

Liverpool Community College

Office For Fair Access (OFFA) Agreement

Liverpool Community College Access Agreement (updated¹ July 2006)

(a) **Level of Fees**

- (i) The fee level for the courses listed below will be £3,000.00 for a learner for a full academic year.

B.A (Hons) Social Work

Foundation Degree (FdA) Early Years

Foundation Degree (FdA) Tourism²

Foundation Degree (FdA) Hospitality³

Foundation Degree (FdA) Fashion and Clothing Technology⁴

Certificate in Education (Post-compulsory)

Foundation Degree (FdA) Fine Art⁵

Foundation Degree (FdSc) Building Services Engineering⁶

¹ Titles added to College portfolio after first submission of the Access Agreement:

² Validated July 2005 (LJMU)

³ Validated July 2005 (LJMU)

⁴ Validated July 2005 (MMU)

⁵ Validated July 2006 (LHU)

⁶ Validated July 2006 (LJMU)

Where the above courses are delivered on a part-time basis, the fee will be pro-rata the £3,000.00.

- (ii) All other council (HEFCE) funded programmes e.g. Higher National Diplomas and certificates will have fees set at the standard rate i.e. £1,200.00 for full-time or pro-rata for part-time.

(b) Bursaries and other financial support for students to be provided from additional fee income:

- (i) The college gives a clear assurance that the minimum requirement for financial assistance (as set out in paragraph 40 of the guidance letter) will be met by an additional payment of £300.00 to all students who qualify for the full Higher Education Maintenance grant of £2,700.00. This information will be provided by the Student Loans Company and supported by their existing on-line eligibility checker.
- (ii) A further bursary (in addition to the above) will be paid to all eligible students of £1,200.00.
Eligibility will be based on one or more of the following factors:
 - (a) Means test with a family income threshold of £15,000.00/annum
 - (b) Deprivation based on postcode
 - (c) Single parent
 - (d) Participation from under represented groups

It is the college's intention that the cost of full-time education should not act as a barrier to those capable of benefiting from such an education and otherwise willing to engage to it.

- (iii) In addition to bursary payments, students will also be eligible for the following financial support:
 - Payment under the Access to Learning Fund. This will be used to offer hardship funds in cases of serious financial difficulty.

(c) Outreach Activities

The institution currently engages in a range of activities funded through Aim Higher which is targeted at principally students in the 14-21 age range.

The college also undertakes outreach activities within the local community through a range of outreach centres/community/drop in study centres.

The primary activity is to engage more learners who come within widening participation categories.

(d) Information on financial support available to students

Financial information will be made available to all prospective students considering whether to join courses coming under this agreement. Such information will be guided by the principles of accessibility, transparency and clarity.

Information will summarise the award and aggregate fee for the chosen course, the bursary arrangements, and other sources of financial support available to students. It will also identify the sources from which students can obtain both advice both within and outside the college regarding the general financial framework applying to students undertaking HE studies, so that they can establish the likely level of debt they will incur by the end of their studies. The college will provide a full range of financial advice to prospective and current students through its Student Services units.

During induction all students will receive information on student finances. All information relating to costs and means of support are available on the college website.

(e) Expenditure on access measures

The college will direct additional revenue to support access measures through bursary payments to students (84% of additional income will go towards bursaries).

(f) Institutional milestones and objectives

- The main objective is to enable students to access HE programmes at the college.
- Finance should not be a barrier to prospective students.
- The college wishes to maintain its current levels of participation from under-represented groups.

N.B. 79% of students are from deprived postcode areas.

Bernard Moore
Vice Principal
Resource Management