# **Investing in your future**

2024/25

#### A guide to fees and funding at UHI Argyll for full and part time HE and FE courses.

Before you consider applying for a course, it's a good idea to work out how you are going to fund it. Making the right financial decision at the outset increases your chances of successfully achieving your goal. This leaflet outlines our courses fees, fee waiver information, refund policy and also gives some information on where to look for financial support for your studies.

### **Course Fees**

#### Full Time Course (Scottish domiciled or EU settled status students)

Degree Full time per year	£1,820
HNC/D Full time per year	£1,285
NC Full time per year	£1,008
SVQs level 7 and below (Full and part time)	£1,250*
SVQs Level 8 and above (Full and part time)	£1,270

#### **Rest of UK domiciled:**

Degree: Arts (BA, B.Litt., MA)	£9,250
Degree: Sciences (BSc, BEng)	£9,250
HNC/D	£7,110
NC	£5,970
SVQ	£5,970
HN per single Unit	£474
FE NQ per single credit	£474
International - HE level only	Please see UHI website

#### Part Time Course (Scottish domiciled or EU settled status students)

Single Degree module (part-time)	£305	
Highers / National 5 qualifications	£352	
PDAs in Health & Social Care	£368 <sup>\$</sup>	
Assessor and Verifier awards (per award)	£410	
Higher National (HE) and National Qualification (FE) Units:		
Half credit	£60	
Single credit	£86	
Double credit	£172	

The above fees include all SQA registration fees and cover the costs of learning materials. Some courses may have additional costs such as textbooks, field trips or protective clothing and equipment (PPE). Centre staff will be able to advise on which courses these are, and more information can be found on the course pages at <u>www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk</u>.

\* Level 6 SVQs must be completed within 12 months; Level 7 SVQs must be completed within 15 months. An additional fee of £210 is payable for a maximum 3 month extension for either level (no fee waiver). \$Standard cost: price of PDAs may vary, please contact your local centre.

U'HI ARGYLL

## **Funding Options**

#### Further Education (FE) Students

You are entitled to a Fee Waiver if you are a Scottish domiciled or EU student with settled status following a full time FE course of study.

Part Time FE students may also be entitled to have their fees waived (capped at £1,008) and you should check our Fee Waiver Policy (see our website) for full eligibility criteria. These include but are not limited to:

You or your family are in receipt of:

- · Income support, or
- · Working tax credit, or
- Pension Credit, or
- · Housing Benefit, or
- · Income-based Job Seekers Allowance or
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal credit
- You are in receipt of:
  - Care experienced and under 26 years old, or
- Carer's Allowance (or carers who have an 'underlying entitlement' to Carer's Allowance but gave up the allowance to, for example, claim their pension), or
- · Disability Living Allowance, or
- Attendance Allowance, or
- · Incapacity Benefit, or
- Contributory Employment and Support Allowance(ESA). (this also includes people whose contributory ESA has ended due to the time limiting nature of this benefit, but who remain entitled to NI credits for incapacity), or
- Personal Independence Payment
- Adult Disability Payment

Or your taxable household income in the previous financial year was less than:

- Households with only one person: £8,282
- Households consisting of a couple without children: £12,395
- Households with dependent children: £18,977

You must complete a fee waiver application form and provide the appropriate evidence before your course starts. Contact centre staff for guidance.

**Bursaries - Further Education full time courses** If you are 18 years of age or over on the official start day of your course, and will be studying a fulltime further education course, you may be eligible for Bursary funding. The Bursary, including travel, is means tested and any award will depend on your household income.

The maximum weekly bursary payment for independent students (25 and over) is £125.55 or £99.35 for students living at home or parentally dependent. This is based on a household income of approximately £24,400. For higher incomes the bursary allowance will be reduced accordingly. Households with an income above £60,000 are unlikely to receive any bursary. Students who are in receipt of Universal Credit and allowed to remain on this may get a bursary of £28 per week to supplement their benefits. Students who are Care Experienced (been in residential care/ kinship care/ foster care) may be eligible for an enhanced weekly bursary of £225 per week.

Our bursary fund is finite and is allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis so it's important to make your application for bursary as soon as you've accepted our offer of a place.

