

# LFA TUITION FEE REFUND AND COMPENSATION POLICY

## Introduction

- 1. Background: London Film Academy (LFA, Our, Us, We) is committed to delivering the educational services set out in Our literature so that students (You/r) can complete their studies here. However, We recognise this may not always be possible and have implemented this policy in recognition of the need to protect the interests of Our prospective and current students and to set out the circumstances in which a refund and/or compensation can be expected.
- 2. Policy status: Along with Your Offer Letter, the Terms and Conditions and LFA Policies and Procedures, this policy forms part of the Agreement between You and LFA. It is therefore very important that You read this document carefully before accepting a place.

#### **Definitions**

- 3. A **Refund** is a repayment (or waiver or reduction) of tuition fees paid to LFA. A refund may be payable in the event that a student withdraws from their course, suspends their studies, changes their mode of study or benefits from a discount, scholarship or waiver. A refund may also be paid in the event that LFA cannot preserve continuation of study.
- 4. Compensation may be payable to a student in response to losses they have suffered in connection with disruption to the continuation of their studies.
- A Current student is one already registered and enrolled on an academic course at LFA.
- 6. A **Prospective student** is one who has been offered a place at LFA but has not yet registered or enrolled or started their course.

## Registration Fees and Additional Costs

- 7. Administration Fee: LFA Administration Fee covers the administrative costs incurred during the admissions process and is non-refundable.
- 8. CAS Fee: LFA CAS Fee covers the cost payable by LFA to UKVI for issuing You with a CAS number and is non-refundable.
- 9. Course Transfer Fee: LFA Course Transfer Fee covers the administration costs incurred in transferring You from one course to another and is non-refundable.
- 10. **Deposit Fee**: LFA Deposit Fee registers Your place on the course and is non-refundable.
- 11. Additional costs: LFA may charge You additional costs relating to particular courses to cover, for example, awarding body registration fees, examination and assessment fees, books, field trips, specialist clothing or materials. Any additional costs are set out in Your Offer Letter alongside tuition fees. Information on these costs can also be accessed via the course pages on the LFA website.

## Fee Increases

12. Regulated Fees: Undergraduate tuition fees for home students are regulated by the UK government. LFA reserves the right to increase these fees on an annual basis in line with the maximum increase permitted by the UK government. Such fee increases will apply to all modes of study, including repeat years of study.

- 13. **Unregulated Fees:** LFA reserves the right to increase unregulated tuition fees on an annual basis. LFA will endeavour to limit each increase to no more than five per cent above the previous year's fees but from time to time a greater increase will be made. Such fee increases will apply to all modes of study, including repeat years of study.
- 14. **Fees increases:** LFA will only apply a fees increase in respect of new students and will not increase tuition fees during the course of an academic year for Current or Prospective Students.

# Student Loans (Eligible students only)

- 15. **Loan status:** You may be permitted to enrol on a course prior to confirmation that Your Student Loan Company (SLC) application has been approved but do so at Your own risk. In such cases You must provide evidence that Your SLC application has been submitted by no later than the course induction day. Furthermore, if within eight weeks of the course commencement date You have still not received SLC loan approval and have not otherwise paid Your tuition fees or confirmed sponsorship, LFA may terminate registration.
- 16. **Responsibility:** You are responsible for entering the correct course and fee information when applying to the SLC for support. Applications for support must be made for each year of study for the correct course, course year and amount. You are strongly encouraged to apply for student loan funding well in advance of the start of the academic year.
- 17. **Additional study:** The SLC normally provides loan funding for a first undergraduate degree for the number of years' duration of the course plus one (1) year. You will be personally liable for any additional years of study, or for any years of study that may not be funded by the SLC due to previous study at another institution.

#### Planned Termination

- 18. LFA may be faced with circumstances where the <u>Student Protection Plan</u> is triggered and the delivery of a course cannot continue (for example because it is not financially viable to continue).
- 19. LFA recognises its responsibility to protect the interests of its Prospective and Current students in the event that commencement or continuation of study is not possible. Measures that would be taken include:
  - providing advice and assistance so that students can decide whether to transfer to another course or seek to continue their studies with an alternative provider;
  - enabling current students who do not wish to continue their studies to leave the LFA with an 'exit award' which reflects their level of attainment;
  - ensuring that any student in receipt of bursary funding is able to continue to receive that funding if they transfer to another course or continue their studies at an alternative provider;
  - implementing a refund and compensation response that reflects the particular circumstances of individual students (see clauses 20-25 below for more details)

## Events Beyond the Control of LFA

20. Any event beyond the reasonable control of the LFA is a Force Majeure Event. Force Majeure Events shall include (but are not limited to) such events as an act of God, fire, flood, storm, other natural disaster, nuclear disaster, threat of war, war, riot, civil unrest, act of terrorism, strikes, industrial action and disputes, outbreak of epidemic or pandemic disease, failure of utility service or transportation. See <a href="LFA Terms and Conditions">LFA Terms and Conditions</a> clause 14 for more information.





