

## Student Loans – Factsheet

**NB: The existing student loan system will apply for 2011-12, however changes will occur in 2012-13.**

### Academic Year 2011-2012

This is a brief factsheet on the issues relating to the availability of Student Loans for students attending validated courses at Redcliffe College. This does not answer every question that you may have on the subject, so early contact with your LEA is advisable.

### What is the amount available for 2011-2012?

There is a complex system for maintenance loans and grants but this is fully explained on the “direct.gov” website (details below). The amount of loan/grant is dependent on your personal circumstances.

### Who is eligible to apply for a loan?

To qualify for financial help from the government, both you and your course need to meet some conditions – based on where you live, the type of course you are doing and some other factors. Your eligibility will be assessed when you apply – but if you are a full-time student starting in 2011-12, you can enter your details into the Student Finance Calculator for an idea of whether you are likely to qualify.

### What about payment of tuition fees?

Eligible students will be able to take out a loan for fees of up to £3,375. This will not be means-tested. (Non-means-tested grants will no longer be available to cover tuition fees.)

### What courses are eligible for loans?

Students studying the two-year Diploma (DipHE) in Applied Theology in Intercultural Contexts and the three-year BA Honours Degree in Applied Theology in Intercultural Contexts are eligible for loans. The one-year Certificate (CertHE) in Applied Theology in Intercultural Contexts, the one-year Professionals in Mission course and the one-year MA course are not eligible for loans.

### When should I apply for details from my LEA?

As soon as you are offered a place on a validated and designated course, ring your LEA and ask for an application form. More details of the procedures regarding loans and loan application forms are available from your LEA.

### What does it cost to follow a validated course?

There is a £200 administrative and tutorial fee for each year of the course, payable during the first term of each academic year. This covers the cost of tutors’ time and the validation fee the College pays to our validating body, the University of Gloucestershire.

### Where can I find further help?

For more information visit this website:

[www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/index.htm](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/UniversityAndHigherEducation/StudentFinance/index.htm)