

Access to Higher Education for Young Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Training session for practitioners

RSN's Access to Higher Education training for practitioners enables participants to:

- Grapple with the particular difficulties that young refugees and asylum seekers face in accessing, remaining and progressing in Higher Education
- Understand what different young people with a variety of immigration statuses are entitled to re: fee status, student finance, scholarships, grants and other forms of support
- Learn about the latest legal and policy developments affecting access to HE for young people in care
- Grow in ability to meet the support needs of young refugees and asylum seekers attempting to progress to university, including tips about advocating on their behalf with local authorities and universities
- Consider alternative progression routes and funding options for young people who are not eligible for home fee status/student finance
- Share best practice and practical information about how to help young people from asylum-seeking backgrounds to move forward

To date, we have trained 123 staff and student ambassadors from 40 universities, in addition to 15 support workers/practitioners from the refugee sector, social workers who support young asylum seekers, and teachers/careers advisors from schools and colleges.

This training is ideal for:

- University staff (especially Widening Participation and Admissions staff)
- Student ambassadors
- Social workers
- Teachers/careers advisors from schools and colleges
- Youth workers from refugee support organisations

RSN works closely with **Article 26** (Helena Kennedy Foundation) and **Coram Children's Legal Centre** whose guide, [Education for All](#), is equipping universities to fully support students from asylum seeking backgrounds.

"The training was excellent. It was particularly helpful to be given up-to-date advice about changes that have been made to funding eligibility." (Anna, Safeguarding Officer)

Over 90% of our trainees said that as a result of RSN's training their knowledge on immigration status and entitlements has increased substantially. They now feel confident in advising their students and signposting them to different organisations which can help meet their needs. Many have expressed that the information gained in the training has been invaluable in their day to day roles.

"Very informative and friendly workshop, facilitated in an informal yet professional manner. Trainers were very pleasant, genuine and knowledgeable regarding the designated subject matter." (Robert, College Counsellor)



Access to Higher Education training typically runs for 3-4 hours for about 15 people. In house training prices range from £500-£800 (plus travel for up to 2 trainers) for half a day. The content can be tailored to suit the particular learning needs of the group. RSN also runs training about further education, working with unaccompanied minors and supporting young refugees, asylum seekers and survivors of trafficking in education.

To discuss your training needs and how RSN can help, please contact Emily Bowerman on ebowerman@refugeesupportnetwork.org
For more information about RSN, visit www.refugeesupportnetwork.org