



Charges and Fees Policy 2016/17

Date established:	August 2013
Updated:	July 2016
Reviewed:	Annually (Valid until March 2017)
Purpose:	This policy sets out the minimum tuition fee to be charged for different aspects of the MIT Skills offer.

1.1. This Policy aims to set out how MITSkills will:

- adhere to the Skills Funding Agency (SFA), Education Funding Agency (EFA) funding rules and regulations
- be clear and transparent with regard to the setting of fees and charges
- be fair and consistent when charging fees to students and employers

1.2. This document is intended to act as the single reference source for fees, fee waivers, payment arrangements and other charges for the academic year 2016/17.

1.3. The range of people that this Policy applies to are:

- Students funded by the EFA
- Students funded by the SFA
- Students funded by HEFCE
- Students or employers paying for Full Cost provision

1.4. Throughout this policy, reference is made to “home” students. Unless stated differently, “home” is defined as being normally resident for 3 years in the UK, or an EU or EEA country.

2. Students of a Compulsory School Age

2.1. The dedicated school grant (DSG) calculated for each local authority (LA) contains funds for each student of compulsory school age in a maintained school, excluded from school, or educated ‘otherwise’.

2.2. Where parents seek to enrol a young person of compulsory school age on a full time programme, MITSkills cannot do so without first consulting the school and LA, who would be eligible to pay all due fees.

2.3. There may be some occasions where a parent or carer may be directly charged for a student’s fees.



3. Classroom Learning – Students Aged 16-18 or 19-24 with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)

3.1. Students who are aged 16, 17 or 18 years old on the 31st August 2016 and are “home” students are eligible for full funding by the EFA. These students will not be charged tuition or awarding body registration fees.

3.2. 19-24 year old students who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are eligible for full funding by the EFA will not be charged tuition or registration fees.

3.3. Where there are examinations included in a course, students will not be charged for their first entry. Students may be charged to re-sit an examination at £30 or the awarding body fee plus £10 admin whichever is higher. MITskills also reserves the right to charge students entry fees for non-attendance at examinations £30.

3.4. Depending upon the requirements of the programme, students may be required to pay for specialist course materials, clothing/equipment they wish to retain for use outside of the course, photocopying, printing, or trips/visits that are not an integral part of their Study Programme.

3.5. In the vast majority of cases, students will only be funded by the EFA for learning which leads to an external certificate offered by a regulated awarding organisation and approved on Section 96.

3.6. Students will not be funded by the EFA for any prescribed HE provision, including:

- HNC or HND
- Foundation Degree
- First Degree

3.7. Students are also ineligible for funding if they are already enrolled on either EFA or SFA-funded provision or are full time HE students at another institution. Students should only be funded at one institution at a time. Where a Student has not declared they are registered at another institution they will be charged £50 for Administration

4. Classroom Learning – Students Aged 19+

4.1. Students aged 24 or over on the day they start their qualification and who are studying a Level 3 or above qualification (excluding HE) must apply for an Advanced Learning Loan, or self-fund. For these students, the subsequent paragraphs contained in this section do not apply. Details relating to this cohort of students can be found in section 7.



4.2. Students aged 19-23 on the day they start their qualification who wish to study a Level 3 or above qualification (excluding HE) must apply for an Advanced Learning Loan or self-fund, if either of the following apply:

- a) Upon enrolment, the student already holds an existing full level 3 or above qualification
- b) Upon enrolment, the qualification to be studied does not carry legal entitlement status as a first full level 3 qualification, as determined by the SFA

Details relating to this cohort of students can be found in section 7 and the subsequent paragraphs contained in this section do not apply.

4.3. Students will not be funded by the SFA for any prescribed HE provision, including:

- HNC or HND
- Foundation Degree
- First Degree

4.4. Other students who are aged 19 or older on the day they start their qualification and are “home” students are eligible for funding by the SFA.

4.5. Students will only receive funding for qualifications approved by the SFA. The SFA reserve the right to change a qualification’s approval status in-year. Each qualification has a set funded amount, which can be found using the Learning Aim Reference Service.

4.6. The SFA will co-fund 50% of a qualification’s worth. The remaining 50% will also be funded by the SFA if the student qualifies for a fee waiver (known as fully-funded); otherwise the student, their sponsor or employer will be charged the associated fees.

