# About the Bursary Scheme

Mountain Training Scotland (MTS) annually offers a limited number of bursaries to support candidates wishing to undertake a Mountain Training personal skills training course (for individual candidates only) , or training or assessment (including a re-assessment) course in one of the Mountain Training qualification schemes provided by Mountain Training Scotland (see [Appendix 1](#_Appendix 2_–_MTS-approved)) via one of its approved providers (see [Appendix 2](#_Appendix 2_–_MTS-approved)) for whom both the personal financial constraints may be a barrier to participation and whose participation may promote MTS’s commitment to diversity, equity, equality and inclusion (see [Appendix 3](#_Appendix 3_–_MTS’s)).

MTS would like to acknowledge the generous financial support from the Cairngorm Club that helps support bursary awards to applicants. Based in Aberdeen, the Cairngorm Club was founded in 1887 and is the oldest and one of the largest hillwalking and climbing clubs in Scotland.

# Funding Available

Funding is available up to a maximum of £600 for the Mountain Training course fees ONLY (Please note the bursary does NOT cover scheme costs such registration fees, first aid course, travel/accommodation, purchasing equipment etc) and must be claimed within 6 months of the Bursary being awarded.

**Eligibility Criteria for Bursary Consideration**

Independent candidate

To qualify for a bursary, a candidate should be able to demonstrate:

1. an indication of the personal financial constraints which prevent them from participating on the course.
2. their commitment to encouraging wider participation in walking and climbing activities from their community. This may be either through their own circumstance or through a clear intention to either work towards gaining a Mountain Training qualification OR use their Mountain Training qualification to facilitate participation in walking and climbing activities by others in their community (as part of this you will be asked to provide a reference from a referee who is not a spouse, partner or close family member to vouch for and support the above) see [Appendix 3](#_Appendix 3_–_MTS’s).
3. that they have fulfilled all the stated experience prerequisites for attending the skills training, OR training or assessment course as prescribed by Mountain Training; OR they have completed their Mountain Training skills training or qualification course (see [Appendix 1](#_Appendix 1_–_Eligible)) run by a Mountain Training Scotland approved Provider (see [Appendix 2](#_Appendix 2_–_MTS-approved)) and submitted a bursary application within four weeks from the end date of the course.
4. that they have a commitment to the relevant activity through their own personal background and experience.
5. that they have registered for the relevant qualification scheme.
6. that they are old enough to register on the Mountain Training scheme of their choice and resident in Scotland at the time of application and the relevant course.
7. That their Mountain Training course is one of those provided by Mountain Training Scotland and will be delivered by a Mountain Training Scotland approved Provider.

# Application Process

1. Applications must be using this form. A Reference is required to support the application from an independent referee who can vouch for the applicant’s commitment to encouraging wider participation in climbing and or hill and mountain walking from their community. Please note referees cannot be a spouse, partner, or close family member.
2. The applicant’s Mountain Training course they are applying for a bursary for, MUST be one of those administered by MTS AND undertaken and completed with an MTS approved Provider. This includes retrospective applications.
3. Retrospective applications for Mountain Training qualification courses completed will be considered if an application is submitted within four weeks from the end of the course and the course meets the criteria noted in Section 2 above.
4. All applications will be considered as soon as is reasonably possible by the designated Board Member + one other Board Member of Mountain Training Scotland and the outcome will be communicated formally to the applicant by a nominated MTS Board Director (usually the Treasurer). This may take up to four weeks.
5. Appeals will be considered by the MTS Board of Directors at the next Board Meeting and their decision shall be final. This will be in accordance with the MTS Complaints Policy.
6. The candidate or charity must pay for course fees initially and claim the amount awarded within 6 months of the bursary award being made. Payment will be made via BACs after confirmation by MTS with the Course Provider of attendance and completion (in assessments the candidate only has to complete the course irrespective of the result). In case of difficulty in this respect, please contact MTS.
7. Candidates may apply for different schemes but no more than one bursary per course, and no more than one bursary award per calendar year.

# Application Form

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| **SECTION 1** | |
| **Your full name** |  |
| **Your Mountain Training Registration Number** |  |
| **Your email address** |  |
| **Please explain why you have applied for this Bursary**  **(see** **[Diversity and Eligibility sections](#Conditions) below)** |  |
| **Please indicate how you may use your qualification; especially in relation to MTS’s commitment to Diversity**  **(see** [**Diversity and Eligibility sections**](#Conditions) **below)** |  |

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| **SECTION 2** | |
| **THE COURSE – please tick to indicate the course for which you are applying for funding** | |
| **Lowland Leader Award Training** |  |
| **Lowland Leader Award Assessment** |  |
| **Hill and Moorland Leader Award Training** |  |
| **Hill and Moorland Leader Award Assessment** |  |
| **Camping Leader** |  |
| **Mountain Leader Award Training** |  |
| **Mountain Leader Award Assessment** |  |
| **Winter Mountain Leader Training** |  |
| **Winter Mountain Leader Assessment** |  |
| **Indoor Climbing Assistant** |  |
| **Bouldering Wall Instructor Training** |  |
| **Bouldering Wall Instructor Assessment** |  |
| **Climbing Wall Instructor Training** |  |
| **Climbing Wall Instructor Assessment** |  |
| **Climbing wall Instructor Abseil and Top Roping Module Training** |  |
| **Climbing wall Instructor Abseil and Top Roping Module Assessment** |  |
| **Climbing Wall Development Instructor Training** |  |
| **Climbing Wall Development Instructor Assessment** |  |
| **Rock Climbing Instructor Training** |  |
| **Rock Climbing Instructor Assessment** |  |
| **Rock Climbing Development Instructor Training** |  |
| **Rock Climbing Development Instructor Assessment** |  |
| **Any scheme re-assessment** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SECTION 3** | |
| **When (Date or month would suffice) do you anticipate undertaking your course?** |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **SECTION 4** | |
| **Are you confident to speak, read and write English? *A reasonable level is necessary for the safety requirements of this course*.** |  |
| **Do you have appropriate equipment to attend the course?** |  |
| **Do you have any other additional needs?** |  |