If you are under 18 you may be eligible for EMA. EMA is paid at a rate of £30 per week dependent on your total household income. In households with one dependent child, the upper income threshold is £24,421 per year; and with more than one dependent child the limit is £26,884.

If you are eligible for EMA but need to live away from home to be able to access your course you may be able to claim up to an additional £49.91 per week to help with this.

#### Higher Education (HE) Students

The Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) administers financial support for HE students following HNC, HND and Degree courses and can be contacted through the SAAS website at www.saas. gov.uk. You must apply to SAAS for payment of your tuition fees. If SAAS do not agree to pay your tuition fees then you will need to pay them yourself. It is your responsibility to arrange payment of your HE tuition fees.

You will be required to provide a copy of your SAAS award letter to us at the start of your course.

HE Student Loan - You can also apply through the SAAS website for help with living costs by applying for a student loan or any SAAS bursaries that you may be eligible for. Student Loans are paid monthly by bank transfer and supplementary grants such as Young Student Bursary are payable in three instalments. HE students do not get any travel or course related costs paid - study books, kit etc. are expected to be paid for by the student using their student loan.

Remember that as an HE student you can also apply for discretionary funds and childcare funds via the Student Hub, but you must have applied for the full student loan that you are eligible for first.

#### Part-time Higher Education students

To pay your tuition fees for part time HE studies you can apply to SAAS for a Part Time Fee Grant. To be eligible you must have an income of less than £25,000 per year and be studying between 30-119 SCQF credits. You can get further information and apply online at Part-time funding - SAAS



## **Payment Options**

It is the responsibility of the student to pay the course fee at the point of enrolment or to provide evidence that an alternative arrangement has been put in place (e.g. SAAS award letter). All tuition fees for the academic year are due in full at the point of enrolment each year, unless students agree in advance with the college that payments can be made by instalment plan.

Where fees for a programme of study (within an academic year or within a semester) exceed £250, payment may be made by instalments, providing that:

- A first payment of at least £100 is made prior to commencement of study
- The balance is paid by up to a maximum of five equal payments on the 1st of each following month.
- Full payment is made before the end of the academic year or within the semester (for those studying for less than a full academic year).

Where applicable, ITA payments can be accepted as an initial instalment.

Self-funding students can make payments using major credit and debit cards, in any of our learning centres or by calling our finance dept on 07917 722 925. If you would like to make a BACs Payment please ensure you reference your surname and either your student ID number or your invoice number and use the following account details:

Account Number 00130524

Sort Code 80-13-46

IBAN number GB88 BOFS 801346001305 24

## Refunds

Only students whose fees are not paid by SAAS, or via a loan from any other UK student funding body, are eligible for refunds.

A refund of tuition fees is available, on request, for self-funding students withdrawing part-way through their course, subject to the refund schedule, summarised on the next page and outlined in the Course Fees Policy and once the withdrawal process has been completed.

Students are strongly recommended to consult the UHI Fees Policy and speak to your PAT or Learning Centre Staff for support and guidance.

# For all RUK students, and all other courses, including Evening and Leisure classes:

If you attend 25% or less of the course, you will incur a fee of 25% of the total cost. Thereafter no refund will be due on the total cost of the course.

## **Current Full Time Students**

If you are a full-time student (either FE or HE) you will not be entitled to a fee waiver for any additional courses of study undertaken in the same academic year.

For example:

- a) a student on a full time course of study covering both semesters, will not be eligible for a fee waiver to cover the cost of an addition course such as an evening class.
- b) a student undertaking a short-full time course of study in one semester, will not be eligible for a fee waiver to cover the cost of a part-time course in either the preceding, or following semester in the same academic year.

Part time HE students in receipt of a SAAS Part Time Fee Grant are also not entitled to a fee waiver.

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# **Refund Policy**

If your circumstances change and you are thinking about whether to continue your studies, make contact with a member of staff to discuss your options. Talk to someone you feel comfortable approaching as soon as possible.

If you do decide to either permanently withdraw from your course or temporarily suspend your studies, there are likely to be financial implications.

These can vary depending on your level of study but may include:



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