audit requirements not applicable for the purposes of this information sheet. Details of audit requirements are issued to DaDA providers.
Sources of Further Information

DaDA website: www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama

Provider Helpline number: 0845 600 7979
Learner Helpline number: 0800 121 8989
Helpline email address: DaDa@liberata.com

The Council for Dance Education and Training (CDET) and the National Council for Drama Training (NCDT) also have some information on organisations which may be able to offer funding for vocational courses.

CDET
Telephone number: 0207 240 5703
Email: info@cdet.org.uk

NCDT
Telephone number: 0207 387 3650
Email: info@ncdt.co.uk