

Liverpool Community College

Office For Fair Access (OFFA) Agreement 2009/2010

Liverpool Community College Access Agreement (updated July 2008)

(a) Level of Fees

- (i) The fee level for the courses listed below will be £3,225.00 for a full academic year:

B.A (Hons) Social Work

Foundation Degree (FdA) Early Years (Senior Practitioner)

Foundation Degree (FdA) Tourism

Foundation Degree (FdA) Hospitality

Foundation Degree (FdA) Fashion and Clothing Technology

Diploma for Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector

Foundation Degree (FdA) Fine Art

Foundation Degree (FdSc) Building Services Engineering

Foundation Degree (FdA) Media Production

Foundation Degree (FdA) Digital Media Production

This fee level will also be applied to newly validated Foundation Degrees commencing in September 2009.

Where the above courses are delivered on a part-time basis, the fee will be a pro-rata rate of. £3,225.00.

- (ii) All other council (HEFCE) funded programmes e.g. Higher National Diplomas and Certificates will have fees set at the standard rate i.e. £1,285.00 for full-time and £156.00 per module for part-time. (This figure is subject to change on receipt of government guidance.)

(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 will be met.

This information will be provided by the Student Loans Company and supported by their existing on-line eligibility checker.

- (ii) New students who pay variable tuition fees and receive a full Maintenance/Special Support Grant will be eligible for a full HE Bursary of £1,200.00. (Applies to all students whose family income is up to £25,000)

New students who pay variable tuition fees and receive a partial Maintenance/Special Support Grant will be eligible for a partial HE Bursary of £300.00. (Applies to all students whose family income is between £25,001 and £60,005)

Existing students who received the full £1,500.00 HE Bursary in 2008/2009 will continue to receive this award if they remain eligible.

Existing students who received a partial HE Bursary of £400.00 in 2008/2009 will continue to receive this award if they remain eligible.

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 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 Learner 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.

**Brendan Ruane
Assistant Principal
Resource Management**