

Grants of up to £250 are available for individuals who need financial support in order to meet the Childcare Commission's requirements of registration as a childminder.

West Lothian Early Years and Childcare Partnership wishes to encourage increased numbers of registered childminders in the West Lothian area. However they have recognised that in order to meet the requirements stipulated by the Care Commission, the costs associated with establishing a childminding business may deter a number of people who otherwise meet all the appropriate standards.

West Lothian Early Years and Childcare Partnership have joined up with Business Gateway West Lothian to ensure that all new childminding businesses get off to the best start possible.

This is ensured not only through the provision of a grant to support the purchase of necessary equipment, but also through training and advice to support the start and early stages of your new business.



Grant Eligibility Criteria

Anyone starting a registered childminding business in West Lothian is eligible to apply for a grant. However grants will only be paid in respect of the specific requirements laid down by the Care Commission following their inspection and detailed in their pre-registered letter of requirements.

All applicants must have completed the induction programme delivered by the Scottish Childminding Association and hold a certificate.

All applications must purchase the Scottish Childminding Association membership package (which includes Public Liability Insurance).

All applicants must have completed a business plan. Help is available from local Business Gateway advisers.

All applications must be supported by a local Business Gateway adviser.

Conditions of Grant

Applications will meet the eligibility criteria.

A grant will only be paid in respect of the specific requirements laid down by the Care Commission following their inspection and detailed in their pre-registration letter of requirements.

All grants must be applied for and approved prior to registration. Grants cannot be awarded after registration has taken place.

No item may be purchased prior to grant approval.

Receipts must be produced for all purchases which are approved for grant funding.

No amendments to the application can be made after approval.

Only one grant, to a maximum of £250, will be paid per registered applicant.

Useful Contacts

Business Gateway West Lothian

The Enterprise Centre
Almondvale Boulevard
Livingston
West Lothian
EH54 6QP

Tel 01506 777400
bgateway@westlothian.gov.uk
Text BIZ to 60777

Scottish Childminding Association West Lothian

Ruth Sherpa
Tel 01506 829933

Care Commission, South East Region

Tel 0845 600 8335

Business Gateway West Lothian services are delivered by the economic development service of West Lothian Council

Find out more about Business Gateway support at www.bgateway.com



Childminder's Business Start Up Grant

West Lothian Council delivers

