YOUR PATHWAY TO

ACCESS TO HE

2024/25

Loughborough
COLLEGE est. 1909

COURSE LIST

Level 3 Business 8
Level 3 Health and Social Care 9
Level 3 Science 10
Level 3 Social Sciences 11
Level 3 Education 12

THIS IS JUST A SNAPSHOT

Visit our website

www.loucoll.ac.uk

for more detailed info about all our courses

Keep up-to-date:

LOUGHBOROUGH COLLEGE AIMS TO EQUIP YOU WITH THE NECESSARY SKILLS FOR FURTHER PROGRESSION, WITH MANY OF OUR ACCESS STUDENTS ACHIEVING A HIGH LEVEL OF SUCCESS IN ADVANCED LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS.

Our Access to Higher Education courses have been designed specifically for adults who want to return to study and gain the necessary qualifications to progress into Higher Education. As an institution, we welcome people with diverse academic backgrounds and experiences.

All Access courses are one year long and usually timetabled for three days a week, allowing students to arrange childcare, work arrangements, and other commitments easily.

BENEFITS OF ACCESS TO HE:

- Credit-based and graded qualification
- Progression to Higher Education
- Learn with other adults
- Adult alternative to A Levels
- Three days per week at college

FEES & FUNDING

Funding your course may be easier than you think. To see if you qualify for funding support with your tuition fees, see the table below:

Please refer to the coloured columns in the table below if you are:

- In receipt of JSA or ESA or Universal Credits OR
- Unemployed and in receipt of means tested benefits OR
- Employed and earn less than £20,319 annual gross salary

AGE AND STUDENT CIRCUMSTANCE									
COURSE LEVEL	16-18	19-23 AND RECEIVING BENEFITS/LOW INCOME		19-23		24+ AND RECEIVING BENEFIT/LOW INCOME		24+	
		First time studying this qualification	Completed a qualification at this level previously	First time studying this qualification	Completed a qualification at this level previously	First time studying this qualification	Completed a qualification at this level previously	First time studying this qualification	Completed a qualification at this level previously
ESOL	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
ENTRY LEVEL	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
ELIGIBLE LEVEL 1	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
ELIGIBLE LEVEL 2	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
ELIGIBLE LEVEL 3	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
LEVEL 3 FREE COURSES FOR JOBS OFFER	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★

★ Eligible for funding, no fee to pay

★ Not eligible for funding, likely to have to pay

★ Not eligible for free funding, however Advanced Learner Loans are an option instead

This information is based on current government funding guidelines for September 2024 entry, and are subject to change at any time.

PLEASE NOTE:

The table provides generic funding guidance.

To ensure that you are entitled to funding, we will fully assess your eligibility prior to enrolling you.

Please ensure that you provide all prior qualifications held when asked to do so, as the college will retrospectively charge tuition fees should differing circumstances come to light.

Some courses are defined as full cost and as such do not qualify for free tuition.

Other courses are also not eligible for adult funding.

All of the above information applies to students who have resided in the UK/EEA for the past 3 years and are eligible for home funding.

ABOUT ACCESS COURSES

WHAT IS ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION?

The Access to Higher Education (HE) Diploma is a qualification that prepares students for university-level study. It's designed for people who would like to study in Higher Education but who left school without the usual qualifications, such as A Levels, or for those who have been out of education for a while.

Many Access to HE students go on to succeed at university and beyond, with a large number pursuing new careers and seeing changes in their lives that they had never thought possible.

WHAT LEVEL IS AN ACCESS TO HE QUALIFICATION EQUIVALENT TO?

The Access to HE qualification is equivalent in standard to other Level 3 qualifications, such as A Levels, and has been recognised as a full Level 3 qualification in the Labour Force Survey.

CAN I GET FINANCIAL HELP TO STUDY?

Students aged between 19-23 without a full level 3 qualification may be entitled to get the course for free. Students who are aged 24 and over will have the option of applying for the Advanced Learner Loan or self-funding their studies. See opposite for more information about Advanced Learner Loans, or get in touch with our Student Finance Officer on **01509 215831** or **studentfinance@loucoll.ac.uk** to discuss your situation.