4.7. Please contact the Head of Operations for for detailed eligibility for each fee waiver.

4.8. The eligibility for a fee waiver will be checked at the start of each qualification or programme.

4.9. Students who do not qualify for a fee waiver and are subject to payment may also have their fees paid for by MITSkills Discretionary Learner Support (DLS) fund. This is subject to the student being assessed and their individual circumstances being in scope of the policy. Please refer to MITSkills Bursary and Support Policy for details.

4.10. Students who qualify for a fee waiver will not be charged tuition or awarding body registration fees.



4.11. Students who are continuing a qualification that started in the previous academic year will continue to receive the fee remission as established in the preceding year, even if their circumstances have since changed.

4.12. Where there are examinations included in a course, students who qualify for a fee waiver will not be charged for their first entry. Students may be charged to re-sit an examination.

4.13. Students who are fee-paying (co-funded) will be eligible to pay all course-related costs, including tuition, registration, examination fees and re-sits.

4.14. MITSkills reserves the right to charge all students entry fees for non-attendance at examinations.

4.15. Depending upon the requirements of the programme, students may be required to pay for specialist course materials, clothing/equipment they wish to retain for use outside of the course, or photocopying, printing, or trips/visits that are not an integral part of their Study Programme.

Determining Fee Charges

4.16. MITSkills has a standard approach to the setting of fees. Each qualification has a set fee based on the SFA's Matrix Funding table, which can be found using the Learning Aim Reference Service. MITSkills will adhere to the SFA's expectation that students, their sponsors or employers will pay up to 50% of the Matrix Unweighted rate.

4.17. Registration and examination fees are set by each awarding organisation and, where applicable, these charges will be passed to the student.

5. Apprenticeships

In April 2017 the way the government funds apprenticeships in England is changing. Some employers will be required to contribute to a new apprenticeship levy, and there will be changes to the funding for apprenticeship training for all employers. Further information can be found on www.gov.uk by searching for 'Apprenticeship Levy'. This section applies only to apprenticeship programmes commencing between 1st August 2016 and 31st March 2017 inclusive:

5.1. Employed individuals who are aged 16+ are eligible for funding from the SFA, providing they are carrying out a new job role, or if in an existing job role, that the individual needs significant new knowledge and skills and that an Apprenticeship is the most appropriate learning programme for them.

5.2. An individual cannot start an Apprenticeship until after the last Friday in June in the academic year that they become 16 years of age.



5.3. For each apprentice, only a single Apprenticeship framework will be funded at any one time.

5.4. Individuals who already have a qualification at level-4 or above are only eligible for funding for a higher Apprenticeship at level-5 or above. They are not eligible for funding for an intermediate-level, advanced-level or level-4 higher Apprenticeship.

5.5. An apprentice aged between 16 and 18 on the day that their Apprenticeship commences is fully-funded by the SFA.

5.6. Apprentices aged 19+ are co-funded. For the academic year 2016-17 up until 31st March 2017, MITSkills will not charge employers a fee; however, an "in kind" agreement may be accepted as a form of payment.

5.7. No apprentice or their employer will be charged any tuition or registration fees for individuals beginning apprenticeship programmes between 1st August 2016 and 31st March 2017 inclusive.

5.8. Where there are examinations included as part of an Apprenticeship framework, no apprentice will be charged for their first entry. Apprentices, or their employers, may be charged to re-sit an examination. MITSkills also reserves the right to charge apprentices or their employers' entry fees for non-attendance at examinations see 3.3 above.

5.9. Depending upon the requirements of the programme, apprentices may be required to pay for specialist course materials, clothing/equipment they wish to retain for use outside of the course, photocopying, printing, or trips/visits that are not an integral part of their Apprenticeship framework.

6. Workplace Learning

6.1. Students aged 24 or over on the day they start their qualification and who are studying a Level 3 or above qualification in the workplace must apply for an Advanced Learning Loan, be funded by their employer, or self-fund. For these students, the paragraphs contained in this section do not apply. Details relating to this cohort of students can be found in section 7.

6.2. Students aged 19-23 on the day they start their qualification who wish to study a Level 3 or above qualification in the workplace must apply for an Advanced Learning Loan, be funded by their employer, or self-fund, if either of the following scenarios apply:

a) Upon enrolment, the student already holds an existing full level 3 or higher qualification



b) Upon enrolment, the qualification to be studied does not carry legal entitlement status as a first full level 3 qualification, as determined by the SFA
Details relating to this cohort of students can be found in section 7 and the subsequent paragraphs contained in this section do not apply.

