

## **Discretionary Fund (Housing)**

The Discretionary Fund is primarily to help students with housing costs who are not in receipt of help with housing already from either Housing Benefit or Universal Credit.

The amount awarded varies depending on the students housing situation and the first instalment is not paid until **1<sup>st</sup> October**.

West Lothian College can also pay Discretionary payments directly to a housing association/landlord if requested.

This fund can also be used to help students in emergency situations throughout the year.

## **Council Tax**

Full time students may also be eligible for a discount on Council Tax whilst studying. Please note, some short courses are not eligible for this.

If you are the only adult in the house you will not be liable for any council tax for the time that you are a student.

If there is 1 other adult living in the household then you will be eligible for a 25% discount.

If living in West Lothian this should be automatically applied for you, if you are from another local authority then a Council Tax Exemption certificate can be requested by emailing [choosecollege@west-lothian.ac.uk](mailto:choosecollege@west-lothian.ac.uk). This cannot be provided until you have started the course.