

Lancaster University

Summary of 2020-21 to 2024-25 access and participation plan

What is an access and participation plan?

An Access and Participation Plan (APP) sets 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 APP for Lancaster University at:

[Lancaster University Access and Participation Plan](#)

Key points

Lancaster is committed to supporting the OfS (Office for Students) to achieve their national targets to reduce gaps in access, success, and progression for certain groups of students and to ensuring we achieve equality of opportunity for our students where gaps in access, retention, attainment or progression have been identified.

To achieve this, Lancaster will:

- Support the recruitment, retention and attainment of students from low participation neighbourhoods
- Reduce the gaps between students from POLAR 4 quintile 1 and 5
- Reduce the attainment gap between BAME and White students
- Maintain our performance where no gap has been identified for BAME students and those with a declared disability

Fees we charge

At Lancaster University, the maximum fees charged per year are:

- £9,250 for full-time students
- £6,105 for part-time students

You can see a full list of fees for courses at Lancaster University at:

[Lancaster University Fees](#)

Financial help available

We offer financial support to students from underrepresented groups. This helps students access higher education and continue studying until their course is completed. The support includes:

- Lancaster Opportunities Scholarship
- Lancaster Bursary
- Care Leavers Bursary
- Estranged Student Bursary

- GROW Your Future Careers Bursary

Details about the support available can be found here:

[Scholarships and Bursaries](#)

Information for students

Prospective students receive information on fees and financial support at in-person events, such as our open days, and by email communications.

Current students receive information about fees and the financial support available through our student portal, internal communications campaigns, and emails. For the most up-to-date information, see our university website:

[Lancaster University Financial Support](#)

What we are aiming to achieve

Our **overall aim** is to provide a richly diverse and fully inclusive learning environment. A place where all our students and staff are supported to succeed in what they do and reach their potential. For our students this includes ensuring equality of opportunity across all aspects of their student lifecycle, regardless of their background.

What we are doing to achieve our aims

- [Financial support](#)
- [Children and Young People's Partnership](#)
- [Lancaster Access Programme](#)
- [Contextual Admissions](#)
- [Lancaster Success Programme](#)
- [GROW Your Future](#)

How students can get involved

We worked with our Students' Union to gather student input into the design of our access and participation plan. The Students' Union is represented on our Widening Participation advisory Group which is responsible for overseeing implementation of the plan. A Student Advisory Board is set up to inform, advise and guide the University on all aspects of the Access and Participation Plan.

- To provide feedback, students can contact their [Student Union Representative](#).
- To become involved in this work, please contact our [Access and Participation Lead](#).

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

Our programmes are informed by an evidence-based approach about what works for students.

We collect data and feedback to evaluate:

- Our programme design
- The impact of the programme of activity we are doing to achieve our aims

- The impact on achieving our overall aim of improved access and an inclusive environment

The Monitoring and Evaluation Group provides expert and detailed review and analysis of our progress against targets for the Widening Participation Advisory Group to help them make informed decisions. As well as tracking performance against targets, the group will look for trends in the data, explore areas for development and undertake continued comparison and analysis of our performance to help shape future targets and priorities for Widening Participation.

We will publish evidence from our evaluations on our website by July 2024.

Contact details for further information

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<https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/widening-participation/>