

<b><u>Policy Title</u></b>	NCG Higher Education Fees Policy
<b><u>Policy Category</u></b>	Compliant
<b><u>Owner</u></b>	Director of HE
<b><u>Group Executive Lead</u></b>	Executive Director Governance, Risk & Assurance
<b><u>Date Written</u></b>	January 2020
<b><u>Considered By</u></b>	HE Governance Committee
<b><u>Approved By</u></b>	Corporation
<b><u>Date Approved</u></b>	February 2020
<b><u>Equality Impact Assessment</u></b>	The implementation of this policy is not considered to have a negative impact on protected characteristics
<b><u>Freedom of Information</u></b>	This document will be publically available through the Group's Publication Scheme.
<b><u>Review Date</u></b>	February 2021
<b><u>Policy Summary</u></b>	This policy is to advise of the Higher Education Fees across NCG. This directly links to the approved Access and Participation Plan.

<b><u>Applicability of Policy</u></b>	<b><u>Consultation Undertaken</u></b>	<b><u>Applicable To</u></b>
Newcastle	Yes	Yes
Newcastle 6th Form	No	No
Carlisle	Yes	Yes
Kidderminster	Yes	Yes
Lewisham	No	No
Southwark	Yes	Yes
West Lancashire	Yes	Yes
Group Services	Yes	Yes

<b><u>Changes to Earlier Versions</u></b>	
<b><u>Previous Approval Date</u></b>	<b><u>Summarise Changes Made Here</u></b>
	2 <sup>nd</sup> updated in light of fees agreed in the NCG Access and Participation Plan
	September 2020 Update – Revised review date of February 2021 to bring in line with an annual review cycle. No changes required at this stage.

<b><u>Linked Documents</u></b>	
<b><u>Document Title</u></b>	<b><u>Relevance</u></b>
None	N/A

## 1. Introduction

The OfS has approved our fees for 2020-25 as presented in our Access and Participation Plan (<https://www.ncgrp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/NCG-Access-and-Participation-Plan-2020-2025.pdf>)

## 2. Financial commitment

Where a provider charges a fee above £6,165, they are required to outline within their Access and Participation Plan how they will increase expenditure on widening access and supporting successful outcomes for students (the student experience).

NCG has committed to spend 32.6% of the difference between the basic fee of £6,165 and the fee we charge.

This percentage is institution-based, as the OfS state:

“We will not set a minimum expected level of expenditure. Our focus will be on the outcomes that providers achieve and the level of the ambition they set, rather than inputs in the form of investment. We will challenge providers’ investment through our assessment of whether we believe their plans to be credible given the level of intended investment.”

## 3. Proposed maximum fee: £9,000

As noted, the £9,000 proposed is the maximum fee that could be charged within the NCG group. Divisions can, if they wish, charge a lower fee level. Additionally a range of student benefits are offered across the group. These include:

- Targeted WP bursary.
- Financing professional qualifications and memberships for students.
- Scholarships for students from underrepresented groups.
- Free equipment, e.g. laptops for students.
- Extra support through increased investment in staffing

The fees agreed for 2020-25 last year are as shown below:

<b>Division</b>	<b>Full Time Fee</b>	<b>Part Time Fee</b>
Newcastle College	£9,000	Not over the basic fee of £4625
Kidderminster College	£8,150	Not over the basic fee of £4625
West Lancashire College	£6,165	Not over the basic fee of £4625
Carlisle College	£6,165	Not over the basic fee of £4625
Southwark College	£6,165	Not over the basic fee of £4625

These fees relate to all HNDs, Foundation Degrees, Bachelor Degrees, Top Ups and initial teacher training.



#### **4. Masters fee**

Masters fees will be retained at £6,000 for home-based students to remain attractive and in most cases undercut the local offer.