

Board of Management Report Finance Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 29 November 2023
Paper No.	FC2-E
Agenda Item	3.5
Subject of Paper	College Course Fees 2024/25
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	Andrew Dickson, Chief Financial Officer
Date of Production	November 2023
Action	For Approval

Recommendations

The Finance Committee is asked to approve the proposed minimum course fee rate detailed in the paper.

1. Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval for 2024/25 course fees.

2. Context

The table below sets out the proposed basis for calculating the College's course fees for the SFC fundable activity 2024/25 academic year. The Vice Principal Corporate Development & Innovation will determine the course fees for all full cost commercial activity, part time international activity and international partnership activity.

The Committee should note:

- That the Scottish Parliament has abolished fees for students studying on **eligible** full-time further education courses (i.e. below HNC/D level).
- The vast majority of full-time HE students (HNC/D) will have their fees paid on their behalf by the Students' Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS).
- The Board cannot set the fees for full-time HE, as these are set nationally and have been frozen at £1,285 since 2009.
- The Board has more flexibility in terms of setting the level of part-time fees.

SFC issue annually a national fee waiver policy whereby a wide range of disadvantaged people need not pay part-time course fees. The College fee waiver policy complies with the SFC national policy.

The College proposes to increase most part-time fees by approximately 6% on the 2023/24 level to recognise the general economic climate, inflation and College costs. This increase is similar to the current rate of inflation. In the year to October 2023, the annual RPI was 6.1% and CPI was 4.6%. Other than in 2023/24, where there was an approximate 10% increase in part time fees, in previous years there had been a limited increase to course fees few years due to the pandemic.

The College is most likely facing the same level of cash SFC grant funding for 2024/25 therefore a 6% increase in the course fee rates will assist the College budgeted income. This increase has been incorporated in the 2024/25 fees shown in the table below. Within the SFC main grant for 2024/25 full time fees will

disappointingly most likely to remain at the 2023/24 rates and a small increase to the notional part time fee rates which were used to calculate a target course fee income per College.

The proposed part-time fees shown in the following table are set as a minimum level. Some fees will be set higher depending on, for example, whether additional tuition is provided or class sizes are smaller than average. The Vice Principal Corporate Services will agree variations to the minimum course fee level.

3. Impact and Implications

The increase to the course fee rates should have a positive impact on the College income in 2024/25 and it is anticipated the increase will have a minimal negative impact on student recruitment.

	City of Glasgow 2021/22	City of Glasgow 2022/23	City of Glasgow 2023/24	City of Glasgow 2024/25
HE Full-time (EU excl RUK students)	£1,285	£1,285	£1,285	£1,285
FE Full-time (EU excl RUK students)	£1,008	£1,008	£1,008	£1,008
FE & HE Full-time (RUK students)	£2,850	£2,850	£3,100	£3,300
FE & HE Full-time overseas students	£6,850	£6,850	£7,500	£7,950
ESOL Full-time overseas students	£5,750	£5,750	£6,300	£6,700
Part-time Fees – Minimum Charges:				
FE Unit (or 40 hours)	£87.25	£90.00	£99.00	£105.00
FE SQA fee	£8.75	£8.80	£9.40	£10.00
TOTAL FE unit fee	£96.00	£98.80	£108.40	£115.00
TOTAL FE part-time fee per hour	£2.40	£2.47	£2.71	£2.87
HE Unit (or 40 hours)	£111.00	£114.40	£125.00	£132.50
HE SQA fee	£14.60	£14.80	£15.80	£16.75
TOTAL HE unit fee	£125.60	£129.20	£140.80	£149.25
TOTAL HE part-time fee per hour	£3.14	£3.22	£3.52	£3.73
Employer charge per hour	£3.48	£3.58	£3.90	£4.13