



Institution:  
**Durham University**

Contact for Access Agreement:  
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Head of Institution:  
**Professor Christopher Higgins**  
**Vice-Chancellor and Warden**

Bursaries:  
**The Durham Grant Scheme**  
**Maximum Grants = £1,300 (2009-10 academic year)**  
Grant scheme will recycle 22% of the income from additional tuition fees (2009-10 academic year)

Additional Access Measures:  
**Year 10 Summer School**  
**“Supported Progression” compact scheme**  
**Additional staff to engage in outreach activities and disseminate student financial support information**

Additional Expenditure from Tuition Fee Income:  
**27% of additional tuition fee income to be spent on bursaries and access (2009-10 academic year)**

**DURHAM UNIVERSITY**  
**Access Agreement**

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**1. Tuition Fee Levels**

1.1 The University will charge tuition fees at the

Household Income	Durham Grant Value
UG Less than £25,000	£1,300
PGCE Less than £25,000	£319

- 2.6 Students in receipt of the Durham Grant will also receive information and guidance in a variety of formats to ensure that they use their Durham Grant to make the most of their time at University.
- 2.7 Students who find themselves in unexpected need of financial support will be supported through the Access to Learning Fund. The Access to Learning Fund is integrated with and managed by staff in the Student Financial Support Office (see section 4.1) and delivered by pastoral staff in the University's colleges. This ensures that the distribution of money from the Access to Learning Fund is monitored and carefully controlled by clear central guidance, whilst being fully integrated within the University's wider student support structure based within the colleges.

### **3. Outreach Activities Funded Through Additional Fee Income**

- 3.1 We endorse fully the principles of widening participation and are committed to continuing our delivery of well-targeted and high quality outreach activities with a focus on recruiting students to Durham University from a diverse range of backgrounds and ages. For instance, the Foundation Centre focuses on LPN, mature, and non-traditionally qualified students. We believe further that the activities organised by Durham University play an important role in extending educational opportunities to those from non-traditional backgrounds at a national as well as a local and regional level, although our main focus is on the local and regional level with the specific target of increasing applications to Durham.
- 3.2 To further this objective, the University is working with key partners, which include:
- Local, regional and national staff in schools and colleges
  - Gifted and Talented Co-ordinators in schools and colleges
  - CfBT Educational Trust
  - The Open University
  - Aimhigher Area Partnerships in the North-East and elsewhere
  - The Open College Network (through the Foundation Centre)
- 3.3 Policy in respect of widening participation is monitored and developed by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching) through the University Executive Committee, Senate, the Learning and Teaching Committee and staff in the Student Recruitment and Admissions Office (see section 7). The Student Recruitment and Admissions Office is responsible for the implementation and delivery of measures to promote access within the University. All of these activities are now integrated and form a coherent progression route to support students from year 9 into higher education. The Foundation Centre provides a direct progression route into Durham degrees for LP

- 3.4 Outreach activities are enhanced in four important respects by employing additional tuition fee income: 'Supported Progression' (a compact scheme with local schools involving regular targeted contact with students from Year 10 onwards), dissemination of financial information to applicants and prospective applicants (see section 4), a residential summer school for students in year 10 about to enter year 11 to help towards an increase in progression from study at level 2 to level 3, and in continuing widening participation and outreach events including school and college visits and work with LPN, mature, and non-traditionally qualified students.
- 3.5 Durham University provides a range of other established activities to engage with students, schools and colleges, details of which can be found on the University's website at [www.dur.ac.uk/undergraduate/schools/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/undergraduate/schools/). In addition many departments and colleges, as well as many individual members of staff, have developed schemes and maintain links with local



- 6.7 The University has undertaken a fundamental review of undergraduate admissions during the 2007-08 academic year, which has resulted in changes to the 2009 Access Agreement, a revised Undergraduate Admissions Policy and a revised Undergraduate Admissions Strategy.

## **7 Monitoring Compliance**

- 7.1 The University's Learning and Teaching Committee, chaired by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching), is responsible for all matters concerning undergraduate admissions including widening participation and outreach activities. The Learning and Teaching Committee reports directly to the