



## Career Colleges Funding and Fees

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Career Colleges increase the range and choice of education opportunities open to 14–19-year-olds, to improve their employment prospects. They provide accelerated vocationally-focused programmes of study at colleges equipped to the highest standards and are staffed by expert teachers, supported by employers.

They:

- Are established by employers and Further Education colleges
- Specialise in subjects linked directly to sectors with exceptional job prospects
- Partner with employers to design and deliver the curriculum and work experience
- Ensure employers represent a minimum of 40% of career college board members
- Offer 14 to 19 provision, with progression to Apprenticeships, higher education and employment
- Ensure academic rigour and include core National Curriculum education in tandem with skills-based learning.

Against a background of high youth unemployment, the over-arching target is that every young person leaving a Career College, whether at 16 or 18, will be in work, training or education. 

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## Who funds them? Are they profit-making ventures?

Career Colleges are run by FE colleges and learners are funded through the usual public funding mechanisms available for 14 to 19-year-olds. Any surplus produced is used to reinvest in the education and training mission of the Career College Trust, which operates as a charity serving young people.

## How much is each college paying to become a Career College? What is the minimum fee?

There is no minimum or 'set' fee. When we launched last year, the Trust considered a fixed fee, for transparency, but this was not well received by prospective Career Colleges, who all pointed out that they had different requirements, served different sectors and therefore had different needs. We have therefore developed a bespoke service, tailored to the needs of each individual Career College.

We work through a due diligence audit and business plan with each prospective Career College sponsor to determine requirements and use this as the basis to agree fee structure.

The Career Colleges charitable Trust is funded through donations from the Trustees and Chairman, Luke Johnson, together with the agreed cost contributions from each Career College.

## What do they get for their money?

The Career Colleges Trust provides a range of specialist services and support to operating and prospective Career Colleges. These include:

- A clear, nationally known and respected brand understood by parents, employers and other colleges/learning providers
- A team of industry experts and specialists to support all areas of the College's offering – ensuring standards are maintained
- Support to source and ensure strong employer engagement
- PR/Marketing support to raise national and regional awareness of the Career Colleges brand
- Support FE Colleges with policy and statutory requirements when introducing 14–16-year-olds for the first time. This includes support with Maths and English for staff and learners
- Helping Colleges access grants and financial investment via our relationships with LEPs and other expertise in securing additional funds
- A wealth of teaching and learning resources, best practice guidance and communication and support tools via our industry standard online Portal – plus R&D into best uses of technology to improve learning and learner engagement
- Full details of the Trust's franchise offer can be found on our website [www.careercolleges.org.uk](http://www.careercolleges.org.uk) and in Fact Sheet 5: Career Colleges Trust Services.



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