6.3. Other “home” students aged 19-23 on the day they start their qualification who wish to study a Level 2 or 3 qualifications in the workplace will be fully funded by the SFA provided that both of the following apply:

- a) Upon enrolment, the student does not already hold a full qualification at or above the level they wish to study
- b) Upon enrolment, the qualification to be studied carries legal entitlement status as a first full level qualification, as determined by the SFA

6.4. No student funded under paragraph 6.3 above or their employer will be charged any tuition or registration fees.

6.5. Where there are examinations included in a programme, no student funded under paragraph 6.3 above or their employer will be charged for their first entry. Students or their employers may be charged to re-sit an examination. MITSkills also reserves the right to charge students or their employers' entry fees for non-attendance at examinations please see 3.3.

6.6. Depending upon the requirements of the programme, students or their employers may be required to pay for specialist course materials, clothing/equipment they wish to retain for use outside of the course, photocopying, printing, or trips/visits that are not an integral part of their qualification.

6.7. No student will be funded for any learning aim delivered at an employee's workplace that is relevant to either their job or their employer's business, unless the learner has an entitlement to full funding under paragraph 6.3.

6.8. The Head of Operations can advise on the criteria determined an individual's circumstances.

7. Advanced Learning Loans

7.1. Students aged 24 or over on the day they start their learning aim and are studying a Level 3 or above qualification (excluding HE) may apply for an advanced learning Loan to cover the costs of their course. This applies to both Classroom and Workplace Learning.

7.2. Students aged 19-23 on the day they start their qualification who wish to study a Level 3 or above qualification (excluding HE) may apply for an Advanced Learning Loan or self-fund, if either of the following apply:



a) Upon enrolment, the student already holds an existing full level 3 or above qualification

b) Upon enrolment, the qualification to be studied does not carry legal entitlement status as a first full level 3 qualification, as determined by the SFA
This applies to both Classroom and Workplace Learning.

7.3. MITSkills will not check the eligibility of students funded through a Loan, as the Student Loans Company will be responsible for assessing whether the student is eligible

7.4. MITSkills will charge students the maximum loan amount, which can be found using the Learning Aim Reference Service. These students will not be charged tuition or awarding body registration fees.

7.5. Where there are examinations included in a course, students will not be charged for their first entry. Students may be charged to re-sit an examination. MITSkills also reserves the right to charge students' entry fees for non-attendance at examinations see 3.3.

7.6. Depending upon the requirements of the programme, students may be required to pay for specialist course materials, clothing/equipment they wish to retain for use outside of the course, photocopying, printing, or trips/visits that are not an integral part of their programme.

7.7. Students who do not have an Advanced Learning Loan in place at a time specified by MITSkills will be withdrawn from their course.

8. Higher Education

8.1. Students on Higher Education programmes must apply to Student Finance England (SFE) to cover the costs of their course.

8.2. Students will only be charged a fee that encompasses all tuition, registration and examination fees.

8.3. For the academic year 2016/17, the following charges will apply for each year of a student's course:

- HND £5,500
- Part Time HNC £2,750

8.4. Students who are progressing to the second year of study will continue to pay the fees as set in 2015/16.

8.5. Where there are examinations included in a course, students will not be charged for their first entry. Students may be charged to re-sit an examination.



MITSkills also reserves the right to charge student's entry fees for non-attendance at examinations see 3.3

8.6. Depending upon the requirements of the programme, students may be required to pay for specialist course materials, clothing/equipment they wish to retain for use outside of the course, photocopying, printing, or trips/visits that are not an integral part of their Study Programme.

8.7. MITSkills may seek voluntary contributions from, students, their sponsors or employers but there will be no obligation to contribute and this will not in any way affect teaching, learning, or other entitlements.

8.8. Students who not have a Student Loan in place at a time specified by MITSkills will be withdrawn from their course.

9. Full Cost Provision

9.1. Students who are not eligible to public funding can choose to pay all associated course costs themselves, or a third party may choose to pay on their behalf. The Head of Operations should be contacted to discuss fees.

9.2. MITSkills will also work with employers to develop bespoke programmes that can be delivered to individuals or a workforce. The Head of Operations should be contacted to discuss fees.

10. Where stand alone ESF Funded course are agreed MITSkills charging will be in line with ESF funding requirement.

. Re-taking a Qualification

11.1. Students will not normally be permitted to re-take qualifications to improve a grade unless there is documented evidence of exceptional circumstances outside the control of the student, such as a period of long term sickness.

11.2. Students funded by the EFA, who wish to re-sit to improve a grade, will be eligible to do so if they studied the qualification elsewhere.