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| **SECTION 5** | |
| **Please provide a reference from a referee who can vouch for your commitment to encouraging wider participation in climbing and or hill and mountain walking from your community.** *Please note referee(s) should be supportive of any or all the following: financial situation, activity background or intended use of the qualification; and cannot be a spouse, partner, or close family member.* | |
| **Full name** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Contact Telephone number** |  |
| **Occupation** |  |
| **What is your relationship to the applicant?** |  |
| **Please give us your view on the applicant’s suitability to receive support to attend a Mountain Training Award course, and for this bursary.**  **(Continue on separate sheet if needed)** |  |

**Please tick the relevant boxes to confirm:**

I have provided an indication of the personal financial constraints which prevent them from participating on the course.

I have indicated my commitment to encouraging wider participation in walking and climbing activities from my community.

I fulfil all the stated experience prerequisites for attending the skills training, OR training or assessment course as prescribed by Mountain Training;

I have a commitment to the relevant activity through their own personal background and experience.

I have registered for the relevant qualification scheme.

I am old enough to register on my chosen Mountain Training scheme and resident in Scotland at the time of application and the relevant course.

My Mountain Training course is one of those provided by Mountain Training Scotland and will be delivered by a Mountain Training Scotland approved Provider.

**Please only tick the box below if applying for a bursary retrospectively**

I have completed their Mountain Training skills training or qualification course (see [Appendix 1](#_Appendix_1)) run by a Mountain Training Scotland approved Provider ([see Appendix 2](#_Appendix_2)) and submitted a bursary application within four weeks from the end date of the course.

Signed:

Date:

Please email this completed form to[**scotland@mountain-training.org**](mailto:scotland@mountain-training.org)

# If you have difficulty using this form, please contact Mountain Training Scotland via [scotland@mountain-training.org](mailto:scotland@mountain-training.org) or call Mountain Training Customer Services team on 01690720272.

# Appendix 1 – Eligible Mountain Training schemes

Personal Skills Training Schemes

Rock Skills

* Introductory Rock Skills
* Intermediate Rock Skills
* Learn to Lead Sport Climbs
* Learn to Lead Trad Climbs

Hill & Mountain Skills

* Hill Skills
* Mountain Skills

Qualification Schemes

* Camping Leader
* Lowland Leader
* Hill and Moorland Leader
* Mountain Leader
* Winter Mountain Leader
* Indoor Climbing Assistant
* Bouldering Wall Instructor
* Climbing Wall Instructor (including Abseil and Top‑roping Module)
* Climbing Wall Development Instructor
* Rock Climbing Instructor
* Rock Climbing Development Instructor

**Appendix 2 – MTS‑approved providers (30 May 2025)**

Abacus Mountain Guides  
Ancrum Outdoor Centre  
Aspect Mountaineering  
Aspen Outdoors Ltd  
Avertical World  
City of Edinburgh Council  
Climb Torridon Ltd  
ClimbScotland  
Dolphin House Outdoor Education Centre  
ELC Outdoor Learning  
Fiona Chappell  
Glasgow City Council Education Services (DofE Glasgow)  
Glenalmond College  
Glenmore Lodge – Scotland’s National Mountain Centre  
Gordonstoun  
Alan Halewood (Climb When You’re Ready)  
Hillgoers  
John Jackson (Falkirk Council)  
Kieran Thompson  
Lochore Meadows Outdoor Education Centre  
Mary Matthews  
Mehmet Karatay  
Nic Crawshaw (EICA Ratho)  
Outdoor Pursuits Scotland  
Outdoor Resource Base  
Peak Adventures  
Pete Hill WMCI  
Plas y Brenin – National Outdoor Centre (Winter Mountain Leader only)  
Richard Bentley MIC  
Samantha Leary / Leading Edge (Winter Mountain Leader only)  
Scotch on the Rocks Guiding  
Scout Adventures Lochgoilhead  
Cliff Smith (City of Edinburgh Council)  
Stuart Ritchie (Outlook Adventures Scotland Ltd)  
The Ledge  
Thom Humphrey (I See Adventure)  
Way of the Wild  
Young Persons’ Services – East Renfrewshire Council

**Appendix 3 – MTS’s core diversity, equity, equality and inclusion aims**

MTS is fully committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment in walking, climbing and mountaineering. Our core aims include:

* Identify and seek to address the challenges facing candidates accessing and completing a Mountain Training qualification.
* promote greater diversity of participation in walking, climbing and mountaineering related activities.
* Ensure and develop accessibility and access to all Mountain Training awards for candidates based on ‘reasonable adjustments’.
* Support the Mountain Training Association in providing accessible and low-cost opportunities in Scotland for candidates both pre- and post-qualification.
* Develop links between leadership and safe participation, and other relevant agendas including education, health and wellbeing.
* Support the needs of youth and community workers, and young adults via Mountain Training Scotland courses, training, resources, expertise and networks.