

# College Higher Education Bursary

## Widening Participation

The Northern Regional College's vision for widening participation is that any eligible individual in its catchment area should be able to gain access to, and succeed within, higher education, irrespective of their personal or social background. At Northern Regional College, we don't want financial considerations to stop you from applying to the College. Equally, we want to ensure that you have the financial support you need while you are here.

The College Bursary Scheme provides bursaries of £250 per year for students with household incomes of less than £19,203. There will be no limit to the number of bursaries available – every student who meets the eligibility criteria will receive one.

## Are you eligible for a College Bursary?

If you can answer 'yes' to the following questions, it is likely that you will be eligible for a Bursary.

- Is this your first full-time higher education programme?
- Is your household income less than £19,203 per year?
- Are you in receipt of a full maintenance grant?
- Have you consented to share information through the PN1 Form?

Care leavers should note that they will qualify for a maximum bursary as long as they receive the maximum government maintenance grant, and that their household income will not be relevant as they will have been assessed independently by Student Finance.

## How and when do you apply?

From 2015/16, the Student Loan Company (SLC) will automatically assess you for a College Bursary when you apply for a Maintenance Grant/Loan. We advise you to apply to SLC by the end of August, if possible, as processing your application takes up to 6 weeks. This would allow your bursary to be fully approved for the payment date in late January providing your attendance is satisfactory and you are making academic progress.

## How and when will I know if I am going to receive a Bursary?

The SLC will inform those students who are entitled to a bursary outlining the details of payments and confirming bank details. Payment will be subject to the College successfully confirming your attendance.

## Important information for continuing students

Students' entitlement to a Bursary will be reassessed at the beginning of each academic year. There are several reasons for this, the most important being that your financial circumstances may have changed, and therefore, your eligibility.