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Education After Brain Injury

If you are planning to undertake a further or higher education course, this can be both an exciting and a daunting prospect. The right information and support can help to make this process as easy and rewarding as possible.

It is worth remembering that the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (amended in 2001) makes it unlawful for an education provider to treat a person with a disability less favourably, and they must make 'reasonable adjustments' to accommodate them.

Information & advice organisations

- **Skill: National bureau for students with disabilities**
A UK-wide charity promoting opportunities for young people and adults with any kind of disability in post-16 education, training and employment.
Tel: 0800 328 5050 Web: www.skill.org.uk
- **LearnDirect**
Free and impartial advice on courses, free personal careers advice. Run a network of local centres.
Tel: 0800 101 901
Web: www.learndirect.co.uk or www.learndirectscotland.com
- **Mainstream course providers**
Many courses are now available for students with disabilities in mainstream further education colleges. Details of local colleges can be found in the local telephone directory.
- **Independent specialist colleges**
The COPE directory contains details of many specialist residential colleges who cater for people with special educational needs and disabilities. It is available from:
Lifetime Careers (Wiltshire) Ltd
Trowbridge
BH14 0XA
Tel: 01225 716000
- **Direct.gov**
Extensive information on education for children and adults with disabilities.
Web: www.direct.gov.uk/DisabledPeople/EducationAndTraining

7 King Edward Court
King Edward Street
Nottingham
NG1 1EW

Helpline: 0808 800 2244
Minicom: 0115 958 7825
Email: helpline@headway.org.uk
Website: www.headway.org.uk

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Funding for education

Money matters are likely to be a primary concern for many potential students, not least those who have disabilities, and who may be claiming benefits and need practical help to aid study. Information and advice on funding for education can be sought from a variety of sources including:

- **Your Local Education Authority (LEA) or Student Awards Agency in Scotland (SAAS)**
LEAs/ SAASs are the awarding bodies for various allowances, in addition to the standard tuition fee support and loan entitlement for higher education students.
- **The Educational Grants Advisory Service (EGAS)**
A UK wide service with a focus on those who are disadvantaged, providing advice and information on sources of funding available for post 16 education and training.
Tel: 020 7254 6251 Web: www.egas-online.org
- **Student services/ Student welfare advisors at college or university**
Learner Support and Access funds are available from colleges and universities to students on further and higher education courses. Institutions set their own criteria for funding within the national framework.
- **Skill: National bureau for students with disabilities**
A national charity promoting opportunities for young people and adults with any kind of disability in post-16 education, training and employment, across the UK.
Tel: 0800 328 5050 Web: www.skill.org.uk
- **LearnDirect**
Free and impartial advice on over 900,000 courses, as well as free tailored careers advice. A network of local centers provides face-to-face advice.
Tel: 0800 101 901 Web: www.learndirect.co.uk or www.learndirectscotland.com
- **The Educational Grants Directory**
By Alan French, Dave Griffiths, Tom Traynor & Sarah Wiggins.
This guide to local and national charities that support students in need is available from the Directory for Social Change at a price of £20.95.
Tel: 0207 209 5151 Web: www.dsc.org.uk

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Further Information

If you would like to discuss any of the issues covered here, or any other aspects of brain injury, please call our free, confidential helpline on 0808 800 2244. Alternatively, you can email us on helpline@headway.org.uk.

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