11.3. Students aged 19+ who wish to pursue this as an option will be subject to Full Cost fees and The Head of Operations should be contacted to discuss fees

11.4. The exception to this GCSE English and/or maths, where the student has not yet achieved a grade C in these subjects. These qualifications are fully-funded, regardless of age, if learning and assessment is taking place. If this is not the case, the student is also subject to Full Cost fees.



12. External Candidates

12.1. Students will be permitted to sit examinations as an external candidate where the qualification is already being delivered by MITSkills.

12.2. External candidates will not receive any tuition. Should tuition be required, this will be classed as Full Cost Provision.

12.3. Students are eligible to pay all associated awarding body fees.

12.4. Students will be charged a £25 administration fee for each qualification that requires examination(s) to be sat.

13. Reduction in Fees Due to Recognition of Prior Learning

13.1. Students may qualify for a reduction in tuition fee costs where they have already achieved an element of the qualification or transferable credits for QCF qualifications on the Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF). These cases must be referred to the Head of Operations

13.2. A reduction of funding will be applied, apportioned based on units fully completed e.g. 3 completed units of 9 in total the fee is set at 66% of the original fee

13.3. The funding received from the EFA/SFA will in both cases be reduced.

14. Payment of Fees

14.1. In order to enrol, students must demonstrate that satisfactory arrangements are in place for the payment of fees.

14.2. The full fee will still be payable if a student withdraws from the course and payment must continue to be made regardless of the student withdrawing.

14.3. Where a course or Study Programme has a planned duration of fewer than 24 weeks, fees must be paid in full before the student is permitted to start the course. Payments can be made by cash or card.

14.4. For qualifications or Study Programmes with a planned duration of 24 weeks or more, students, their sponsor or employer have the option of paying by up to 3 equal instalments.

14.5. The instalments will be collected as follows:

- First instalment due at enrolment
- Up to 3 further instalments, commencing on the first day of the month after next, this option will cease by 1st January 2017 and all payment must be completed by 1st April 2017



14.6. Payment dates will be specified at the time of enrolment

14.7. It is the expectation that students will pay their instalments by Standing Order/Direct Debit.

14.8. A £20 administration fee will be charged to students who pay by instalments. This £20 will be refunded, subject to the payment plan being adhered to.

14.9. If fees have not been paid by the due date specified on the instalment agreement then the full outstanding balance becomes payable immediately.

14.10. Where a student's fees are to be met by a third party (such as their employer) the student must either supply, at the time of enrolment, a letter from the company or organisation confirming that fees will be paid, or return confirmation to MITSkills within 7 days of enrolling.

14.11. In the absence of such confirmation, the student remains liable for the full cost of the course.

14.12. Students who apply for an Advanced Learning Loan or a HE Loan from SFE will have their fees collected on their behalf by MITSkills.

15. Failure to Pay Fees

15.1. Continued attendance upon a programme of study is dependent upon payment of fees

15.2. Non-payment of fees or failure to agree acceptable terms of payment will result in one or more of the following:

- Examination entries not being processed
- Physical access to the course being denied
- Access to work placements (forming part of the Study Programme) being prevented.

15.3. All outstanding fees will be subject to debt recovery processes which may involve a third party organisation.

15.4. Enrolment on a course may be refused where there are outstanding fees relating to previous enrolments or academic years.

16. Refunds

16.1. Fees are refundable in full if MITSkills should close a class or the attendance of the applicant is made impossible or inappropriate by some action of MITSkills.



16.2. No refunds will be made in the event of a student withdrawing from the course for personal reasons. A student may be charged all outstanding fees upon withdrawal from a course.

16.3. At the discretion of MITSkills and where the student can demonstrate that extenuating circumstances exist to prevent them from continuing with their course, the Head of Operations may authorise a refund or credit note following an appeal.

16.4. Where a student withdraws through illness, a refund may be made upon the production of a doctor's certificate. A proportionate deduction will be made for the classes already attended.

16.5. Fees will not be refunded where course closure is temporary due to fire, flood or other force majeure, adverse weather conditions or industrial action.

17. Transfers

17.1. Where a student transfers from a course MITSkills has closed to an alternative high cost course, no additional charges will be made.

17.2. Where a student transfers to a same fee course, no additional charge will be made.

17.3. Where a student decides to transfer to a higher fee course, the student will pay the difference in fees, calculated by the Head of MIS, Funding & Planning.

18. Financial Support for Students

18.1. A range of bursaries and other financial support is available to students, which is detailed in MITSkills Bursary Policy. Details of the can be found on MITSkills website or from MITSkills Administration West Byfleet.

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