



About the Forestry Training Fund

The Forestry Commission's new fund was launched in February 2023 and covers training costs for short, practical forestry courses. Funding is available for people considering **a change of career or seeking to build and diversify their skills** in forestry and who want to undertake a forestry-related training course.

Offering **100% funding** for eligible courses and expect grants to be in the range of £150-£3,000. Funding paid directly to the training provider.

Over £700,000 has been allocated by Defra and Forestry Commission, via the government's Nature for Climate Fund, to support applicants in their journey either starting or developing a career in forestry.

The Forestry Training Fund is part of the Nature for Climate Fund, part of which will kick-start a step-change in tree planting in England. This will help us achieve our commitment of increasing and protecting our biodiversity by providing habitat connectivity, as well as capturing carbon as part of the pathway to net zero emissions by 2050.

What types of courses qualify for funding?



- Courses available include teaching specific skills like coppicing and chainsaw maintenance, and broader learning on managing your woodland; planning and planting a new woodland; marketing and selling timber; fencing and hedge laying.
- You may request courses that are not on the suggested list of courses and we will assess suitability of the course and provider.
- There is no limit - applications for funding to cover training courses can be made multiple times as long as it can be demonstrated that individual courses are developing a person's career.



Find out if you are eligible

The Forestry Commission welcomed applications from:

- people who would like to take a step towards a career in forestry
- people currently working in other land-based sectors (such as agriculture) who would like to broaden their skill base
- people wanting to switch careers and need to develop skills to get them started
- people currently working in forestry who would like to develop their skills

Funding is available to those applicants who work and operate in England.



When is the deadline to apply for funding?

Demand for the Forestry Training Fund Grant has been extremely high. All available funding for training courses to be undertaken prior to 31st March 2024 is now fully allocated.

Please therefore ensure that you are requesting grant funding for training to be undertaken from 1st April 2024 onwards otherwise the FC will not be able to support your request for grant funding and your application will be rejected.



How to apply

Simply visit [Forestry Training Fund portal](#), fill in an application form giving details of the course you would like to undertake and with which training provider, and if successful, course fees will be covered and paid directly to the training provider.

Details of eligible courses and training providers can be found at [Forestry Training Fund portal](#).

Investing in Land Based Skills



- brings new entrants into the land-based sector
- encourages entrepreneurs to gain industry recognised qualifications without requiring prior experience
- provides fundamental skills for managing green spaces and facilitates civic pride
- supports Wiltshire's local economy by ensuring existing land-based businesses are fit for the future
- delivers qualifications for plant and machinery operators, boosting productivity



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