WHAT IF I DON'T MEET THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ACCESS TO HE DIPLOMA?

Get in touch with our Student Recruitment Team who will be able to talk to you about other options. Contact them on **01509 618375** or **studentrecruitment@loucoll.ac.uk**

AM I TOO OLD?

No! Almost everyone considering an Access to HE course worries that they may have left it too late. Your life experience will be valuable on the course and you'll find that other Access to HE students and students studying at university level are of a wide age range.

People coming back into education are often extremely motivated, leading to a positive and productive learning environment.

WHAT DOES AN ACCESS TO HE COURSE INVOLVE?

To achieve an Access to HE Diploma, you need to complete a programme that includes certain units of study in relevant subject areas. You'll be taught pre-university skills, learning how to approach study, and the different techniques that you'll need to be a successful degree student.

The whole package of units will have been designed to ensure that you're thoroughly equipped for studying at university. For each unit successfully completed, you'll earn credits that gradually build towards the 60 credits that are required for the Access to HE Diploma.

Many people are nervous when they start an Access to HE course, particularly if they haven't been in a classroom for some time. Tutors are aware of this and take it into account in their teaching. You won't be "thrown in at the deep end" or tested on things which you may have studied years ago. Though you can expect the course to be challenging, the whole purpose of an Access to HE course is to help you to be successful.

IS THE ACCESS TO HE DIPLOMA RECOGNISED BY UNIVERSITIES?

Each year, around 24,000 Access to HE students begin studying at universities across the UK. Access to HE is therefore widely recognised by UK universities.

Each year, around 20,000 Access to HE students apply to universities across the UK. What's more, the framework for the approval of Access to HE courses is managed by the universities' own quality assurance organisation: the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA).

ADVANCED LEARNER LOANS: KEY FACTS

- If your loan is for an Access to Higher Education course and you progress to complete a Higher Education university-level programme, you will not have to pay back your loan.
- You don't pay anything upfront. Repayments will start when your income is over £524 a week, £2,274 a month or £27,295 a year. If your income falls below these thresholds, repayments will stop and only re-start when your income is over these thresholds.
- You can make voluntary repayments at any time to pay off your loans more quickly.
- You'll be due to start repaying your loan in the April after you complete or leave your course.
- You'll repay 9% of your income over £27,295 a year. Even if your income doesn't exceed £27,295 a year but is over £524 a week or £2,274 a month at any point in the year (e.g. if you work overtime) then a loan deduction will be made.
- From the April after you finish the course, repayments are at 9% of income above £21,000, irrespective of the amount of loan taken out.
- Loans are not means-tested or credit-checked.
- Outstanding loan balances will be written off after 30 years, from the completion of the course.

To qualify, you must:

- Be aged 18 or over at the start of the course.
- Be studying an eligible course (as per the funding policy).
- Have been a resident in the UK for three years prior to the start of the course.

For more information, visit **gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan** or contact our Student Finance Officer on **studentfinance@loucoll.ac.uk** or **01509 215831**

APPLICATION PROCESS

1 APPLY

The first step in joining Loughborough College is to **submit an application form**, this can be done online or via a paper form. After receiving this, we will acknowledge receipt of your application.

2 HAVE YOU GIVEN US ALL OF THE NECESSARY INFORMATION?

Predicted Grades – you need to provide us with your predicted grades so that we can ensure you are applying for a suitable course and level. For A Level applicants, where this is not provided your application will be put on hold.

Fee Status – We may ask you to complete and return a Fee Status questionnaire based on your Nationality or your right to remain in the country.

Are your course choices right for you? – where your predicted grades indicate that the course choice(s) are not appropriate, we reserve the right to amend this, where a suitable choice is available within the same area.

3 APPLICANT EVENT

In order to secure a place at Loughborough College, you must first **attend an Applicant Event** for your chosen course(s). **Your invite will be sent via email** so please ensure you check your spam/trash folders regularly.

Where you are unable to attend, it is important that we are notified beforehand (details on how to do this will be included in the email invite) so that we can invite you in to the next available event.

N.B. If an applicant doesn't attend two events in a row, without notifying us beforehand, then we will automatically assume that they are no longer interested and their application will be withdrawn.

