

University of Chichester

Access Agreement 2008/9

Tuition Fees Limits

The following fee levels apply to full-time students in the 2008-09 academic year except for those students who have commenced their course under the previous tuition fee policy (mainly students who commenced their studies prior to September 2006 or students who started in September 2006 but had registered for a gap year in 2005).

The University of Chichester will charge a standard fee of £3,145 for all BA, Bsc, PGCE (see below) and Foundation Degree Courses, apart from the exception detailed immediately below.

Fees for courses based on the Isle of Wight at either the Isle of Wight College or Platform One will be £2,305 PA.

Fees will be subject to inflationary increases over the period of any course. The inflationary increase will be based on figures published by the government each year. No other increases in fees will be made once a student has committed to undertaking a specified course of study. If students change course they will be charged the course fees relevant to their new course at the time that they transfer.

Part-time and other full-time courses

For information on part-time and full-time postgraduate taught or research courses please refer to the University's website: www.chiuni.ac.uk/applying/tuitionfees.cfm

Continuing students

Continuing students will remain on the fee regulations in place when they started their current course.

Continuing students are eligible to apply for a tuition fee loan up to the value of their assessed contribution.

PGCE Students

Fees for Full Time PGCE courses will be £3,145 regardless of whether enrolling immediately following a degree course or at a later stage. Students enrolling on a PGCE will, however, be entitled to a non-means tested maintenance grant of £1,260.

Bursaries

Bursaries will be awarded to:

Full-time students

- a) Any student who is in receipt of the full Higher Educational Maintenance Grant of £2,825 will receive a bursary of £1,050 PA (estimated at 41pc of Chichester's students).
- b) Students eligible for a partial maintenance grant (an estimated 20pc of students based on household incomes up to £49,305) will be entitled to a partial Bursary.

Household income of:	Estimated Percent of Students	Bursary Awarded
£0 - £25,000	41%	£1,050
£25,001 - £26,000	1%	£1,000
£26,001 - £27,000	1%	£950
£27,001 - £28,000	1%	£900
£28,001 - £29,000	1%	£850
£29,001 - £30,000	1%	£800
£30,001 - £31,000	1%	£750
£31,001 - £32,000	1%	£700
£32,001 - £33,000	1%	£650
£33,001 - £34,000	1%	£600
£34,001 - £35,000	1%	£550
£35,001 - £36,000	1%	£500
£36,001 - £37,000	1%	£450
£37,001 - £38,000	1%	£400
£38,001 - £39,000	1%	£350
£39,001 - £40,000	1%	£300
£40,001 - £49,305	5%	£250

This will be achieved by using the model bursary schemes devised by UUK/SCOP.

Eligibility

Eligibility will be solely based on the assessment for maintenance grant support. This support is a full grant for students whose household income is up to £25,000 PA and a sliding scale of grants for students whose household income is between £25,001 and £60,000 PA (Chichester bursaries are only available for household incomes up to £49,305).

Bursary Payments

Bursaries will be paid by the Student Loan Company (SLC) in three equal instalments December, February and March (subject to confirmation by SLC).

All bursaries will be subject to inflationary increases in proportion to any increase in tuition fees over the period of any course. The inflationary increase will be based on figures published by the government each year.

All the above activities are in addition to financial support provided to students in the 2005/06 academic year.

Outreach Activities

Non-residential summer school

In partnership with Aimhigher Sussex, the University will host a non-residential Summer Screen Event for approximately 70 Year 9 students from schools across the West Sussex Region. There will be opportunities for students to take part in drama, and dance activities as well as having access to the media technology available to produce a DVD of the event. Working with staff and students from the University the school students will experience first hand what its like to be a University student.

Cross curricular event for local schools

The University will host a cross curricular activity for approximately 100 Year 7 pupils from 7 secondary schools in the local area. Some activities will take place in the schools facilitated by student ambassadors but the final showcase event will take place at the University.

Mature Student Welcome Event

Building on the successful pilot held in September 2007 attended by 30 new mature students, the University will host a Mature Student Welcome Day in September 2008 shortly before the start of their first year undergraduate programme. This event will provide the students with an opportunity to meet with other students and be reminded and reassured of the academic, pastoral and financial support available to all students. Feedback from this year's pilot suggests that students feel more confident about starting their course having met with other mature students in an informal yet informative event. One of the outcomes of this event was that those students attending expressed a wish for a follow up activity to be held possibly after Christmas. This will be more of a social event open to all Mature Students and will provide an opportunity to pick up any concerns the students have, thereby act as a retention aid

Aspiration raising and HE awareness activities

Following the completion of a mapping exercise, the Widening Participation staff working in collaboration University's Widening Participation Liaison Group (formed in 2007), the Schools Liaison Team and Aimhigher Sussex will identify non-Aimhigher schools in areas of low participation in HE (LPNs) and NS-SEC classes 4,5 6 and 7. The main geographical focus will fall within the coastal strip and within the University's 'region'. Campus visits and Taster sessions will be offered to these schools as well as visits into schools by WP staff and especially recruited and trained Student Ambassadors. A booklet give a Menu of activities will be produced by the WP team.

