



OXFORD UNIVERSITY AND SOMERVILLE COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY BURSARY

Dear Oxford Opportunity Bursary holder,

Thank you for downloading this letter which contains information from the University and Somerville College regarding the Oxford Opportunity Bursary. The information below is only for students who have received a letter indicating the level of Oxford Opportunity Bursary they are due to receive for 2011/12. If you have not received this letter the information does not apply to you. **This letter does not provide evidence that the bearer holds a bursary.**

Your Oxford Opportunity Bursary is funded by the University and Somerville College to assist students from lower income households with their living costs whilst at University.

Payment

Payment of your bursary is made to you by the Student Loans Company (SLC) on behalf of Somerville College and the University. You must therefore ensure the SLC always have your correct bank details. These are the account details which you have submitted in order to receive a maintenance grant and loan.

You will only receive payment of your bursary if you have registered with the University by the deadline of Friday 14th October. You should usually expect payment during the following weeks:

Michaelmas Term	Week 4
Hilary Term	Week 2
Trinity Term	Week 2

Enhanced Bursaries

First year undergraduate students in receipt of the Oxford Opportunity Bursary will be invited to apply for Enhanced Bursaries towards the end of Michaelmas Term. These schemes are sponsored by 2 corporate donors and up to 30 awards are available. More details can be found at www.ox.ac.uk/feesandfunding/uqcurrent/university/enhanced/.

Changes to your Oxford Opportunity Bursary Entitlement

Your entitlement to an Oxford Opportunity Bursary, and the amount you will receive, will be re-assessed annually on the basis of the household income information provided to your award authority on your student support application form. Provided the level of your parents' or sponsors' household income means that you continue to be eligible for a bursary, you will receive an award for each year of your course. The level of the award may potentially change in the future, in line with improvements to the scheme and with inflation. A six year

medical student is eligible for an award in the first four years of their course only; in years 5 and 6 they will be eligible for NHS funding. Graduate Entry Medical students will be eligible to receive a bursary for their first year only.

As an Oxford Opportunity Bursary recipient you will not be affected by any changes to the bursary scheme for 2012 entrants, and will remain eligible to be assessed under the current scheme for the duration of your studies.

First-year undergraduate students who have an assessed annual household income of less than £18,000 receive an additional start up payment for the first year of their course only to assist with the costs of starting University. You will have been notified in your bursary letter if you are eligible to receive this additional funding.

Your bursary entitlement in the current year can change in line with any changes to your household income assessment by the Student Loans Company. Where this occurs you will receive further notification to inform you of the changes.


The bursary scheme for 2011/12 closes on 31 May 2012. Changes made to your household income after this date will not automatically result in a change to your bursary. If your assessment is likely to change, it is your responsibility to contact the bursary team using oxfordopportunity@admin.ox.ac.uk in advance of this deadline. Requests for reassessment will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Contact

If you have any queries about the Oxford Opportunity Bursary scheme please either speak to Andrew Warren at your College or email oxfordopportunity@admin.ox.ac.uk. If you need general advice about your finances, you should speak to Andrew Kingston in your College when you arrive.

The University and Somerville College are delighted to be able to offer you this support as part of their policy of seeking to ensure that the most promising UK students are able to benefit from an Oxford Education, regardless of their financial circumstances. We hope that this bursary will help you to make the most of all the opportunities which Oxford has to offer.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Sibly
Academic Registrar
and Secretary of Faculties

Yours sincerely,



Helen Morton
Treasurer
Somerville College