Enhancement activity plan | session 2023-24

Guidance

The following guidance notes have been produced to support your completion of an institutional enhancement activity plan. Plans should be no longer than two pages in length.

As outlined in the Letter of Engagement issued to each institution, the criteria for the exceptional institutional enhancement funding for 2023-24 are as follows:

- The planned activity must align with at least one of the following:
  - the Tertiary Enhancement Topic (The Future of Learning and Teaching: Defining and delivering an effective and inclusive digital/blended offering)
  - the most recent Enhancement Theme (Resilient Learning Communities)
  - a previous Enhancement Theme, or
  - the Enhancement Themes as a whole.

- Institutions must demonstrate a focus on the evaluation of impact of their planned activity; and,

- Students will be partners in all planned institutional enhancement activity.

While the following institutional enhancement activity plan will not be published, it will act as the trigger for the first payment of institutional enhancement funding to be released.

The enhancement activity plan should outline your institution’s plan of activity for the 2023-24 academic session. You should provide the following details:

- Information on the planned activity, including contextual information (e.g. how it connects to institutional, local, regional and/or national priorities) and working project titles;

- How you will evaluate and measure the impact of each individual project;

- Confirmation of student partnership in each planned activity; and

- The planned expenditure for activity.

To support evaluative activity, institutions are encouraged to use the resources developed by Professor Stella Jones-Devitt and Dr Liz Austen, particularly the Enhancement Themes Theory of Change model and the Universal Evaluation Framework. Additionally, institutions should outline how their project outputs will support progress against the Scottish Government’s National Outcome Measures.
University of Aberdeen

Overarching outcome/focus

Outline an overarching outcome include a brief (1-2 sentences) of provide a brief rationale for the outcome/focus:

Throughout the last year 3 academic years, the University of Aberdeen has funded project work relating to the Resilient Learning Communities Enhancement Theme through the Learning and Teaching Enhancement Programme (LTEP). This has created a thriving community of practice that has complemented the work undertaken and fostered collaborative partnerships that have increased the impact and reach of the projects completed as part of the Theme. The activity plan outlined below is designed to continue the momentum and community of practice associated with the Resilient Learning Communities Theme. The aim is to use the funding to support further collaborative initiatives involving staff-student partnerships relating to this Theme and to share this broadly at our annual academic development symposium in April 2024.

Planned activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of activity</th>
<th>Information on individual enhancement activities</th>
<th>3-5 keywords describing activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning and Teaching Enhancement Programme (LTEP)</td>
<td>Use funding to support work related to the RLC theme and engage those successfully funded in an ongoing Community of Practice. Emphasise collaborative approaches and stress the importance of student partnerships in these projects.</td>
<td>Resilient learning communities projects, collaboration, student partnerships/co-creation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Development Symposium</td>
<td>Use funding to support the Academic Development symposium <em>Embracing Diversity: Supporting Inclusive Learning Communities</em>. This will act as a means of disseminating relevant work and projects funded as part of LTEP. This community-based approach will continue to develop the UoA contribution the Theme as well as the broader sector.</td>
<td>Dissemination, pedagogy, student-staff partnerships, collaborative exchange</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evaluation and impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of activity</th>
<th>Information on planned evaluation and impact measures of success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning and Teaching Enhancement Programme (LTEP)</td>
<td>Evaluation and impact will be measured within these individual projects, where an effective evaluation strategy is required for any proposed projects. Applicants will be encouraged to consult with the Theory of Change model and the guidance issued by the QAA evaluation consultants in developing their project proposals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Development Symposium</td>
<td>This will be evaluated by gathering feedback from attendees and writing a reflective report analysing the impact of the event and how that will shape future events of this nature.</td>
</tr>
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Partnership working with students

As indicated above, student partnerships will be embedded within the proposed activities, with a student partnership / co-creation element vital for any LTEP proposal to be funded. This will ensure that students are a core component of any initiative funded, and will continue the very rich contributions that students and staff have collectively made to the Resilient Learning Communities Theme. In addition, the academic development symposium will foster further student partnerships through students participating as keynote speakers, session chairs, panellists and poster presenters on the day. This will help showcase the fantastic contributions our students have made and continue to make within our community of practice.

IMPORTANT NOTE: All QAA styles are set in the Styles panel above. Please use these pre-set styles rather than applying styles manually using font/colour/paragraph etc.

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Financial annex for University of Aberdeen

Please provide brief information on how the funding will be used to support enhancement activity within the institution.

At the end of the funding period, you will be asked to comment (by email) on expenditure against financial plan information.

Please note that this information remains confidential and will not be published.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Estimated cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University’s Annual Academic Development Symposium (April 2024) – keynote speaker fees, catering, captioning recordings</td>
<td>£1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning &amp; Teaching Enhancement Programme funds</td>
<td>£3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£4000</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>