



Morley College London

Statement on Fee Setting

“Morley is supported in part by an annual allocation of public funds from the Education and Skills Funding Agency, a grant that covers around 50% of the costs of running the College. Most courses are therefore subsidised, although the funding rules of the grant require us to prioritise our funding to certain courses and qualifications, such as in English and Maths as well as learning experiences designed specifically to enhance future employability.

In recent years the level of public funding we receive has unfortunately declined, whether in “real terms” because the grant is frozen from one year to the next and does not allow for inflationary cost increases, or in some years in actual terms because the grant has been reduced. To ensure the College’s financial sustainability the College is therefore obliged to raise its fee prices to cover its costs.

Morley is a charity and makes no profit, any surplus being re-invested in enhancing learning opportunities and improving the student experience. The College aims to keep fee rises to the minimum and in setting course fees is mindful of what is affordable and how Morley compares to other providers, but the rate of increase in the costs Morley faces is often far greater than general levels of consumer inflation.

In setting prices for individual courses, the College policy is that the fee reflects the resources and experience students will benefit from ensuring there is fairness between different curriculum schools and areas of study. Course fees therefore take into account the length of the course, the specific costs associated with it (for instance its level of staffing or the nature of the consumables it might need), the resources it requires (such as be-spoke studio space and specialist equipment), and the class size (is it a small expert masterclass or a large choir?).”

FAQs:

Does Morley receive public funds?

The College receives an annual grant from the Education and Skills Funding Agency. That grant is subject to complicated funding rules which determine how we can apply the grant. For instance, some courses such as those in English and Maths are “fully funded” and therefore draw on more of the grant than a course that is only part-funded.

Is Morley's grant a fixed amount?

The College's basic grant has been frozen for many years which when taking into account inflationary consideration has meant a year on year "real terms" decrease. In some years even this basic level of grant has been cut in response to Government spending policies. Occasionally Morley has been able to win additional "one-off" funding, but this has only supported the additional costs of offering increased provision.

If the College is publicly funded, why do I have to pay fees?

The College grant only covers about 50% of the cost of running Morley. While the grant allows us to subsidise courses, the funding rules that govern the grant expect that most courses will be "co-funded" and that a fee will be charged. Some courses attract no public funding directly but have to be met fully by the fee charged. For Higher Education and most Advanced Learning courses students can, however, access a student loan to enable them to pay the fee.

How does the College decide on what the course fee should be?

Morley's aim is to charge "the right price for the right course" so that fees reflect the costs associated with a particular course while endeavouring to keep fee increases to a minimum and take into account affordability and fee levels charged by competitors. For many accredited courses, fees are charged according to nationally determined rates.

Does Morley make a profit out of our fees?

As a charity Morley does not make a commercial profit and any surplus of income over expenditure that it generates has to be invested back in the College and spent according to its charitable purposes. Historically, any surpluses have not been large and are generated by such activities as letting out accommodation when not in use for College purposes or charging commission on Gallery sales rather than from our core "business" of providing learning.