Dear Student

We hope you remain safe, well and engaged in your studies.

**New ‘Covid Hardship Funding’ is available now!**

You may have heard on the news, that the Government has provided additional hardship funding for Universities and Colleges to distribute to their Higher Education students. We have received some of this funding and we have created an additional ‘Covid Hardship Fund’ to distribute the funding to any of our Higher Education students:

* The funding is by application and is non-repayable.
* The funding will be in the form of a one-off payment
* The funding will be prioritised for those facing hardship and in most of need
* The funding will be available to all UK students (full time, part time, online or blended learning)
* Students who have previously received hardship bursaries are still eligible and more than welcome to apply

The funding is primarily to support living costs but can be used or other things, for example:

* Residential/rental costs (primarily for those living away from home but other costs can be considered)
* Food costs
* Heating, light and power costs
* Transport costs
* IT/connectivity costs (eg. wifi or additional mobile data)
* This is not an exhaustive list and other costs can be considered (books, equipment etc.)

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| **To apply for our Covid Hardship Funding, please complete the attached application form and return it to** **studentfinance@myerscough.ac.uk** **by Friday 28 February 2021** |

**New Digital Bursary available now!**

Additionally, we also have a new ‘Digital Bursary’ (non-repayable funding) for Higher Education students to support any students who need specific IT (Information Technology) equipment to help you with your studies If you need any digital equipment to help you with your studies at all, please also do not hesitate to contact your tutor to discuss your needs and they will let you know how to access the digital bursary.

The Covid Hardship Funding and digital bursaries are in addition to the other bursaries and hardship funds that are already available to all students as already advertised on our website: <https://www.ucmyerscough.ac.uk/students/fees-and-finance/he-fees-and-finance/>.

Please also remember that we have a range wellbeing support available. If you have any questions, or you are concerned about your own health and wellbeing (or that of your friends), please feel free to talk to the Core Team of Student Support and Welfare Officers and Counsellors:

* Safeguarding: safeguarding@myerscough.ac.uk 01995 642348 / 01995 642205
* Mentalhealthsupport@myerscough.ac.uk 07407 304267 (not 24hrs)
* Core / student support and welfare: 01995 642348 (Monday - Friday 9-5)

We will continue to keep you up to date with any further developments as soon as we receive guidance from the Government on arrangements for after 08 March. In the meantime, please stay safe.

With very best wishes

Mick Cottam

Assistant Principal Higher Education