

Annex H: Plan summary template

Imperial College London

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

What is an access and participation plan?

An access and participation plan sets out provisions that will be meaningful and effective in promoting equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups, as determined by the Office for Students.

You can see the full access and participation plan for Imperial College London at <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/media/imperial-college/administration-and-support-services/registry/academic-governance/public/academic-policy/admissions/25-entry/Access-and-participation-plan-2025-26-to-2028-29.pdf>

Key points

Imperial College London ('Imperial') is a community of problem solvers dedicated to our mission of finding innovative solutions to the world's biggest challenges, such as climate change, infectious diseases and data security. Our education and our research in science, engineering, medicine and business are characterised by four distinctive capabilities: we are inter-disciplinary, quantitative, externally engaged and entrepreneurial.

Imperial offers long-established undergraduate degree programmes in the Natural Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. In 2023/24, we welcomed our first cohort of undergraduates in the Business School, and we continue to offer individual modules and one-year programmes in business to students registered on other degrees.

Imperial students from all backgrounds are tremendously successful, whether this is measured by continuation, completion, attainment or progression. Our priorities for access and participation are to further diversify our intake of students, to increase the number of students continuing their studies, and to further enhance our graduates' employability.

See pages 1 - 4 of the access and participation plan for more information.

Fees we charge

Imperial charges the maximum permitted fees for full-time home undergraduates (currently £9,250 per annum). In the event that the Government increases the maximum amount chargeable, Imperial will increase the amount charged to the new maximum.

Imperial does not admit part-time undergraduate students. Full-time students may very occasionally, with the agreement of Imperial, switch to part-time study for academic or personal reasons. Where this occurs, Imperial charges home undergraduates the maximum permitted fees for part-time undergraduates (currently £4,625). In the event that the Government increases the maximum amount chargeable, Imperial will increase the amount charged to the new maximum.

For home undergraduate students undertaking a year abroad or in Industry as part of their study, Imperial charges the maximum permitted fee:

	Full-time	Part-time
Year in Industry	£1,850	£925
Year Abroad or Turing Scheme	£1,350	£692

In the event that the Government increases the maximum amount chargeable for students undertaking a year abroad or in Industry, Imperial will increase the amount charged to the new maximum.

See page 30 of the access and participation plan for more information.

Financial help available

Home undergraduates whose family household income is less than £70,000 are eligible for a bursary. Family household income is re-assessed each year. For students starting in 2025, the support available is as follows:

Household income	Bursary amount
£0 to £16,000	£5,000 per year
£16,001 to £50,000	£4,400 per year
£50,001 to £55,000	£3,300 per year
£55,001 to £60,000	£2,200 per year
£60,001 to £70,000	£1,000 per year

See page 30 of the access and participation plan for more information.

Information for students

Imperial publishes information concerning fees and finance on our webpages at:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/students/fees-and-funding/>

This includes information on tuition fees, cost of living, sources of support for students in managing their finances, and sources of financial support.

A copy of our annual fee return to the OfS is published here:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/admissions/>

See page 30 of the access and participation plan for more information.

What we are aiming to achieve

Our priorities for Access and Participation, described in our plan, are to broaden access for students of Black heritage, students who receive free school meals and students from the most deprived areas of England as measured by the Index of Multiple Deprivation; and to increase the proportion of students from those groups who continue their studies after the first year.

See pages 4 - 7 of the access and participation plan for more information.

What we are doing to address keys risks to equality of opportunity

Imperial will continue to offer a broad range of opportunities for students in primary and secondary schools to work with our staff and students. We want more talented people from diverse backgrounds to know that they and their friends can have careers in science, technology, medicine and business, and that studying at Imperial or a similar university is a path that is open to them. We aim to provide additional support, over and above that offered in schools, for disadvantaged students to achieve the grades that are needed to come to Imperial or a similar university.

Imperial has overhauled its admissions processes to ensure that students from underrepresented backgrounds have as good a chance as anyone else of being admitted, making sure that we recruit based on talent and potential to succeed.

Imperial is launching new programmes to support students from underrepresented groups once they have been accepted into the university. We will support their continued success through a pre-arrival residential programme, through continuous focused development opportunities during their first year, and through peer-mentoring. These opportunities will be focused on themes such as transition to university, study skills for success, advanced maths skills, approaching exams, resilience, how to find an internship, approaching a job interview.

Imperial is implementing a new strategy for Mental Health and Wellbeing. As well as enhancing support for students in crisis, we are committed to identifying and where possible removing the root causes of stress for our students, and proactively helping students to build resilience, equipping them not only for study, but also for their careers after Imperial.

Imperial continues to offer one of the most generous schemes of financial support of any university in the UK.

Imperial is investing in additional careers support for students from underrepresented backgrounds.

See pages 5 - 27 of the access and participation plan for more information.

How students can get involved

Our approach to working with students is set out on pages 28 and 29 of our Access and Participation Plan. Students wishing to get involved with our Access Work can volunteer at <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/be-inspired/volunteering/outreach-student-ambassadors/>. Students wishing to get involve in other aspect of our work to widen access and participation should contact education.evaluation@imperial.ac.uk.

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

Imperial is committed to conducting robust evaluation to understand what works and to best use our resources to support our commitment to improving outcomes for all our students. We also understand that a key benefit of our work is to build knowledge and evidence across the sector to help us work together to improve our understanding of the efficacy of interventions and address our common goals. We see our work within the context of the sector and other partners, and participate in several networks such as London Higher, the Russell Group, APP Special Interest Group and the London APP Evaluation Group to ensure we do not work in silos and can learn from expertise beyond our institution.

Evaluation activity is currently undertaken across Imperial. There are centres of excellence in the Outreach Team (evaluation of outreach programmes), the Strategic Planning Division (primarily analysis of student attainment gaps to support evaluation of on-course and employment interventions), and the Centre for Higher Education Research (quantitative and qualitative research involving our students).

A cross-university group of evaluation experts will govern the evaluation of the plan, ensuring high-quality rigorous evaluation informs activity within Imperial and across the sector through publication.

See pages 29-30 and 45-61 of the access and participation plan for more information.

Contact details for further information

For further information about our access and participation plan, please contact education.evaluation@imperial.ac.uk