

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 **1st 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 to pay 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 you will need to complete the application directly through the West Lothian Council website [Council Tax Discount - Students, Student Nurse or Foreign Language Assistant - West Lothian Council](#) you will not need to provide proof that you are a student, if you are from another local authority then a Council Tax Exemption certificate can be requested by emailing choosecollege@west-lothian.ac.uk. This cannot be provided until you have started the course.