4

OFFERS

After attending an Applicant Event, the course leader will make a suitable course offer and this will be sent out to you. In order to secure a place on the chosen course, the acceptance of place form must be completed and returned to us within the **specified** timeframe.

Applicants who do not accept their offer may still be considered, however priority will be given to those who accepted their offer in the **specified** timeframe.

5

PRE-PROGRAMME

In order to secure a place on the chosen course, students must then **attend** a Pre-Programme experience (taster day) OR notify us with a satisfactory explanation as to why they are unable to attend. These events are **likely to be** in **late June/ early July** and they are really important for students to attend to enable them to get a taste of what being a student at Loughborough College is like.

Sadly however this event is not aimed at Parents/Guardians/Carers. Sorry – all the fun goes to our students for this one!

6

REGISTRATION AND ENROLMENT

First you will be invited to complete an Online Registration, where you will be asked to log in and provide us with your personal details. You must also provide us with ID evidence and an appropriate photograph of yourself for your student ID badge.

Then on **National Results Day (Thursday 22nd August 2024)** you will be asked to log in again and upload proof of your results.

On, or shortly after, National Results Day you will be invited in to a Sign Up event with your chosen course area and this is where you formally sign up for your course. You will meet with a member of the teaching team who will assess your results and discuss appropriate courses.

If you do not get the grades that you are expecting then please don't worry! We will work with you to help you find an alternative option.

BUSINESS
LEVEL 3

THE ACCESS TO HE BUSINESS OPTION AIMS TO DEVELOP YOUR BUSINESS AND LEGAL SKILLS THROUGH LEARNING THAT INCORPORATES PRACTICAL ISSUES AND BRIDGES THE GAP BETWEEN THEORETICAL AND WORK-BASED PLACEMENT. THIS PATHWAY MAY BE CONSTRUCTED FROM A RANGE OF UNITS IN BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, AND OTHER RELATED AREAS.

All of our Access to HE qualifications establish the foundations for further study and provide you with the skills and knowledge you need to succeed in your chosen field. The Access to HE Business qualification is made up of Level 3 units totalling 60 credits.

MODULES INCLUDE:

- **Human Resource Management**
- **Business Ethics**
- **Factors that Influence a Business**
- **People in Organisations**
- **Research Project**

DETAILS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should be aged 19 plus by the 31st August prior to starting the course.

You will need to have GCSE English and maths at grade 4/C or above.

In exceptional circumstances we will consider applicants who have Level 2 functional skills maths. Consideration will be given to applicants who do not have maths GCSE as it may be possible (subject to pre-entry assessment) to study one GCSE alongside the Access course.

Very good communication skills are essential for this course, particularly in written English, as extended essays, controlled assessments and presentations are the main forms of assessment.

START DATE

September

END DATE

June

DURATION

1 year

COURSE COST

Please get in touch for latest course costs.

See page 3 for funding options

PROGRESSION

Following the successful completion of an Access course, you will have the option of either progressing to Higher Education or moving into full-time employment. Should you choose to progress to Higher Education, we'll provide you with information, advice and guidance to help you apply for a degree that meets your needs and career aspirations.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
LEVEL 3

THE ACCESS TO HE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE COURSE IS DESIGNED TO FACILITATE ENTRY INTO VARIOUS BRANCHES OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION, INCLUDING NURSING, PARA-MEDICINE, MIDWIFERY AND SOCIAL CARE. THE PROGRAMME INCLUDES THE STUDY OF HUMAN BIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY, AND SOCIOLOGY AS THE MAIN SUBJECT AREAS.

All of our Access to HE qualifications establish the foundations for further study and provide you with the skills and knowledge you need to succeed in your chosen field. The Access to HE Health and Social Care qualification is made up of Level 3 units totalling 60 credits.

MODULES INCLUDE:

- **Introduction to Psychology**
- **The Cell**
- **Infectious Diseases**
- **Skeleton and Muscle**
- **Pre-University Skills**

For a full list of modules please visit our website.

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SCIENCE
LEVEL 3

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN SCIENCE IS A SPECIALIST PROGRAMME PRESENTING YOU WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY ACROSS A BROAD SPECTRUM OF ACADEMIC SCIENCE RELATED FIELDS.

