

University of Wales Trinity Saint David

Fee & Access Plan 2021-2022



Fee and Access Plan

Fee and Access Plan				
Name of institution		University of Wales Trinity Saint David		
Duration of the fee and access plan		1 August 2021 – 31 July 2022		
Section 1 - Fee levels				
Section 1.1 – Fee levels or the determination of a fee level at each location (Guidance paragraphs 85-93)				
Fee level		Location of course		
£9000	Wales Campuses: Carma Cert HE HND Foundation Degree Undergraduate Degree Integrated Masters PGCE Wales Campus: Lampeter Cert HE HND Foundation Degree Undergraduate Degree Integrated Masters			

	London Campus Cert HE Undergraduate Degree	
	Birmingham Learning Centres Cert HE Undergraduate Degree	
	Cardiff Location: The Gate Undergraduate Degree	
	Cardiff Locations: YMCA Plas, UW Registry Cert HE Undergraduate Degree	
	South Wales Outreach Locations: Bridgend, Llanelli, Newport, Pontypridd Cert HE Undergraduate Degree	
£9000	Franchise providers: Coleg Sir Gâr: HND, Foundation Degree, Undergraduate Degree Gower College: HND, Foundation Degree NPTC Group: HND, Foundation Degree, Undergraduate Degree Pembrokeshire College: HND, Undergraduate Degree	
£1800	Wales Campus: Swansea Undergraduate Degree - Sandwich year (year in industry)	

The University is committed to delivering services that are compliant with consumer protection legislation, in line with the guidance to higher education providers published by the Competition and Markets Authority.

The Welsh Government has not signalled an intent to change tuition fee arrangements for 2021/22, therefore the University specifies the annual tuition fees that we intend to charge our new and continuing Home and EU full-time undergraduate learners in 2021/22, across all delivery locations, as follows:

Programme of Study	Fee
Cert HE	£9,000
HND	£9,000
Foundation Degree	£9,000
Undergraduate Degrees	£9,000
Sandwich Year (BEng year in industry)	£1,800
Integrated Masters	£9,000
PGCE	£9,000

Taking account of these fees, aggregate fees for the whole course per full-time undergraduate will be:

Full-time undergraduates (non-sandwich course)	£27,000
Full-time undergraduates (with sandwich course)	£28,800
Full-time PGCE (QTS)	£9,000

Section 1.2 - Aggregate fee levels (Guidance paragraphs 94-98)

The aggregate fees for completing the whole course per full-time undergraduate are as follows:

Full-time undergraduates (non-sandwich course)	£27,000
Full-time undergraduates (with sandwich course)	£28,800
Full-time PGCE (QTS)	£9,000

We confirm that there will be no fee increases for learners for the duration of the course.

Section 2 - Student Partnership

(Guidance paragraphs 99-102)

Consistent with our Student Charter, the University is committed to working in partnership with its learners and the Students' Union to provide a high quality learning experience. Since the inception of fee and access planning, we have explored a number of models for ensuring that the learner voice is an integral part of the development of plans and the associated investment strategies. Student engagement and representation strategies are well embedded across the University. Two sabbatical officers are members of the University Council and, with the exception of the Audit and Risk Committee, all Council standing committees have a student member. These include the Resources and Performance Committee, which maintains governance oversight of the fee planning and monitoring process. Through the Students' Union, learners are also represented on the Senate (the senior academic body) and the majority of its committees, including the Corporate Policy Committee, which oversees the operational aspects of fee and access planning for the Group. Sabbatical officers may be accompanied by a Students' Union staff member (normally the Chief Executive) at committee meetings which provides for greater continuity of approach and supports the sabbatical officers in making informed and influential contributions to decisions.

Working in partnership with the Students' Union and through subject-specific targeting, the University has made considerable efforts to achieve optimum participation in student satisfaction surveys, and to ensure that the outcomes of such surveys are used systematically to target areas for improvement and investment. Survey data is also used to target areas and focus groups to further explore issues and plan solutions with learners. With the agreement of the Students' Union, and in the light of the wide geographical spread of our campuses, the development of our Fee and Access Plan for 2021/22 has focused on the feedback obtained through the National Student Survey, the UK Engagement Survey (UKES) and the consultation findings undertaken as part of the work to set the objectives and action plan of the Strategic Equality Plan which received over 400 responses. We also undertook bespoke surveys to allow our HE learners that study at FE locations (in particular at Coleg Sir Gâr, Gower College, Neath and Port Talbot College, and Pembrokeshire College), and those studying our CertHE programmes at outreach locations¹ to share their views. We also undertook engagement events at each of our Welsh campuses, at our London campus and at our Birmingham Learning Centre.

The work of the Partnership Team Leaders provides the University with a continuous source of information about the learner experience at partner institutions and, potentially, about any barriers to participation that learners face. The development of our Fee and Access Plan for 2021/22 has focused on the feedback obtained through these mechanisms.

