



Bursaries

Integrated Foundation Year Computing & Engineering



FACULTY OF COMPUTING AND ENGINEERING FORTIFY PROJECT

The FORTIFY Project aims to encourage students to study Computing and Engineering at the University of Ulster, specifically those who would normally encounter barriers to following this route. The Project is particularly targeted at

- Female students, who are under-represented in courses in these subjects
- Students who have had a break of at least a year in their studies, and who now want to establish a career path in these subjects
- Students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Under the Project, up to 32 bursaries will be made available to students from the three priority areas enrolling on Integrated Foundation Year (IFY) courses in the Faculty of Computing and Engineering. Eight bursaries will be available in each of the four Academic Schools in the Faculty, and cover the Coleraine, Jordanstown and Magee campuses of the University. The bursaries will meet the full fee for the Integrated Foundation Year (worth £3,145 each in 2008-09). It is expected that students will progress from the IFY to Year 1 of a linked Honours Degree in Computing or Engineering, and therefore students who are awarded a bursary will have one of the major costs of the IFY year removed.

In order to qualify for an award, you must fall into one of the three priority groups. You must also meet some of the normal conditions applied by the European Social Fund. These include

- You must have been unemployed (ie not working but looking for work) before you entered the Integrated Foundation Year. This includes time spent receiving a number of State benefits, unpaid work, casual or temporary work of less than 4 weeks and part time work of less than 16 hours per week.
- You must not have received ESF support in the previous three years
- You must have been out of full-time education for at least a year before you entered the Integrated Foundation year (Priority 2). You should note that applicants who enrolled for an Integrated Foundation Year in a previous academic year will not be eligible.
- You must be in receipt of a University Bursary. (Priority 3)

Students who receive an ESF FORTIFY Bursary must demonstrate full attendance: persistent absence can lead to the withdrawal of ESF support.

In the event of there being more applicants than FORTIFY Bursaries, either for a particular priority group or for an Academic School, applicants' household income (as defined by the University Bursary Scheme) will be used to provide a ranking. For this reason, all applicants are asked to provide their Student Support Number.