**London Metropolitan University: Summary of 2020-21 to 2024-25 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 London Metropolitan University at:<https://apis.officeforstudents.org.uk/accessplansdownloads/2024/LondonMetropolitanUniversity_APP_2020-21_V1_10004048.pdf>

**Key points**

Our new University Strategy 2019-2025 has a strong focus on ensuring that the University is built for student success. As such, the focus of our access and participation plan is on improving outcomes for specific groups of students. Data shows that, compared to their peers at London Metropolitan University, outcomes are lower for certain groups of students.

See pages 16 to 24 of the full plan for our approach

• The following groups of students are less likely to achieve a degree award of 2:1 or above:

* Students from low-income backgrounds
* Ethnic minority students
* Mature students
* Students with multiple impairments
* Students who are care leavers

• The following groups of students are less likely to progress to highly skilled employment or further study.

* Students from low-income backgrounds
* Ethnic minority students

Overall, awarding gaps and employability rates for our target student groups have improved. However, we still have further to go.

**Fees we charge**

At London Metropolitan University, the maximum fees charged for undergraduate courses are:

• £9,250 for full-time students

• £2310 per 30 credit module for part-time students.

You can see a full list of courses and associated fees at London Metropolitan University at: <https://www.londonmet.ac.uk/courses/>

**Financial help available**

Support is provided for students, carers and student parents to ensure they are assessed for extra additional financial support, such as the Adult Dependents Grant and the Childcare Grant.

Additional funding and support provided around the Hardship Fund includes:

* A Hardship Fund amounting to £399,000 for 22/23 to help all students in Hardship, and in particular give greater support to our Care Leavers, Care Experiences, and Single Parents, through the assessment process.
* Targeted workshops around Financial Wellbeing, for Care Experience, Carers and Care Leavers, utilising the Blackburn library of resources.

Find out more about our financial support here: <https://www.londonmet.ac.uk/applying/funding-your-studies/bursaries-and-grants/>

**What we are aiming to achieve**

**Our overall aim** is to support students to access and succeed in higher education and beyond. We also want to create an inclusive environment where all students at London Metropolitan University can achieve their full potential.

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

* Students from low income backgrounds – By 2024-25, we will:
* Close the degree-awarding gap between students from IMD quintiles 1 & 2, and those from IMD quintiles 3, 4 & 5 to 6.5 percentage points for full time students
* Close the gap in progression to highly-skilled employment or further study between students from IMD quintiles 1 & 2, and those from IMD quintiles 3, 4 & 5 to 0.0 percentage points for full and part time students
* Care experienced students – By 2024-25, we will close the degree-awarding gap for students with experience of the care system to 6.0 percentage points
* Mature students – By 2024-25, we will close the degree-awarding gap between mature and young students to 5.5 percentage points
* Ethnic minority students – By 2024-25, we will:
* close the degree-awarding gap between BAME and white students to 10.0 percentage points for full time students, and 15.0 percentage points for part time students
* Close the gap in progression to highly-skilled employment or further study between BAME and white students to 3.0 percentage points for full time students, and 10.5 percentage points for part time students
* Disabled students – By 2024-25, we will close the degree-awarding gap for students with multiple impairments to 5.5 percentage points

See pages 13, 14 & 15 of the full plan for our targets

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

In line with our new University strategy, we have identified eight programmes of activity containing strategic measures to support achievement of our aims and targets.

See pages 16 to 24 of the full plan for our approach

1. **Learning and teaching: improving student outcomes** – Led by our new Centre for Equity & Inclusion, and in collaboration with our Schools,alllearning and teaching practices will be centred on our Education for Social Justice framework, allied with an extensive support provision of training and data.
2. **Establish, enhance and embed flexible modes of learning delivery** – This will ensure our students collaborate with employers and develop work-ready skills, so they can enter their chosen graduate career ready to make a positive contribution to their industries and wider society.
3. **Enhance support for study throughout the institution** – Developed from internal pilots that led to positive outcomes, our enhanced provision of support includes peer mentoring schemes across our target populations.
4. **Engage external partners in success** – Extending our programme of work with Schools in our local borough of Islington to support more pupils from

underrepresented groups to attain good grades and progress to study for a higher education qualification.

1. **Engage students at all levels in their own development** - Our university strategy identifies student partnership as a core value, as such we are implementing a series of activities to increase the levels of student engagement with feedback while also working with all students to create a Student Partnership Agreement.
2. **Build employability into the proposition from the start** - Employability has long been an integral part of the degree offer at London Metropolitan University, and based on data from previous successful projects we now plan to expand activity to ensure greater progression outcomes for all groups of students.
3. **Staff diversity and training** – An ambitious programme of training and recruitment to ensure the staff at London Metropolitan University are representative of our student body, understand the opportunities that diversity presents, and apply inclusive behaviours in their professional and personal practice.
4. Offer **financial support,** including bursaries and hardship funding for eligible students, and practical support for students applying to [Student Finance England](https://www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance).

**How students can get involved**

We worked with the Students’ Union to gather student input into the design of our access and participation plan. Students are also represented on our Access and Participation Plan Operational Group which is responsible for overseeing implementation of the plan.

To provide feedback, students can contact their [student union representative](https://www.londonmetsu.org.uk/).

To become involved in this work, contact our [Access and Participation Plan Lead](mailto:equity@londonmet.ac.uk?subject=Access%20&%20Participation%20Plan).

**Contact details for further information**

You can contact [equity@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:equity@londonmet.ac.uk) for further information.