

## COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA): Durham SU Recommendations

The current Undergraduate COA estimate of £19,171 is made up of the following cost components: *([education fee] + [housing and meals] + [college fees] + [books and supplies] + [transportation] + cost of participating in WSE] + [personal expenses])*

The amounts proposed by the University for each of these components are:

1. Education fee = £9,250;
2. College room/board = £7,171;
3. College fees = £250;
4. Books and supplies = £750;
5. Transportation = £750;
6. Cost of participating in WSE = £250;
7. Personal expenses = £750.

Below are Durham SU's proposed revisions to these costs, based on cost estimates as shown in the appendix (to nearest pound). **This results in a revised total COA figure of £20,737.**

Component	Recommendation	Proposal
Education fee	N/A	£9,250
College room/board	Take rounded average room fee between a standard 19/20 catered college room (£7,672.00) and an ensuite catered room (£8,149.00), including induction or congregation week, to reflect the fact that students are unable to choose which college they are allocated when they apply, and therefore may also have no choice in the type of room they are allocated.	£7,910
College costs	Take rounded average of figures from across all 16 Colleges for the cost of taking part in college for one full academic year, including all aspects of College life from doing laundry to attending a ball or formals. We see College fees to also include participating in College-specific societies or extra-curricular activities. Feedback from 12 of 16 College Union Representatives was collected directly and averages taken across all associated costs for the 18/19 academic year.	£661
Books and supplies	Cost to incorporate tech supplies (i.e. a laptop), average of the 5% least available books from departmental reading lists from each of the three faculties, stationary supplies for one full year and a field trip allowance where applicable. Average laptop cost calculated from an Amazon search and 5% least available books from reading lists were taken from Philosophy, Law and Chemistry.	£728
Transportation	Examine the average cost of a rail ticket (with railcard for which all full-time students are eligible) to and from Durham between terms from a stratified sample of locations across the UK, plus an allowance for travel around Durham and the North East by bus and rail.	£518
Cost of participating in WSE	We would recommend thinking of WSE as student experience costs that are outside of the college experience. Things outside of the college experience would cover participation in SU Student Groups and other extra-curricular activities, such as sport or music. Take an average of one SU student group membership and associated costs plus an average of one Experience Durham membership.	£427
Personal expenses	Take into consideration the Natwest Student Living Index August 2018 (£812.00) and the 'Save the Student' National Student Money Survey September 2018 (£1029.00) for national personal expenses figures for term-time specifically. Adjust estimates for the specific Durham context, for an academic year of 30 weeks/8 months.	£1,243
<b>Total</b>		<b>£20,737</b>

## Appendix

### College room/board (point 2)

Catered accommodation type	Cost
Standard room (including induction or congregation) 19/20	£7,672.00
Ensuite (including induction or congregation) 19/20	£8,149.00
<b>Average</b>	<b>£7,910.50</b>

### College fees (point 3)

Item (average taken from across 12 college responses for AY18/19, annualised from 3 year degree costs as appropriate)	Cost
JCR Membership	£36.52
Formals (per year)	£60.00
College Ball (average 2 per year – Summer/Winter)	£150.00
Formal attire for Balls/Formals (2x dresses/suit /tuxedo)	£120.00
Library Charges	£4.33
Gym membership (per year)	£75.00
Gown (to buy)	£18.33
Induction week	£11.67
Laundry (1 load at £3.50 per week in term time)	£98.00
College days/ events (average 3 per year)	£42.60
College Societies	£30.00
Kit for 1 College sport	£15.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£661.45</b>

### Books & Supplies (point 4)

Item	Cost
<i>Books (5% of reading list) for 1 Sci module (Chemistry)</i>	£47.64
<i>Books (5% of reading list) for 1 SS&amp;H module (Law)</i>	£120.57
<i>Books (5% of reading list) for 1 A&amp;H module (Philosophy)</i>	£105.10
<i>Average book cost per module</i>	£91.10
Average book cost per year (6 modules)	£546.62
Laptop (annualised cost)	£56.67
Stationery allowance	£50.00
Printing allowance	£25.00
Field trip allowance	£50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£728.29</b>

## Transportation (point 5)

Estimates for travel between home location and Durham, one journey per term:

	Durham>London London>Durham	Durham>Birmingham Birmingham>Durham	Durham>Bristol Bristol>Durham	Average Cost
<b>December 2018 Average</b>	£112.00 (Saturday 15th December @ 10:38) £55.50 (Thursday 13th December @ 11:42) £86.00 (Monday 17th December @ 13:54) <b>£84.50</b>	£108.80 (Saturday 15th December @ 10:56) £54.30 (Thursday 13th December @ 11:54) £106.50 (Monday 17th December @ 13:54) <b>£89.87</b>	£129.30 (Saturday 15th December @ 10:48) £153.00 (Thursday 13th December @ 11:49) £153.00 (Monday 17th December @ 13:49) <b>£145.10</b>	£106.49
<b>January 2019 Average</b>	£140.70 (Saturday 12th January @ 11:31) £104.50 (Wednesday 9th January @ 13:00) £104.50 (Tuesday 15th January @ 16:00) <b>£116.57</b>	£45.35 (Saturday 12th January @ 11:30) £45.35 (Wednesday 9th January @ 13:30) £100.35 (Tuesday 15th January @ 15:30) <b>£63.68</b>	£64.50 (Saturday 12th January @ 11:30) £150.70 (Wednesday 9th January @ 13:30) £150.70 (Tuesday 15th January @ 15:30) <b>£121.97</b>	£100.74
	£201.07	£153.55	£267.07	
			£207.23 x 3 = <b>£621.69</b>	<b>£207.23</b>

