

VocTech Now - FE Extension

Open for applications	Wednesday 22 April 2020
Webinar for applicants	Friday 24 April, 10 am – register here
Deadline for applications	Wednesday 29 th April 2000, 4pm
Decisions published	Thursday 7 th May 2020

Ufi mission

Ufi supports the development of digital technologies that help us all obtain the vocational skills we need to get more out of our working lives. We do this by:

- Providing funding, expertise and commitment to innovators in vocational technology (VocTech).
- Building an active VocTech community of educators, developers, designers, employers, investors and policy makers – sparking discussion and debate amongst them.
- Using our funding to catalyse change in attitude, focus and investment in VocTech in the UK.

What is VocTech Now?

VocTech Now is part of Ufi's response to support the vocational learning sector in the UK during the Covid-19 pandemic.

VocTech Now is a targeted grant call to accelerate the use of VocTech tools to enable those in work or training to continue to engage with their vocational learning programmes during this period of travel disruption.

These are small grants of between £10k and £25k to support vocational learning providers to rapidly transition to remote teaching and training and deliver accessible learning at a time of significant change.

Why has Ufi decided to do a VocTech Now - FE Extension?

Reviewing the many hundreds of applications that we received gave us the opportunity to reflect on ways that we could use our resources to support the vocational learning community even further. We know that there is a particular set of challenges facing FE colleges and we concluded that we should ringfence a set of grants specifically for FE.

We know that not all FE colleges felt that they were eligible for VocTech Now, we want to be clear that all FE colleges are eligible to apply for this extension.

What will Ufi Fund?

The detailed guidance for VocTech Now FE Extension can be [found here](#).

Ufi funding can be used to fund the staff time, contractors, suppliers and resources need to take the idea to a position where it can operate, and continue to scale, when Ufi funding ends.

Funding can be used for:

- The adoption or implementation of existing VocTech tools and techniques e.g. Learning Management Systems (LMS) – *our normal calls focus on the development of new ideas. This call is about immediate take-up of solutions that are available in the market.*
- Costs associated with transforming content to be suitable for digital delivery
- Access to expert advice to design, develop and deliver high quality digital learning
- An appropriate level of equipment purchase, with a strong justification for the need for the capital spend
- Work virtually with users and / or customers to co-design and test solutions at scale
- A limited element of business development and strategies for sustainability
- Project management and reporting to Ufi, including evaluation and evidencing benefit

How do I apply?

To find out more about the criteria for the fund and how to apply please read [the fund guidance](#).

Please note we are looking for projects that can make an IMMEDIATE start. Please make sure you have read the [Ufi Standard Terms and Conditions](#) before applying, as these are non-negotiable.

What help is available to support my application?

You can attend a webinar on Friday 24th April 2020 at 1000 to hear more and ask any questions you might have. To register please [sign up here](#). You can email us with general questions about the fund on info@ufi.co.uk.

Why are you only accepting one application per FE College?

We have a limited number of grants on offer, so can only review one application per FE College. Please do not submit more than one application per FE college as we cannot guarantee they will be assessed and reviewed.

I am an FE college and I applied for VocTech Now, do I need to do anything ?

As an FE organisation that applied to VocTech Now we will consider your application as part of the funding call extension. Your application will then be assessed in line with applications received from other FE Colleges to ensure that all colleges have equal access to the funding.

In order for your application to be assessed as part of the VocTech Now FE extension you must re-submit your application via your MyUfi account **between Wednesday 22 April and Wednesday 29th April, 4pm.**

You can either

1. Review your existing application and SUBMIT it
or
2. Review your existing application, make tweaks and SUMBIT it
or
3. Create a new application and SUBMIT that

Please remember we will only accept ONE application per FE College. If you need help with your MyUfi account or submitting your application contact us on applicationqueries@ufi.co.uk.