

AccessHE Student Advisory Group 2019/20

AccessHE is seeking new members to join our relaunched Student Advisory Group. The group plays a critical role in steering AccessHE's work and ensuring that the student voice is at the heart of all that we do. It also provides a key link between our HEI members and the London student population, as well as serving a developmental purpose for students who wish to progress on to further committee roles in their home institution.

What is the Student Advisory Group?

The SAG is formed of a core group of current university students from widening participation backgrounds studying at AccessHE member universities. It advises and inputs on AccessHE projects from a student perspective, on behalf of the London student population. Specifically, the SAG will engage with the work of our thematic action forums, which SAG members will be invited to attend where possible, allowing for fruitful cross-consultation with WP practitioners across the AccessHE membership.

Why get involved?

The SAG is a mechanism for engaging students in the design and promotion of outreach and student success work, thereby helping members to fulfil a key APP target relating to the student voice. For students themselves, the SAG offers an introduction to committee work and the chance to champion the cause of social mobility in HE. For AccessHE members, the SAG provides a pipeline of committed and trained student representatives for internal WP committees or equivalent.

Who are we looking for?

We are seeking to appoint multiple student representatives from AccessHE member HEIs. Each appointee will, as part of their role on the SAG, serve as an 'Officer' leading a particular portfolio of work. At a general level, each Officer will act as a:

- **Change-maker**, helping to widen access to HE and deliver improved student outcomes in London.
- **Consultant**, shaping and critiquing the work of AccessHE.
- **Champion**, raising the profile of access and participation events across the capital.

We are seeking to take on students (ideally not currently in a student rep role) with an interest in one or more of the following areas: access and participation, EDI, education, student affairs, advocacy.

What are the terms of appointment?

Student members of the SAG will be appointed for an initial term of one year. The term can be extended for one additional year subject to agreement, or alternatively (and where opportunities exist internally), AccessHE will support student members in transferring to a relevant committee role at their home institution.

What would a Student Advisory Group meeting look like?

Meeting 3-4 times a year, the SAG will be coordinated by AccessHE and chaired by a student. An indicative structure for the quarterly meetings is below:

- 1. CPD training**
Delivered externally or peer-to-peer.
- 2. AccessHE updates**
Consultation with SAG on AccessHE's work including discussion of possible collaborations, SAG input.
- 3. WP in London**
Officers to brief AccessHE on the major WP activity and issues in the 'student world'.
- 4. SAG projects and outputs**
A collaborative project (TBC). As one example, conversations with the AccessHE membership have highlighted the value of a training guide on "how to be a student rep".

What are the costs?

A total of c. £5000 p/a would be required to cover external training, travel and clerical support for the SAG as well as meeting costs and outputs produced by the group. The overall cost will be divided evenly between member HEIs whose students are appointed to the SAG, so each institution's contribution will be modest.

What are the next steps?

Members are kindly asked to confirm whether they would like to make this opportunity available to their students by emailing tanyel.kazim@londonhigher.ac.uk and richard.boffey@londonhigher.ac.uk. The deadline for confirming interest is **Friday 3rd May**. We intend to commence recruitment to the SAG shortly after this date and will confirm the application process with participating members closer to the time. Any initial enquiries can be directed to Tanyel and Richard.

AccessHE is a Division of London Higher