

# Amity University London

## Summary of 2022-23 to 2026-27 access and participation plan

### What is an access and participation plan?

Access and participation plans set out how higher education providers will improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups to access, succeed in and progress from higher education.

You can see the full access and participation plan for Amity University London at <https://www.amity.ac.uk/widening-participation-in-higher-education>

### Key points

Our access and plan focuses on how we will improve access, success and outcomes after graduation for specific groups of students at Amity. Data shows that, compared to their peers at Amity University London, participation rates are lower for certain groups of students as is degree attainment and progression into graduate employment after they leave Amity.

Students are less likely to enter Amity if they live the most deprived neighbourhoods or are from Black, Minority Ethnic backgrounds but are more likely to enter Amity if they are over 21.

Our most recent data shows that the following groups of students are less likely to achieve a degree award of 2:1 or above:

- Students from the most deprived neighbourhoods.
- Mature students
- Students from Black, Minority Ethnic backgrounds

The same groups of students are less likely to progress to employment or highly skilled employment.

A focus in this plan is to collect more up to date data on students achieving a degree award at 2:1 or above and progressing to employment/highly skilled employment so we can better understand how to improve outcomes for our students.

### Fees we charge

At Amity University in London the maximum fees charged are:

Full time students: 9,000 per year

Part-time students : £4,500 per year

From the academic year 2022-2023 there will be no part time courses to new students.

### Financial help available

We offer financial support for students from groups under-represented in higher education. This support helps students access higher education, complete their studies and achieve their academic potential when they are at Amity. The support includes:

A bursary of £1000 for the first year of undergraduate study if the student's household income is below £25,000.

A Care Experience bursary of £1500 for the first year of undergraduate study for students who have experience of being in the care of local UK authority or national Foyer Federation.

An Amity Access Plus Bursary of £1500 for the first year of undergraduate study for students who are:

- Carers
- People estranged from their families
- People from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities
- From military families.

A Progression Bursary of £1000 in either the second or third year of undergraduate study for students with a household income under £25,000, who are disabled, care experienced or from Black, Minority Ethnic backgrounds.

### **Information for students**

Prospective students can receive information on our fees and financial support in a number of ways through our website, open days, visits to school and colleges and our social media channels.

Current students receive information about the fees and financial support available through our student portal, meetings with their personal tutor and regular face to face information sessions.

### **What we are aiming to achieve**

Our overall aim is to support students from all backgrounds to access higher education and reach their potential having a clear, measurable and positive impact on the economic, cultural and educational lives of the communities we serve. We aim to provide an inclusive and supportive environment for all our students, embracing and valuing diversity and providing equality of opportunity for all.

Based on assessment of our performance, we have identified the following areas on which to focus our work:

**Support schools in their attainment raising and higher education related information, advice and guidance work to enable access to higher education** – From 2022-23 to 2026-27 we will build on our existing relationships with schools inside and outside London working with teachers and pupils from year 7 to year 13 to help the development of both subject specific knowledge and core academic skills.

**Students from deprived areas** - To increase the participation at Amity of students from the most deprived areas by 65% by 2026-27.

**Black and Minority Ethnic background students** - To increase the participation at Amity of students from the Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds by 40% by 2026-27.

**Care experienced students** - For 5% of all students entering Amity over the whole period from 2022-23 - 2026-27 to be care leaver students.

**Disabled students** – For 5% of all students entering Amity over the whole period from 2022-23 - 2026-27 to be disabled students.

**Students from low participation neighbourhoods** - For 10% of all students entering Amity over the whole period from 2022-23 - 2026-27 to be from the lowest participation neighbourhoods.

**Identifying where there are gaps in performance between groups of students** – After reviewing the data for 2021-22 we will outline measurable objectives for 2022-23 onwards to address gaps in students completing their study, achieving a degree award of 2:1 or better and progressing to employment or highly skilled employment.

### **What we are doing to achieve our aims**

We will undertake activities in 8 areas to support the achievement of our aims and targets.

1. Creating the Access to Business Education Centre to co-ordinate all our access and participation work.
2. Delivering a coherent and sustained programme of outreach work both face-to-face and online that will support learners in up to 20 schools/colleges to make informed decisions about progression to higher education and develop the academic knowledge necessary for such progression.
3. Take a personalised approach to providing additional study support that reflects the needs of the individual learner.
4. Work closely with national professional bodies in access and participation alongside employers to ensure our students have opportunities for personal development.
5. Offer a comprehensive programme of employability related activities including internships with major employers.
6. Engage students as partners in their learning via our individualised approach to teaching.
7. Provide training for all our staff so they understand how to best support students from our access and participation target groups.
8. Provide financial support throughout undergraduate study for eligible students.

### **How students can get involved**

In the production of our access and participation plan we worked closely with our student body undertaking a series of consultation events. The Head of the Amity Student Body is represented on the steering committee for the Access to Business Centre which is responsible for the implementation of this plan.

- To provide feedback, students can contact the Head of the Amity Student Body.
- To become involved in this work, contact our Access and Participation Lead.

### **Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved**

Our work on access and participation is informed by robust evidence and evaluation showing what activities make the most impact on the participation and progression in higher education of students in our target groups. We will collect information and feedback from our students, those in schools and colleges we work with through our outreach activities and our staff to evaluate:

- Who participates in our outreach activities and the impact of our work on their attainment and progression.
- The impact of the 8 areas of activity described above on our access and participation aims.
- How are access and participation work supports the creation of an inclusive and supportive environment for all our students.

The Access to Business Education Centre Steering Group will produce an annual research and evaluation report that describes the progress in our access and participation work and submit this to the Amity Governing Body. The Governing Body will oversee this progress and the implementation of any actions necessary in relation to achieving the yearly milestones in our access and participation plan.

### **Contact details for further information:**

**Email:** [studentsupport@london.amity.edu](mailto:studentsupport@london.amity.edu)

**Phone:** +44 (0)20 7631 0190