The findings from these consultations have been shared with our Fee and Access Plan Working Group which includes representation from the Students' Union, and have informed the setting of our objectives, activities and services. Mechanisms already exist between the University and learners to feedback findings from surveys and action taken to resolved matters highlighted and from 2019/20 the Fee and Access Plan Working Group will continually monitor progress with the Plan. Students' Union representation on this Group will ensure that the student voice is heard within our monitoring and evaluation activity. We will work closely with the Students' Union to ensure that progress is fed back to our student body throughout the year. Fee and Access Plan student engagement events provide us with a further opportunity to feedback action taken.

¹ Cardiff locations – University Registry, Cardiff YMCA, South Wales locations – Bridgend, Llanelli, Newport, and Pontypridd

The Fee and Access Plan also includes representation from our Senior Reaching Wider Partnership Officer, which has ensured that our focus and activities support Reaching Wider commitments.

Our Students' Union has made the following statement in support of the Plan:

'The Students' Union would like to commend the University on its approach in developing this Fee and Access Plan. It is clear to us that student-led feedback is of utmost importance to the institution, and we are particularly pleased on the inclusion of refugee and asylum seeker learners as a part of the Widening Access agenda. We would also like to congratulate the work that has been done to address the ever-changing diversity of our student population, and the particular involvement of these learners within focus groups and questionnaires. As Sabbatical Officers, we have also been included in every step of the Fee and Access Plan², to ensure this is a fully co-created document.'

Section 3 - Under-represented groups

(Guidance paragraphs 103-107)

The under-represented groups identified within our Plan are a continuation of those identified in 2020/21. In addition, we have also included refugees and asylum seekers in the 2021/22 Plan in recognition of Welsh Governments commitment to increase opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees to access further and higher education, which is fully supported by our institutional commitment to gain University of Sanctuary status and encourage equality of opportunity for this under-represented group in the sector.

To inform the identification of our under-represented groups for our Fee and Access Plan 2021/22, we have undertaken an analysis of learner enrolment, retention and achievement data for the UWTSD Group and for higher education in Wales more generally. This analysis has confirmed six groups that are both currently under-represented within the UWTSD Group and the focus of national and sectoral priorities. Our targets seek to increase participation of learners in these groups by identifying barriers to success and continuing to develop and provide targeted support.

Our under-represented groups which are also identified by HEFCW as under-represented in higher education are:

- Part-time learners
- Learners from deprived areas, including those in the bottom and bottom two quintiles of Lower Super Output Areas of the Wales Index of Multiple Deprivation, and people of all ages from UK low participation in Higher Education areas.
- Students of all ages studying through the medium of Welsh.

Our under-represented groups that will be supported through our institutional Reaching Wider Plan are:

² This includes full consultation on the rationale for the reduction in investment on the previous year, bringing the University in line with the sector average.

- Post-16 young people within the bottom two quintiles of WIMD
- Adults without level 4 qualifications within the bottom two quintiles of WIMD, to provide progression to level 4 provision
- Care experienced applicants³ and carers in all age groups across Wales

Our under-represented groups which are based on our mission, purpose and distinct student population include:

- Learners declaring a disability
- Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) learners
- Refugees and asylum seekers

The institution lead for the reaching wider provision is a member of the South West Wales Reaching Wider Partnership (SWWRWP)'s steering group. This provides visibility to the nature of the activities that are planned and delivered by the RW Partnership, and enables the institution plan to align closely with the partnership activities by avoiding any duplication and having an oversight of the all the activities delivered to the various target groups including adults without L4 qualification. To strengthen the relationship further, the University has appointed a Reaching Wider co-ordinator, which is a joint appointment between the University and the partnership in a 60-40 split. This again ensures all planned activities are complementing and provide the best value for the investment made.

Our commitment to our learners declaring a disability is detailed in our <u>Health and Wellbeing Strategy</u>. The Strategy contains important information on the steps the University is taking to ensure that students' health and wellbeing is priortised so that all can flourish and fulfil their potential. It adopts the guidelines from <u>HEFCW's Wellbeing and Health in Higher Education Policy Statement (2019)</u>, and embeds several key sector frameworks including <u>Universities UK: Stepchange Mentally Healthy Universities (2020)</u>, <u>Student Minds: University Mental Health Charter (2019)</u>, <u>Universities UK / Papyrus: Suicide Safer Universities (2018)</u> and the <u>Health Universities Framework</u>.

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³ Looked after children and care leavers

Section 4 - Objectives, underpinning activities and targets as they relate to supporting equality of opportunity and the promotion of HE

(Guidance paragraphs 108-140)

Section 4.1 - Equality of Opportunity

No.	Objective		
1	Enhance the promotion and safeguarding of fair access to higher education from under-represented groups		
2	Improve access to Welsh-medium education		
3	To increase progression, retention and completion of people from under-represented groups		
	Section 4.2 - Promotion of higher education		
No.	Objective		
4	To ensure all of our learners receive a high quality, supportive and inclusive learning experience to enable them to achieve their full potential		
5	To develop and enhance our partnerships and confederations with other institutions, to maximise higher education and progression opportunities for learners		
6	To strengthen the employability of Welsh Graduates		