# Tuition Fee Refund Eligibility

# 21. LFA may make a tuition fee refund if You:

- 21.1. are in the cooling off period: If Your Agreement with the LFA was formed entirely by means of distance communications (by post or email) without You meeting face to face with a member of staff You have the right to cancel Your Agreement with the LFA and obtain a full refund at any time within 14 days of the date on which You accepted Your place formally (the cooling off period). You do not have to give a reason for cancelling.
- 21.2. cancel Your place on any course at least four (4) weeks before the course commencement date where the notification of cancellation is received by the LFA in writing unless the reason set out in 21.3 below applies. Any refund is less any non-refundable deposit and subject to the Administration Fee.
- 21.3. are an international student requiring a visa to study in the UK and Your application, made in good faith and within the timelines and guidance the LFA provides, is unsuccessful, the LFA will refund the full amount paid including Your Deposit Fee less the Administration Fee upon presentation of the official documentation from Your local embassy or consulate and a copy of Your visa application;
- 21.4. have made an overpayment (self-funding only);
- 21.5. are affected by closure or relocation of a course.

#### 22. the LFA will not make a tuition fee refund if You:

- 22.1. withdraw from the course
- 22.2. have Your place terminated by the LFA.

In exceptional circumstances a refund of the Deposit or Full Fee for the course shall be made solely at the discretion of the LFA. Please contact Admissions Team at <a href="mailto:Admissions@londonfilmacademy.com">Admissions@londonfilmacademy.com</a>

# 23. **Calculation:** the level of refund entitlement will depend on the specific circumstances:

Date of Cancellation/ Withdrawal /Termination	% of annual tuition fee refund due if Student cancels or withdraws	% of annual tuition fee due if the LFA terminates
Failure to enrol due to predicted grades being	100% refund*	100% refund*
lower than entry requirements	including Deposit Fee	including Deposit Fee
14 day cooling off period	100% refund*	100% refund*
	including Deposit Fee	including Deposit Fee
4 weeks before the start date of the course	100% refund*	100% refund* including
	less Deposit Fee	Deposit Fee
Visa refusal less than 4 weeks before the start	100% refund*	100% refund* including
date of the course	less Deposit Fee	Deposit Fee
Less than 4 weeks before the start date of the	0% refund	100% refund* including
course		Deposit Fee
After start date term 1 to end date of term 1	0% refund	Up to 67% refund on a
		pro rata basis**
After start date of term 2 to end date of term 2	0% refund	Up to 33% refund on a
		pro rata basis**
After start date of term 3 to end date of term 3	0% refund	Up to 0% refund on a
		pro rata basis**
After start date of a short course to end date of	0% refund	Up to 100% refund on a
short course		pro rata basis**
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<sup>\*</sup> refunds are subject to an Administration Fee and will never exceed the actual amount paid and fees are collected before the start of each academic year.

<sup>\*\*</sup> If the LFA terminates mid-way through a term or short course a refund is issued on a pro rata basis based on calendar days of the term period. For example, if the LFA terminates half-way through term 1 then an 83.5% refund will be issued.

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24. **Payment**: Refunds are paid by bank transfer and will only be made to the original source of funding (i.e. SLC, external sponsor or the student personally). Any refund due to You will be paid to the country and account from which the tuition fees were originally paid.

# Compensation

- 25. **Scope:** The LFA aims to ensure that the student learning experience is delivered as described in its literature (e.g. Website, Student Handbooks and Prospectus). The LFA will endeavour to avoid making changes to course content, location or mode of delivery but where this is unavoidable will act to mitigate the effects on students.
- 26. **Compensation Principles:** We adopt the compensation principles used by the Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA) and will consult with the students to develop a compensation plan relevant to the circumstances. This may include:
  - actual foreseeable, evidential and reasonable financial loss incurred by You (e.g. loan interest, travel costs, etc).
  - compensation payments for day to day living expenses that reflects reasonable expenditure in cases where You have incurred costs while a decision from the LFA has been pending or where Your studies have been extended as a result of the triggering of the Student Protection Plan.
- 27. **Forms of Compensation**: Compensation may take the form of a financial payment, a discount, or some other form of benefit.

Financial Compensation is paid by bank transfer and will only be made to the student personally, to the country and account from which the tuition fees were originally paid. Payment of compensation is subject to the provision of appropriate evidence that the additional expenditure has been incurred.

# Validating Partner Provision

28. Students on University of Derby (UoD) Partnership Provision: Whist LFA's Student Protection Plan is the primary framework of protection there is an additional protection through the validating partner. For courses delivered in collaboration with a UoD partner, UoD state they are responsible for the protection of students' interests and so the principles of their Student Protection Plan apply. In the event that a partner (LFA) is unable to continue to offer a franchised or validated course, they would work closely with UoD partner (LFA) to ensure continuation of study; in such circumstances they would consider contingency actions such as transfer of students onto another University of Derby delivery site/University of Derby mode of delivery or assist the transfer to an alternative provider. University of Derby Student Protection Plan-section 2.18.

## Complaints & Further Information

- 29. **Complaints**: Any student with a complaint relating to this <u>Tuition Fee Refund and Compensation Policy</u> should use the <u>LFA Complaints Policy</u> and Procedure.
- 30. **Further Information:** If you require any further information regarding refunds or compensation please e-mail Admissions Team at <u>Admissions@londonfilmacademy.com</u> or via +44 (0) 20 73867711.