	Durham>Edinburgh Edinburgh>Durham	Durham>Cardiff Cardiff>Durham	Average Cost
<b>December 2018 Average</b>	£62.70 (Saturday 15th December @ 10:35) £25.50 (Thursday 13th December @ 11:26) £44.90 (Monday 17th December @ 13:17) <b>£44.37</b>	£157.60 (Saturday 15th December @ 10:48) £135.20 (Thursday 13th December @ 11:49) £157.60 (Monday 17th December @ 13:49) <b>£150.13</b>	£97.25
<b>January 2019 Average</b>	£64.70 (Saturday 12th January @ 11:30) £22.20 (Wednesday 9th January @ 13:30) £64.70 (Tuesday 15th January @ 15:30) <b>£50.33</b>	£63.90 (Saturday 12th December @ 11:45) £156.90 (Wednesday 9th January @ 12:56) £156.90 (Tuesday 15th January @ 15:56) <b>£125.90</b>	£88.12
	£94.70	£276.03	
			£185.37 x 3 = <b>£556.11</b>
			<b>£185.37</b>

Prices correct as of 07.12.18 from [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

Item	Cost
16-25 Railcard	£30.00
Travel between home/Durham for vacation - c. £600 less 1/3 railcard discount	£400.00
Off-peak day return trips to Newcastle - £4.70 w/ railcard (11.01.19), 2 per term	£28.20
Bus travel with £1 University deal, twice per week for 30 weeks	£60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£518.20</b>

## Cost of Participating in WSE (point 6)

Item	Cost
One Durham SU group membership and associated cost of participation	£77.00 (Average membership: £6, average kit costs: £16, average ball cost: £50, average small scale event: £5)
Cost to participate in a TEAM Durham sport or Music Durham or Theatre	£250.00 (Memberships range from £100-£400; mid-range taken)
Additional cost of compulsory Team Durham kit	£100.00 (Compulsory Team Durham kits range from between £100 to £200; lowest cost taken)
Gym/fitness membership (Optional extra consideration)	£140.00 (Whilst not all students have gym membership, gym membership is a common feature of student wellbeing)
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>£427.00 (without fitness – lower College gym cost taken previously instead)</b> £567.00 (with fitness)

Prices correct as of 18.12.18

## Personal Expenses (point 7)

### NATWEST STUDENT LIVING INDEX (AUGUST 2018)

Item	Cost
Eating out/take away	£36.10
Going out	£26.50
Mobile phone	£15.00
Home entertainment	£8.40
Clothing and accessories	£30.10
<b>Total per month</b>	<b>£116.10 = £812 term time</b>

### SAVE THE STUDENT NATIONAL STUDENT MONEY SURVEY (SEPTEMBER 2018)

Item	Cost
Social	£64.00
Clothes	£34.00
Mobile phone	£18.00
Other personal	£31.00
<b>Total per month</b>	<b>£147 = £1,029 term time</b>

The above two national survey results include students across all universities. The NatWest study found that Durham students tend to spend much more than other university students on social costs.

Informed by these surveys, we have considered the particular cost likely to be incurred by a student at Durham for living essentials and other sundries, leading a low cost social life:

### SU's COST ESTIMATES PER MONTH FOR PERSONAL EXPENSES

Item	Cost
On-campus working lunch – YUM meal deal (£3.95 weekly)	£118.50
Café drink – small coffee (£1.95 weekly)	£58.50
Social alcohol consumption – half of UK max recommended allowance of 3 minimum price pints in College (£4.80 weekly)	£144.00
Entertainment allowance e.g. cinema, plays, nightclub entry, bowling etc. (£5 weekly)	£150.00
Dining out – two-course meal at chain with student deal plus soft drink (£14 monthly)	£112.00
Take-away – e.g. one medium topped pizza (£8 monthly)	£64.00
Personal hygiene products e.g. sanitary products, razors, toiletries – lower/mid-range products (£9 monthly)	£72.00
Clothing per month from NatWest index (£30 monthly)	£240.00
Mobile phone from NatWest index (£15 monthly)	£180.00
Media streaming service e.g. Netflix/Spotify (£5.50 monthly)	£44.00
Personal treats e.g. books, confectionary (£5 monthly)	£40.00
Medical note as may be required (£50 annually)	£50.00
Repairs/replacements of small items e.g. chargers	£30.00
<b>Total for academic year</b>	<b>£1243.00</b>

\*All numbers are based on 30 weeks or 8 months