



Cliff College Financial Support Policy

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This Policy is for applicants, students and staff of Cliff College. The aim of this policy is to guide students in making an application for a bursary, scholarship or other financial support and to provide a clear framework for College staff in making decisions.
- 1.2. The financial support funds available to Cliff College comprise donations made to the College from supporters of the College, past and present. These funds are finite, and must be used in accordance with this Policy.

2. General

2.1. Bursaries

- 2.1.1. Bursaries are awarded at the discretion of the Financial Support Committee, which will normally be comprised at least two of the following:
 - 2.1.1.1. Principal
 - 2.1.1.2. Head of Academic Strategy/Delivery
 - 2.1.1.3. Finance Manager
 - 2.1.1.4. Student Welfare Officer
- 2.1.2. Cliff College Bursaries are designed to help students to meet their financial obligations to the College. Students from all programmes across the College can apply, but a bursary cannot be provided for fees which could be covered by student loans.
- 2.1.3. Some bursary applications are means tested, with reliance placed upon the integrity of students to provide accurate financial information about their situation. The Bursary Committee will assess applications in the light of the level of funds available at the time.
- 2.1.4. Bursaries related to the Access and Participation Plan are awarded to enable students to overcome challenges that might impact their success in their studies; namely, this refers to undergraduate UK students who are considered by the Office for Students to be at potential disadvantage.
- 2.1.5. Cliff College maintains a general bursary fund, and additionally there are certain funds that have more detailed restrictions, such as:
 - 2.1.5.1. *Cresswell Fund*, for students from the global south
 - 2.1.5.2. *Dennison Fund*, for MA students
 - 2.1.5.3. *Jon Ashby Fund*, for students wishing to develop their skills in music or worship leading.
- 2.1.6. Awarded bursaries are deducted from the student's outstanding fees or used to offset fees from the next year of study.

2.1.7. There are no reporting requirements on recipients of support from the Bursary funds. However, students must commit to complete the studies for which the bursary is offered.

2.2. Scholarships

2.2.1. Cliff Mission Scholarships are awarded to recognise significant potential in a student, particular in alignment with the College's ethos and mission.

2.2.2. A Cliff Mission Scholarship can be awarded for one, two, or three years. Students in receipt of a scholarship awarded for a single year, can subsequently reapply for a second and/or third year of award.

2.2.3. Students in receipt of a Cliff Mission Scholarship will be expected to contribute positively to an area of the College's life, such as Mission, Worship, Hospitality, Estates or Library.

2.2.4. Cliff Mission Scholars are asked to provide a brief narrative of their experience at Cliff at the end of the academic year in which they receive their award.

2.2.5. Students must commit to complete the studies for which the scholarship is offered.

2.3. Hardship Fund

2.3.1. The Hardship Fund exists to support students who encounter unexpected financial difficulty in meeting their financial obligations to the College during the academic year.

2.3.2. Normally, students can apply for up to £500 from the Hardship Fund, though the amount of the award is at the discretion of the Student Financial Support Committee.

3. Applications and Process

3.1. Bursary and scholarship applications can be made once a student is in receipt of an offer to study at Cliff College.

3.2. An application to the Hardship Fund can be made at any point during the academic year.

3.3. Financial Support is awarded at the discretion of the Student Financial Support Committee, which will normally be comprised at least two of the following:

- 3.3.1.1. Principal
- 3.3.1.2. Head of Academic Strategy/Delivery
- 3.3.1.3. Finance Manager
- 3.3.1.4. Student Welfare Officer

3.4. This process and policy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team

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