



Community Brokerage Award (GL 6804) Information Pack

What is Community Brokerage?

Community Brokerage describes a model which builds the capacity of individuals to live independently in their own community, building on their strengths and using resources like self-directed support to help them do this.

What does the award cover?

The Community Brokerage award is a customised SQA award worth 30 credits at SCQF level 7. It has been designed to cover all aspects of community brokerage in relation to self-directed support and is broken down into 5 units:

- Describing self-directed support
- Exploring models of brokerage
- Implementing choice and control with self-directed support
- Supporting people with support planning
- Community development and community brokerage

How will you learn?

Before the start of each unit, you will be provided with a reading list. You will then attend two or three days of group learning in a central location to suit the group. Following this, you will be able to access learning materials online through the virtual learning portal. There are thirteen learning days altogether across the five units.

How will you be assessed?

Each unit contains a number of assessment activities. These include written assignments, case studies and some practical activities that will take place as part of the learning days. The written assignments have a word count of about 3,000-4,000 words per unit. After you have submitted the assignments for each unit, you will receive feedback from your tutor. If you haven't fully met the criteria needed to achieve an assignment, you will receive support and have a chance to re-submit it.

How will we support you?

All prospective candidates will be invited for interview before being offered a place on the course. This will be a chance to talk through any support needs you may have and help us to put a plan in place to support both your learning and assessment. We will review the plan with you as the course progresses. Each candidate will be able to access an hour of 1-1

support from the tutor for each unit which will take place as a combination of face-to face support as part of the learning days and either via skype or a phone call. The tutors will also be available throughout the course to offer support online. You can also expect peer support as the group will learn together and support each other.

How long will it take?

The course lasts for six months. Learning days and assessments will take place at regular intervals throughout this period. It is expected that you will commit to an average of ten hours of learning per week for the duration of the course. About three-quarters of this will be spent on independent study. If you have any concerns about meeting deadlines, your tutor will be able to discuss options with you.

How do you apply?

You will be asked to complete a short application form including a personal statement about why you want to participate in the award. Applicants will then be selected to attend an interview before successful applicants are offered a place on the course. We will expect you to have some paid or voluntary experience of the care sector/ self-directed support.

How much does it cost?

The course costs £2,150. This includes certification and lunch and refreshments on learning days. Your employer may be able to contribute to the cost of the course or release you from work to attend the learning days. Community Brokerage Network are registered with SAAS (Student Awards Agency Scotland) and the award is eligible for their part-time grant funding. This could contribute £301 towards the course fees if you meet their criteria for eligibility. You can find out more at http://saas.gov.uk/part_time/ug/index.htm.

What resources will you need?

You will require access to the internet. All the course's resources will be made available online. If you don't currently have internet access we can discuss other options for accessing the resources.

What difference will it make to you in completing this course?

This course is aimed at giving you:

- **Knowledge** of a whole range of topics which will better equip you in your role of empowering people to make choices in how they live their lives
- **Skills** which will help you in active listening and developing strong connections with individuals and communities
- Most importantly the course aims to give you the **confidence** to use your new knowledge and skills in your current role