

# Multiply

## Grant Application Specification

## Introduction

Multiply is the Government's new £570 million numeracy programme delivered through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Multiply funding is being distributed to the Greater London Authority, all Mayoral Combined Authorities, and upper tier / unitary authorities. There are 3 main strands:

- Local approach - Enable local areas to deliver bespoke adult numeracy interventions;
- Digital Platform - A new national online platform that offers free digital training. Acts as a 'front door' and flexibility to learn at own pace and place.
- Evaluation - Build the evidence base on 'what works' in improving functional adult numeracy.

Cumbria has been allocated £2.3m across the next three years, broken down as follows:

- 2022/23 - £703,340
- 2023/24 - £811,546
- 2024/25 - £811,546

## Background

Multiply has been developed in response to the following statements and needs:

- 17 million adults in England (half of the working-age population) have the numeracy skills of primary school children.
- People who improve their numeracy skills are more likely to be in employment, have higher wages, and better wellbeing.
- Improved numeracy matters to businesses by helping boost productivity and improve employee retention.
- Need to raise awareness on the importance of good numeracy for getting on in life.
- Need to de-mystify maths by putting it into everyday, relatable contexts, and help boost adults' confidence with numbers and make training more accessible.
- Need to enable providers to deliver courses that better fit around the needs of adults.

## Overarching Success Measures

The overall objective of Multiply is to increase the levels of functional numeracy in the adult population across the UK. DfE have identified the following success measures for the whole programme at a national level:

- More adults achieving maths qualifications courses (up to, and including, Level 2 – with GCSEs and FSQs as the qualifications of choice in England – or equivalent) and an increase in participation in numeracy courses. We expect local areas to evidence improvements in functional numeracy, rather than solely participation in Multiply interventions.
- Improved labour market outcomes e.g. fewer numeracy skills gaps reported by employers, and an increase in the proportion of adults that progress into sustained employment and / or education.
- Increased adult numeracy across the population – this overall impact, which goes beyond achieving certificates or qualifications, will track both the perceived and actual difference taking part in the programme makes in supporting learners to improve their understanding and use of maths in their daily lives, at home and at work - and to feel more confident when doing so.

Overarching success measures will be put in place to ensure that more adults achieve maths qualifications up to, and including, Level 2 and an increase in the participation on numeracy courses. There will be improved labour market outcomes and increased adult numeracy across the population.

## Services Required

Cumbria County Council is looking to develop a range of partnerships with organisations to deliver high quality, innovative numeracy interventions that meet the needs of local people and the national aims for Multiply. Some of these interventions will lead to attainment of a qualification, but non-qualification provision should also be developed where more appropriate.

DfE have published a menu of 10 intervention types which can be drawn down from. The aim is for partners to choose a mix of interventions that best suits the needs of each area or the specific target groups. These interventions should be for adults aged 19 and over. This menu is based on the growing evidence base on the barriers that hold people back from addressing their numeracy skills and what works in tackling poor adult numeracy.

Please note that interventions delivered with Multiply funding need to be additional and differentiated from that which is already fully funded through the Adult Education Budget (AEB) legal entitlement and should not displace that provision.

Most of the provision is expected to be focussed on face-to-face teaching or a programme of blended learning. However, we will consider eLearning or virtual classroom programmes where the digital skills and knowledge of the target group are appropriately assessed.

The following is a list of the interventions. Further details are available in the [DfE Multiply Investment Prospectus](#).

1. Courses designed to increase confidence with numbers for those needing the first steps towards formal numeracy qualifications.
2. Courses designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money.
3. Innovative numeracy programmes delivered together with employers – including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace.
4. Courses aimed at people who can't apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in numeracy order to access a certain job/career.
5. New intensive and flexible numeracy courses targeted at people without Level 2 maths, leading to a Functional Skills Qualification.
6. Courses for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression.
7. Numeracy courses aimed at prisoners, those recently released from prison or on temporary licence.
8. Numeracy courses aimed at those 19 or over that are leaving, or have just left, the care system.
9. Numeracy activities, courses or provision developed in partnership with community organisations and other partners aimed at engaging the hardest to reach learners – for example, those not in the labour market or other groups identified locally as in need.
10. Additional relevant maths modules embedded into other vocational courses.

Cumbria County Council are inviting grant applications from partners to fund delivery of provision in line with the interventions listed above for the 2022/23 Financial year. There will be further grant application processes put in place for subsequent years over the length of the programme:

- 2023/24
- 2024/25

Please refer to [DfE Multiply Investment Prospectus](#) for further details of the provision we are looking to support.

## Value of Grant

The total amount available for 2022/23 is £703,340. There will be no limit to the maximum amount of grant applications. However, individual delivery volumes and values may be moderated and adjusted to ensure a fair distribution of funding across a diverse mix of partners. Should this occur, the grant allocation will be clearly communicated during the 'grant offer' stage of the process. Partners will be able to accept or refuse the offer.

