

How & Why

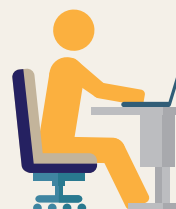
Union Learning Works



A surprising number of working people have no qualifications in English, Maths or IT.



Since 2002, trade unions and government have worked together to offer Essential Skills to these workers.



The Union Learning Fund has helped over 6,500 workers gain Essential Skills in Literacy, Numeracy or ICT. Thousands more have gained other qualifications.



Employers who encourage a smarter workforce have benefited from workers with improved performance, motivation and morale.



They have gained the skills to help their children read a book, do their homework or use the internet.



Many of these workers have gone on to further their education or have secured a promotion within their workplace.



Workplace based Union Learning has been proven to achieve affordable and accessible learning.



Union Learning has helped government meet their targets for improving skills levels in Northern Ireland.



Union Learning Works

That is why Union Learning works, for government, employers and workers. Read some inspiring stories overleaf...

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'The reason I wanted to do the course was because of my two teenage children who were both studying ICT at school. My eldest son was doing ICT for his GCSE. Having completed the course I was able to revise with my son and help out with his work towards his coursework. I would recommend this course to anyone as you don't realise how much you don't know about computers and the use it has in our everyday lives. My next step is to enrol for Essential Skills Maths in September and get as many of my colleagues to enrol with me.'

Pauline, USDAW & Tesco

'One of the guys in the Bank is a Union Learning Rep and he persuaded me to do the ICT Essential Skills course in IBOA, Belfast. I hadn't studied for a long time so I found it very challenging but am delighted that I completed it and got my City and Guilds qualification and certificate. I was using spreadsheets as part of my work but had a very limited knowledge, now I can create slick documents and can also help colleagues with applications such as Word and Excel.'

Catherine, IBOA & First Trust Bank

'I was interested in ICT and spoke with a Union Learning Rep to find what was on offer and if I could do a course. I enrolled and completed a level 2 ICT. I have since worked for Royal Mail as a casual and this has made me think about going back to further education to get higher grades in my Literacy and Numeracy. I now realise the only way to get a decent job is to have the core skills which employers are looking for.'

Joseph, CWU & Royal Mail

'To get this help has opened a new door for me. I can't thank UNITE enough for the help and support they have given me. My tutor Peter has not only given me tools to help, but self-belief. He encouraged me to put some of my ideas and passions for swimming into writing, which has been a success as I've helped people to get teaching and coaching awards in this sport.'

Fred, UNITE & NACCO Materials