

Calderdale College

Access Agreement

July 2009 for academic year 2010/11

1 Introduction

1.1 The mission of the College is

“Inspiring learners to succeed in life and in work”

1.2 The College has a long track record of attracting HE students from a wide range of under-represented groups as follows, in 2008/09:

43.13% of students from widening participation postcode areas.

77.25% aged over 21 years old

69.19% aged over 24 years old

18.96% declared themselves to have a disability.

11.37% from an ethnic minority

1.3 Calderdale College has a long history of delivering high quality and supportive higher education provision which meets local employer and community needs, as well as responding to and attracting recruitment from further afield. Significant steps have been made to ensure support is provided to attract under-represented applicants, aid student’s progression ability and increase widening participation in HE.

1.4 The submission of this Access Agreement is to reflect the requirements to cover the institutional costs set by awarding institutions to register students to the award on which they wish to study.

2 Fee Limits

2.1 Provision included in the agreement.

2.1.1 This agreement applies to all courses for which Calderdale College receives funding directly from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), including provision where funding is allocated to the College via the West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network (WYLLN) administered by Huddersfield University.

2.1.2 Fees charged for indirectly funded provision (Partner Provision) offered by the College will be determined by the University providing the funding and will come under the Access Agreement that is in place for the respective University.

2.2 Students included within this Agreement.

- 2.2.1 All full-time students who are eligible to pay EU tuition fees are included within this Agreement.
- 2.2.2 Fees for part-time courses will not be linked to full time fees and will be differentially priced as will fees for non EU students (Overseas).

2.3 Definition of full time students

- 2.3.1 Students completing HND's or Foundation Degrees, (120 credits p.a.) within two years are classed as "full time".
- 2.3.2 Students completing a BA Top-up (level 3) of 120 credits within 1 year are also classed as "full time".

2.4 Review of Agreement.

This Agreement is to be renewed annually by the Colleges Leadership and Management Team and approved by the Governors.

2.5 Tuition Fees.

- 2.5.1 From the academic year 2010/11 Calderdale College will charge a fee of £1,610 per academic year to students on full-time HEFCE funded courses.
- 2.5.2 The new higher level of fee will not apply to current students who commenced programmes prior to September 1st 2010.
- 2.5.3 Fee levels beyond 2010/11 for all students will be subject to the annual increases set by the awarding institutions and inflationary increases announced by the Government.

3 Bursary Scheme.

- 3.1 Calderdale College will not be operating a bursary scheme as this Agreement is being submitted to cover actual costs incurred by the College as a consequence of the requirement to register students with awarding and validation bodies. The total fee is calculated for 2010/11 using an assumed tuition fee of £1,310 p.a. plus a cost of £300 p.a. to cover registration costs and administration to process payments to the awarding institutions. Therefore, this Agreement provides the College with the ability to claim the full costs incurred from the student, and will not disadvantage the student by ensuring that there are no "up front" costs in the form of registration fees. These costs can then be incorporated into individual student loan agreements.

4. Marketing and Publicity.

Clear information about HE fees at Calderdale College, and the financial assistance available to students, will be widely available. This will be accessible via the following methods:

- The College HE Prospectus
- The College web-site
- Student Services (student welfare and financial support)
- The Schools Liaison unit

- College “Open Days” and promotional events.

5. HE Support & Development (Outreach)

- 5.1 The College will continue to engage with local and sub-regional initiatives and agencies to attract under-represented learners into learning. The Collages aim is to raise the aspirations of those who would not normally see themselves entering higher education.
- 5.2 More and more of the Colleges HE provision is being developed with employers with the intention of engaging work-based learners who otherwise may not engage in higher education.
- 5.3 The College will continue its partnership work with Aimhigher and also the West Yorkshire Life Long Learning Network to further develop progression routes for our learners.

6. Monitoring and Review

6.1 The College will undertake annual monitoring of this access agreement to measure the impact on higher education participation through:

- An increase in higher education recruitment.
- Improved progression from College FE into HE.
- An improvement in retention, attendance and achievement of HE students.
- An increase in awards and provision available to meet employer demand.
- Regular review of learner feedback.
- Monitoring of student profile in terms of age, gender and levels of disadvantage (based on ward based areas of deprivation).

The baselines for the above will be provided with the first years monitoring return.

7. Institutional Monitoring and Review

- 7.1 The College will introduce arrangements to report on the impact of this agreement through the HE Forum who will then report to the College Leadership and Management Team.

