



The Open Campus Financial Aid & Awards Regional Counselling Workshops



Is paying for your higher and continuing education hurting?

Do you have questions such as:

- Why are my course fees going up?
- What is financial aid?
- Will there be awards or scholarships available?
- Can I pay my course fees in stages?
- What happens if I can't pay?
- Who can I talk to in confidence about my situation?



Attend one of our Open Campus Financial Aid & Awards
Counselling Workshops

Please contact your local Open Campus Site for the dates, times
and locations of these workshops. Or go online @

www.dec.uwi.edu/admissions/financialaid



The Open Campus - Rallying Around the Caribbean to Help Get You Through Tough Financial Times

Our Fees

Paying for education at a quality higher education institution like the UWI Open Campus is a matter of concern for many of our students across and outside of the Caribbean region. Many of us at the Open Campus are equally concerned that some students simply assume they will be unable to handle the cost of a quality UWI education.

However, for the first time in 11 years we have had to increase fees from US\$180 (or local equivalent) to US\$240.00 per 3 credit course for the academic year 2008/2009. This is considerably less than many other comparable institutions charge, and we have also deferred the full increase of US\$300.00 to the academic year 2009/2010. The fee of \$300 is also less than that charged per course on other UWI campuses.

Our Current Financial Alternatives For You

We are very sympathetic to the possible negative effects on our students and so the Open Campus will do as much as we can to mitigate the hardship on students for Semester I (2008/09). We propose the following:

- a. Students who are experiencing difficulties may pay their fees on a monthly basis (i.e. four installments) for Semester 1 **only (end of August, September, October and November).** This will have to be reviewed as to whether it will continue for Semester II.
- b. Students (particularly those who are doing four or more courses) who are experiencing genuine hardship should be referred by the Head of Centre to the Office of the Director of the Open Campus Country Sites for consideration of assistance from a central fund. Students must first be screened by the Head of Centre to ensure that they have explored all other local options.
- c. The Open Campus undertakes to explore additional possibilities for assisting students in financing their programmes and will do so aggressively in the first semester with the hope of implementing this in Semester II.

We Want to make It Easier for You

We understand how difficult the current economic environment is for many students. In fact, we have held back the base price of many of our courses and programmes for over 12 years in order to make it more affordable for many of our students. As we work towards making this Open Campus work for you, our very valuable students, we would like to assure you that that any one of you who is in genuine need will not be turned away as far as we can help it. You and your learning needs are very important to us.

