

Higher Education at Northumberland College



Learner Information 2009/2010

Part time higher education students

Support for part time expenses in higher education falls into two broad categories:

- A fee grant to help with tuition fees
- A course grant to help with study costs (such as books, materials and travel).

Do I qualify?

To apply for the fee grant and course grant, both you and your course must be eligible. For part time study, this means that your course must:

- Last at least one year
- Be a higher education course leading to a qualification such as a Certificate or Diploma of Higher Education, an HNC or HND, or a first degree up to Honours level (e.g. a BA or BSc)
- Not take more than twice as long to complete as the equivalent full time course

However, you won't qualify for the fee grant or course grant:

- If you are studying a part time Initial Teacher Training course (you'll be treated as a full time student for student finance purposes)
- For more than one part time course at a time

What is the maximum I can get?

Fee grant

The maximum fee grant available depends on your course's intensity – how long it takes to complete compared with the equivalent full time course.

For example, if your course would take three years to complete full time but you are doing it part time over six years, then your course has an intensity of 50%. We will be able to advise you about the intensity of your course.

Course grant

For 2009/2010, it is £260. The course grant is not related to the intensity of your course.

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Maximum rates for 2009/2010

	50-59% of full time intensity	60-74% of full time intensity	75% or more of full time intensity
Maximum fee grant	£805	£970	£1,210
Maximum course grant	£260	£260	£260
Total maximum	£1,065	£1,230	£1,470

How much will I get?

Household income	Fee Grant*			Course Grant
	Course intensity 50-59%	Course intensity 60-74%	Course intensity 75% +	
Less than £16,510	£805	£970	£1,210	Full grant (£260)
£16,510	£755	£920	£1,160	Full grant (£260)
£16,511 - £24,915	Partial grant (at least £50)			Full grant (£260)
£24,916 - £25,509	No grant			Full grant (£260)
£25,510 - £27,505	No grant			Partial grant
£27,506 or more	No grant			No grant

* You can't be awarded a Fee Grant that is higher than your actual course fees

How do I apply?

You will need to make a separate application for each academic year, using the application form for part time student finance (PTG1). You can get a copy from the Info Zone, any college reception, ask a local authority to send you one or you can download a copy from www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance

*Information is correct at time of going to press and may be eligible to change without notice.