The modules that you will study will facilitate successful progression to those universities that require a balanced science-based Level 3 qualification.

This diploma gives you the opportunity to apply for a degree in a Science subject, which could lead to a career working as a scientist or laboratory specialist in the NHS, the private sector, radiologist, forensics, or scientific research.

MODULES INCLUDE:'

- **Physical Chemistry**
- **Core Chemistry**
- **Biochemistry**
- **Atomic Physics**
- **Genetics**

DETAILS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should be aged 19 plus by the 31st August prior to starting the course.

You will need to have GCSE English, maths, and science at grade 4/C or above.

Very good communication skills are essential for this course, particularly in written English, as extended essays, controlled assessments and presentations are the main forms of assessment.

START DATE

September

END DATE

June

DURATION

1 year

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SOCIAL SCIENCES
LEVEL 3

ACCESS TO HE IN SOCIAL SCIENCES IS A SPECIALIST PROGRAMME PRESENTING YOU WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY ACROSS A BROAD SPECTRUM OF ACADEMIC FIELDS. THE PATHWAY MAY BE CONSTRUCTED FROM A RANGE OF UNITS IN TOPICS SUCH AS SOCIOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY.

All of our Access to HE qualifications establish the foundations for further study and provide you with the skills and knowledge you need to succeed in your chosen field. The Access to HE Social Sciences qualification is made up of Level 3 units totalling 60 credits.

MODULES INCLUDE:

- **Introduction to Psychology**
- **Culture and Identity**
- **Pre-University Skills**
- **Crime and Deviance: Psychology**
- **Sociological Concepts and Perspectives**

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1 year

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EDUCATION
LEVEL 3

ACCESS TO HE IN EDUCATION IS A SPECIALIST PROGRAMME PRESENTING YOU WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY ACROSS A BROAD SPECTRUM OF TEACHING AND EDUCATION RELATED FIELDS.

This qualification is made up of Level 3 units totalling 60 credits;
45 of these credits are mandatory, while 15 can be chosen from a variety of optional units.

Students will undertake 2 ungraded units. There are no optional units on the proposed course, but there is still a good balance and difference between the units and different pathways.

MODULES INCLUDE:

- **Pre-University Skills**
- **Perspectives in Psychology**
- **Setting Learning Targets**
- **Early Social Development**
- **Sociology of Education**
- **The Teaching Experience**
- **Assessment in Education**
- **Education Practice and Theory**

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FAQs

CAN I SPEAK TO SOMEBODY ABOUT THE COURSES YOU OFFER? Yes, we have a dedicated student recruitment advisory team who will be happy to provide you with the information on our courses and answer any questions you may have. Give us a call on **01509 618375** or email us at **admissions@loucoll.ac.uk**

I NEED EXTRA SUPPORT WITH MY STUDIES. WHAT HELP CAN I GET AT LOUGHBOROUGH COLLEGE? There are staff on hand to help you with your academic progress. Our specialist advisors can also help with additional requirements, and we have a fantastic team of learning support assistants who can provide in-class assistance.

WHAT'S THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION?
As a college we would advise you to try and apply by Friday 26th April 2024. This will allow you to get the most out of what we can offer you, helping you to make the important decisions about the courses you're interested in. We will however continue to consider applications made after this date.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T GET THE GRADES I WAS EXPECTING?
If you don't get your predicted results, don't panic! Our Student Recruitment team is on hand to help, and we'll make sure that we find another course that is suitable for you.

DOES THE COLLEGE OFFER FINANCIAL HELP?
We offer a bursary fund to help with additional costs associated with your course, such as transport, trips, and childcare costs. Eligibility is based on household income.
You don't need to request a bursary application form, as they are sent to everyone who has applied to study with us (usually in July/August). Further information is available here: **www.loucoll.ac.uk/student-services**

CAN I CHOOSE TO DO ANOTHER COURSE IF I CHANGE MY MIND?
Yes. You can change your course before enrolment by contacting the student recruitment team on **01509 618375**. If you've already started your course and find that it isn't right for you, don't worry; there will be opportunities for you to discuss suitable alternatives.

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