Please be aware that, once the programme commences, if insufficient provision has taken place to meet the Terms of the Grant, then Cumbria County Council will expect all or proportions of funding to be returned. This will all be outlined in our Terms of Grant which will be issued to successful grant applicants.

### **Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment**

Partners must use Recognising and Recording Progress and Achievement (RARPA) throughout each programme. Provision will be monitored through a range of light touch quality assurance measures to ensure this is taking place.

Quality monitoring visits may be carried out at any time to ensure delivery is robust and targets are being met. Visits may include:

- Observation of Teaching, Learning & Assessment (OTLA)
- Learning Walks

Organisations are expected to fully cooperate with these visits including allowing access to any learners, premises or information relating to the Multiply provision.

There is a range of documentation that organisations must complete during the programme. Organisation can use their own course documentation where applicable, but we will provide standard templates and guidance for all required documentation for use.

For each learner this includes:

- Assessment and Enrolment form which is fully completed and meets eligibility requirements.
- Scheme of Work (SOW)
- Lesson Plan
- Learner induction checklist
- Individual Progress Review (IPR)
- Register which records all taught sessions, any Information, Advice and Guidance given, and a record of pastoral support.
- Each partner will be required to provide information that pertains to the following:
  - Learner satisfaction
  - Progression

During the programme CCC will carry out a series of programme monitoring reviews which will include:

- Delivery against planned provision
- Use of funding
- Outcomes for learners
- Quality of teaching, learning and assessment

### **Partner Eligibility**

Through this round of funding, the Multiply Grant is targeted at eligible partners to deliver Multiply interventions to individuals aged 19+ who do not have a L2 maths/numeracy qualification.

To be an eligible applicant for Multiply in Cumbria your organisation must satisfy the following criteria:

- Fit into one of the following partner categories (with a United Kingdom Provider Reference Number):
  - Further Education College
  - Independent Training Provider
  - Community Development Centre
  - Third Sector Organisation
  - Employability Support Organisation
- Have a delivery base in Cumbria or have alternative facilities to target and deliver provision to Cumbrian residents. Online provision is an accepted method of delivery. However, this must be part of a blended digital offer including virtual classroom, access to a tutor, learning and additional support.
- Have up to date policies and procedures that are relevant and adhere to the current legislative requirements for Equality and Diversity, Health and Safety and Safeguarding and Prevent.
- Have clear experience of delivering skills support to the target groups identified in the [DfE Multiply Investment Prospectus](#).
- Engage with the quality requirements of OFSTEDs Education Inspection Framework.

### **Completion of the Grant Application**

Please complete the Grant Application included on the [CCC Multiply Webpage](#). We will inform applicants when the next round of evaluations will take place.

Please ensure that all information on the application form is correct. If your bid is successful, this will form the basis of the Grant Terms of Agreement. Should any information be submitted that is then deemed inaccurate, any agreement in place will be terminated and all funds returned to Cumbria County Council with immediate effect.

Please use the Multiply Funding Calculator (included on the [CCC Multiply Webpage](#)) to calculate the value of the planned provision. The sum of this will form the overall grant funding applied for. Potential partners offering online provision should use the appropriate funding calculator.

All grant applications will be evaluated and scored against each question. The total score achievable is 100. In order to be offered a grant, organisations must score at least 80.

Grants will be awarded to successful organisations to engage with participants who fit into the target groups identified in the [DfE Multiply Investment Prospectus](#).

Funding will be allocated in the following way to the highest scoring organisations. Priority will be given according to the following criteria:

- Provision aimed at targeting individuals in the groups identified in [DfE Multiply Investment Prospectus](#).
- The score achieved on the application.
- The requirement to achieve an equitable distribution of funds across Cumbria to a diverse mix of delivery partners.

You must submit your application form to [adultlearningsupport@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:adultlearningsupport@cumbria.gov.uk). This MUST be in a Word document. Please do not send application forms in any other format. There will be a reply sent to you as

confirmation of receipt. All applications must be sent via email. Applications sent by any other method will not be accepted.

Notification of successful and unsuccessful applications (including confirmation of values) will be sent by email shortly after bids have been evaluated.

**State Aid** - You must also submit the State Aid Declaration form. Nil returns must also be submitted. Notification

You will receive confirmation via email detailing the outcome of your application. The decisions of the Multiply Grant selection panel will be final. Unsuccessful applications will be given feedback on request.

### **Management Information System (MIS) and Data Requirements**

The Individualised Learner Record (ILR) will be used to collect core monitoring information about each learner and any intervention relating to them. This will be reported monthly by Cumbria County Council following the Education and Skills Funding Agency ILR process.

Delivery partners must provide relevant monthly enrolment, in-learning and completion data to CCC by one of the following means.

- Submission of a Multiply ILR in a suitable file format that can be merged into the CCC system.
- Submission of Multiply enrolment, in-learning and completion documentation to CCC to be inputted by Multiply central data administrators.

Further details on the data expected to be returned can be found at Annex A of the [Multiply Technical Guidance](#).