Care Leavers

Working with its HE partners in Sussex, the University of Chichester will seek to promote the opportunities of higher education with Local Authority departments which have responsibilities for working with 'looked after children' and care leavers. Information regarding special bursaries, support with accommodation etc. will be made available to schools and colleges in an attempt to raise the number of students leaving care and entering higher education.

System for providing financial information to students and prospective students

The main vehicles for providing financial information to students will be the prospectus (available in January 2008 for a September 2008 start) the website (there will be a link from the University's homepage to pages on fees and bursaries) and the UCAS website. These three forms of communication are currently where the vast majority of prospective students look to obtain information on courses and about studying at Chichester generally.

The University will inform any prospective student the aggregate amount of fees that they will be charged for the completion of their nominated course prior to them committing to undertake that course, as well as specifying the support available from the new bursary scheme.

At institutional open days the University runs sessions under the title "Parents' Forum" where prospective students and their parents are informed of the net costs of studying. This presentation is augmented by an illustrative 'fees and bursary' leaflet.

Targets

Recruitment targets will be based on the Performance Indicators produced from the HESA return.

Participation from State Schools or Colleges

Chichester is not proposing to increase or reduce its percentage recruitment from State Schools or Colleges but will aim to maintain it at its current level (98pc) as it is already better than the benchmark (94pc) and the location-adjusted benchmark (92pc).

Participation from NS-SEC classes 4,5,6 and 7

The University has recently achieved its location-adjusted benchmark (29pc) and as this is one of the two main areas that bursaries will be targeted at, Chichester will strive to achieve the benchmark (34pc) over the next few years.

Year	Chichester %	
	Actual	Target
2000-01	29	
2001-02	29	
2002-03	25	
2003-04	28	28
2004-05	27	29
2005-06	30	30
2006-07		31
2007-08		32
2008-09		33
2009-10		34

Participation from Low Participation Neighbourhoods

The proposal is for the University to gradually increase recruitment from these neighbourhoods to the benchmark level (17pc), although it is already acknowledged that Chichester achieves its location-adjusted benchmark (11pc).

Year	Chichester %	
	Actual	Target
2000-01	10	
2001-02	11	
2002-03	12	
2003-04	12	13
2004-05	11	14
2005-06	11	15
2006-07		16
2007-08 +		17

Participation of mature entrants

Due to its geographical location and the reduced mobility of mature students the University did not expect to exceed its location-adjusted benchmark (12pc), however, it has achieved the national benchmark of 15pc.

Year	Chichester %	
	Actual	Target
2000-01	13	
2001-02	14	
2002-03	12	
2003-04	14	13
2004-05	13	13
2005/06	15	13
2006/07+		15

Other Performance Indicators

Recruitment of under-represented groups is not the only issue, Chichester will collect and analyse data on retention and results for these groups of students. Targets will be set if there is any evidence of under achievement in either retention or results.

Minority Ethnic Groups

The University has already monitored its recruitment of minority ethnic groups and has set targets for recruitment.

Year	Chichester %	
	Actual	Target
2001-02	1.71	
2002-03	2.05	
2003-04	2.73	
2004-05	3.16	
2005-06	4.06	3.50
2006-07		4.00
2007-08		4.50
2008-09		5.00
2009-10 +		5.29

Targets for Physical and Teacher Education were set by the Teacher Training Agency using an assessment of Chichester's immediate recruitment area. Ethnic minorities represent 3.55pc of the West Sussex population and 5.29pc of the main areas that the University recruits from.

Students receiving a Disabled Student Allowance

Year	Chichester %	
	Actual	Target
2000-01	5.4	
2001-02	4.9	
2002-03	4.5	
2003-04	5.8	
2004-05	7.4	
2005-06	7.1	5.0
2006-07+		7.0

The benchmark in 2005-06 was 5.2%

Monitoring Compliance

The University is committed to monitoring compliance to the access agreement and will regularly review progress towards achieving the milestones and objectives detailed above. The monitoring procedure will state that Chichester has complied with this access agreement or, if it has not, it will explain any discrepancy. The University will also identify progress towards its milestones.

This information will be reported internally to the Senior Management Group (for dissemination) and to the Governors' Executive Committee. Externally it will be reported via the Annual Monitoring Statement provided to HEFCE.