

The University of Greenwich

Summary of 2025-26 to 2028-29 access and participation plan

What is an access and participation plan?

Access and participation plans (APPs) set out how higher education providers will improve equality of opportunity and ensure home undergraduate students from disadvantaged and underrepresented groups have better chances to access and succeed in higher education, and progress to good graduate jobs afterwards.

The full access and participation plan is on the university [website](#).

Key points

The University of Greenwich is a widening-participation university with a highly diverse student population. Our students face a range of challenges with many coming from deprived backgrounds and facing financial hardship that requires them to work to support their studies. A substantial number of our students are local or commuting and we have a large community of Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) students. Many of our students enter via non-traditional routes, having studied more vocational qualifications on arrival.

We recognise that some groups of students are currently less likely to achieve the outcomes they would wish to, and there are gaps in access, degree awards and graduate employment between different groups of students at our university. The focus of our plan is to reduce these differences and ensure equitable outcomes for all our students.

See pages 1 to 2 of the full plan

Fees we charge

The maximum tuition fee charged for home full-time undergraduate study in 2025-26 will be £9,535. The maximum tuition fee charged for home part-time students will be £7,145 (based on a maximum of 90 credits).

The full list of fees is available on the university website [here](#)

Financial help available

With the support of Greenwich Students' Union, the university offers a range of financial support to our eligible widening participation background students including:

- Students with family income of less than £25,000 are automatically eligible for the **Greenwich Bursary** of £700 credit to support costs of equipment, books, and other essential resources along with the **Accommodation Bursary** of £700 reduction in rent for first year of study.
- Commuter students receive a **Commuter Bursary** that supports up to 50% of costs.
- The **Care Leaver Bursary** provides £1,500 per year for 3 years and £200 for graduation.
- Students who participate in the university's GREat Skills outreach programme before joining are eligible to apply for a **GREat Skills Scholarship** worth £2,000 in cash.
- The university provides a **Hardship Fund** for students who encounter unexpected financial difficulties during their studies.
- Students with low household incomes can access grants of up to £2,000 to support the costs of **studying abroad**.
- **Cost of living support** provides a range of initiatives including community breakfasts and dinners, sanitary provision, food vouchers and bus tickets.

We will also offer additional support to help these students to secure paid work at the university as student ambassadors, which will allow them to work around their studies, often more easily than other paid work.

See pages 19 to 20 of the full plan

Information for students

Prospective students receive information on fees and financial support at in-person and online events (such as open days, offer holder events, Instagram lives, and specialist outreach activities held in schools), and by email communications. Potential applicants are encouraged to use our website for information, and we have students available to answer questions on our live chat.

Current students receive information about fees and the financial support through the Digital Student Centre platform available to students 24/7, 365 days a year, providing immediate answers to their questions. Students can book appointments with a student fees and funding adviser and book onto money workshops via the Digital Student Centre.

You can see a full list of bursaries by visiting the university website [here](#).

See pages 19 to 20 and 30 to 31 of the full plan

What we are aiming to achieve

Our aim is to continue our success in widening access to higher education, and to support our diverse student body through their journey, ensuring all our students achieve their full potential because of, rather than despite, their backgrounds.

Our commitment to social mobility is outlined in our 'This is our time' strategy 2022-2030, which promotes 'Education without boundaries', accessed [here](#).

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

Improving access even more: While we are successful in ensuring good levels of access from many disadvantaged and underrepresented groups, we aim to attract more student from low participation areas with a focus on Kent. We intend to increase the headcount of new entrants from POLAR 4 Q1 areas by 56% by 2028/9.

Improving attainment for our diverse student body (students gaining a good degree outcome of 2:1 or above): To ensure the best outcomes for our diverse student body we are focussing on eliminating all attainment gaps by 2030 and by 2028-9 we aim to reduce these gaps:

- By 7.5 percentage points between full time Black and White students
- By 7.1 percentage points between full time Asian and White students
- By 8 percentage points for full time students from high deprivation areas (IMD Q1vQ5)

Improving progression into employment: we also aim to improve progression gaps for our diverse student body we are focussing on eliminating all progression gaps by 2030 and by 2028-9 we aim to reduce these gaps:

- By 6 percentage points between full time Asian and White students
- By 10.4 percentage points for full time students from high deprivation areas (IMD Q1vQ5)

See pages 2 to 8 of the full plan

What we are doing to achieve our aims

Widening Access and Raising Attainment – working in partnership with local schools, colleges, and other organisations to improve access and raise attainment to ensure students are provided with the support and skills they need to progress. We are committed to the ongoing expansion of diverse and flexible new pathways including apprenticeships.

Financial Support – we closely monitor the impact of the cost-of-living and financial pressures on our students. Financial support packages are tailored to ensure that support reaches students who are most in need.

Inclusivity –working with students and staff to ensure that all our programmes are inclusive by design and support students to succeed. We will recruit a more inclusive leadership team who more closely reflect our student body and will ensure staff receive training on the best use of inclusive practice and language in their teaching materials.

Attainment - develop curriculum, academic skills, teaching and/or assessment to ensure different groups of learners have comparable results.

Partnerships – supporting progression into employment through developing local, regional, and national partners for maximum benefit for our student body. We will target employability support at those groups least likely to gain a graduate job or progress to further study, to improve the outcomes for these groups.

See pages 8 to 28 of the full plan

How students can get involved

We worked with the Greenwich Students' Union to gather student input into the design of our access and participation plan. Students are represented on our Student Success Board, responsible for overseeing implementation of the plan.

To provide feedback, students can contact their students' union representative - greenwichsu@gre.ac.uk

To become involved in this work, contact our Access and Participation Lead – Kirsty Merry – Head of Advice and Wellbeing – k.e.merry@gre.ac.uk

See page 29 of the full plan

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

In our plan we outline how we will evaluate the activities we undertake to demonstrate their impact. We will evaluate continuously, looking for early evidence that our activities are having the impact we would hope, and adjusting them where necessary.

We will compare the performance of those who engage with our interventions with similar students who have not to identify the impact they have on the participants. Supported by the university's Student Success Evaluation Centre, our Access & Participation Working Group will monitor and report to the Student Success Board, which will oversee the implementation of actions to ensure ongoing progress against yearly milestones in our access and participation plan.

We will publish the findings of our evaluations on our website to show which are most effective in meeting our aims.

See pages 29 to 30 of the full plan

Contact details for further information

You can contact Rebecca Gee, Head of Information, Advice and Participation Services at R.Gee@gre.ac.uk for further information