

Development of Access and Participation Professionals (DAPP)

Widening Access and Widening Participation Professional Accreditation Scheme

Information for potential participants and their managers



University of
Nottingham
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Purpose of this Presentation

- What is the Accreditation Scheme?
- Objectives of the Scheme
- Who can apply for the Accreditation Scheme?
- What are the benefits of the Accreditation Scheme?
- Accreditation Levels
- Method of Assessment
- How the Scheme Works
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What is the Accreditation Scheme?

A Professional Accreditation Scheme for individuals with experience in supporting, delivering, managing or evaluating Widening Participation or Widening Access.

The Accreditation Scheme is delivered in partnership by SCAPP and the University of Nottingham.

Objectives of the Scheme

- 1) Raise the profile of WA and WP, articulate and share practitioner knowledge and best practice and celebrate success
- 2) Promote and support continuing professional learning and development of staff working in WA and WP
- 3) Provide individuals with a clear understanding of enhancements needed to continually professionally learn and develop and improve provision to support WA and WP
- 4) Encourage reflective and evaluative practice amongst WA and WP professionals
- 5) Provide individuals with a measure of success

Who can apply for the Accreditation Scheme?

- At least one year's experience in promoting or supporting Widening Participation or Widening Access. It may form part of your job role, or it may be your substantive role.
- You may work with HEIs, colleges, or related organisations.
- Examples may include: Student Ambassador, Buddy, Mentor, Support Worker, Lecturer, Student Recruitment/ Admissions Officer, Teacher, WA and WP Officers, Inclusion and Diversity officers, Researcher, Administrator.

What are the benefits of the Accreditation Scheme?

- **Professional recognition** for your work and achievements in WA and WP.
- Enhances the **quality of practice** in WA and WP
- **Rewards your commitment** and illustrates the impact of your work to support underrepresented students
- Enhances your **professional learning and development**

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Accreditation Levels

- The Scheme currently offers two levels of accreditation: Affiliate Level or Practitioner Level.
- You will use the scheme's Professional Standards Framework to evidence your practice.

Accreditation Levels

Affiliate level:

- This level is designed for individuals who work in affiliation with HEIs, colleges or in related organisations.
- You should have an interest in promoting and supporting WA and WP and be able to demonstrate that you provide support for WA and WP learners as part of a wider remit/role within your organisation.
- You will typically have a minimum of one year's experience of undertaking a role in a WA and WP environment.

Accreditation Levels

Examples of roles that may be eligible for **Affiliate level***:

- Academic Staff, Careers Advisor, Recruitment/Admissions Administrators, Faculty/School/Departmental Administrators, Coaches, Mentors.
- Student Ambassadors/Mentors, Research Assistants, PhD Students
- School Teachers with a non-substantive role in WA and WP
- Individuals in related organisations who support learners facing barriers to accessing Higher Education, e.g. Outreach/Education Co-ordinators/Officers or Assistants.

*Examples are illustrative and not exhaustive

Accreditation Levels

Practitioner level:

- This level of accreditation is designed for WA and WP professionals with a substantive role/remit for WA and WP or Outreach in an HEI, College, School or related organisation.
- These individuals will typically have a minimum of two years' experience of working in a WA and WP role.

Accreditation Levels

- Examples of roles that may be eligible for **Practitioner level***:
 - WA and WP Co-ordinators/Officers, Student Recruitment and Admissions Officers, Inclusion/Equality and Diversity Officers/Co-ordinators
 - School teachers with a substantive role in WA and WP
 - Individuals working in a WA/WP capacity in organisations dedicated to supporting people facing barriers to accessing Higher Education, e.g. Policy Officers, Researchers, Development Officers, Evaluators

* Examples are illustrative and not exhaustive

Method of Assessment

Participants submit a portfolio, made up of a Context Statement, Reflective Statement and a Supporting Statement from their Manager:

- Affiliate level portfolio - Maximum 1,500 words, plus citations (300 words); overall maximum 1,800 words
- Practitioner level portfolio - Maximum of 3,000 words, plus citations (500 words); overall maximum 3,500 words

How the Scheme Works

- 1) Decide which level of accreditation (involve your Line Manager)
- 2) Apply for the scheme, await outcome of application
- 3) If successful, attend inductions (one for participants and one for their Line Managers)
- 4) Workshops and hybrid drop-in sessions support you to reflect on your practice
- 5) Benefit from the scheme's Community of Practice to support your portfolio writing
- 6) Portfolio is submitted, reviewed and an outcome communicated

Cost of the 2023 – 2024 Scheme

For applicants from Scottish institutions:

- If paying SCAPP membership – no cost
- Applicants from non-SCAPP member Scottish Institutions - £200* for each applicant.

For applicants from English institutions:

- Applicants from English Institutions - £200* for each applicant.

*Please note these costs are subject to change in future offerings of the Accreditation Scheme

Hear from others who have completed the Scheme

“I was a WP student myself before uni... which is probably the reason why I wanted to do the Accreditation Scheme. I have worked in the sector now for ten years and there has been nothing of this sort, so to get accredited through this programme really appealed to me and to be able to reflect on my work”

– *Scheme Participant*

Hear from others who have completed the Scheme

“The opportunity to reflect on my practice in depth has been invaluable and has already resulted in changes to the programmes I deliver.”

– *Scheme Participant*

Contact Us

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