

The Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2021 FAQs

Who can enter?

Any representative of higher education institutions (those with degree awarding powers) in the United Kingdom.

How much does it cost to enter?

Free to enter

Why enter?

To stand out as an exceptional institution, share your successes and imaginative thinking with your peers, and current and prospective students, and have your university's winner's badge profiled across Whatuni.

What questions will I have to address in my entry?

1. Student Support

Awarded to an institution which has developed comprehensive support programmes for its students during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Please answer the three questions below (Maximum 300 words per question)

- (A) Please provide an outline of the objectives of the support programme/s your institution offered students during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- (B) Please outline details of the support programme/s your institution offered students during the Covid-19 pandemic (e.g. support or initiatives which focused on improving student mental health, academic progression, enhancement of physical skills, community integration etc.)
- (C) What was the outcome? Please provide detail regarding the results of the support programme/s your institution offered students during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Judges will be looking for bold initiatives that have helped students flourish across the 2020/21 academic year. Please included evidence, where applicable, of how you worked with students to (1) understand the problem (2) design the support programme/s and (3) how you evaluated the impact on student satisfaction.

2. Diversity and Inclusion

Awarded to an institution that has championed diversity and inclusion (D&I) among students overcoming challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic across the academic year 2020/21.

Please answer the three questions below (Maximum 300 words per question)

- (A) Please provide an outline of the objectives of the D&I support programme/s your institution offered students during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- (B) Please outline details of the D&I support programme/s your institution offered students during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- (C) What was the outcome? Please provide some detail regarding the results of the D&I support programme/s your institution offered students during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Judges will be looking for creative campaigns/programmes which have resulted in a benefit to student equality and inclusion within the institution.

Please included evidence, where applicable, of how you worked with students to (1) understand the problem (2) design the D&I support programme/s and (3) how you evaluated the impact on student satisfaction.

Contributions or submissions pertaining to staff programmes will not be considered within this category.

3. Excellence in Digital Innovation

Awarded to an institution that has developed innovative and impactful digital solutions to improve the student experience and increase digital accessibility in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Please answer the three questions below (Maximum 300 words per question)

- (A) Please provide an outline of the objectives of the digital solutions/initiatives your institution offered students to improve the student experience and increase digital accessibility in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- (B) Please outline details of the digital solutions/initiatives your institution offered students to improve the student experience and increase digital accessibility in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- (C) What was the outcome? Please provide some detail regarding the results of the digital solutions/initiatives your institution offered students to improve the student experience and increase digital accessibility in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Judges will be looking for imaginative, innovative use of digital technology to improve the student experience, specifically relating to students with low digital accessibility. This can include digital teaching and learning-related innovations. The judges will be looking for new approaches which have scalable, long-term impact on students.

Please included evidence, where applicable, of how you worked with students to (1) understand the problem (2) design the digital solutions/initiatives and (3) how you evaluated the impact on student satisfaction.

4. Enhanced Graduate Outcomes

Awarded to an institution that can demonstrate effective delivery of innovative and impactful employability support during the pandemic.

Please answer the three questions below (Maximum 300 words per question)

- (A) Please provide an outline of the objectives of the employability support programme/s your institution offered students during the pandemic.
- (B) Please outline details of the employability support programme/s your institution offered students during the pandemic.
- (C) What was the outcome? Please provide some detail regarding the impact of the employability support programme/s your institution offered students during the pandemic, and proof of the positive impact the initiatives had on students.

Judges will be looking for uniqueness of the submissions.

Please included evidence, where applicable, of how you worked with students to (1) understand the problem (2) design the employability support programme/s and (3) how you evaluated the impact on student satisfaction.

What do you win?

Your university will receive:

- A £10,000 student bursary to be distributed to 5 eligible students (£2,000 each)
- winner badge
- review Tile
- write-up on Whatuni / IDP.com
- exclusive hamper

How will I know if we've been shortlisted?

We will contact all shortlisted entrants by June 15th, 2021

What happens if we win?

The winners will be announced on the Whatuni website, including on the Whatuni Twitter account and in the Whatuni newsletter.

Will you contact us if we're unsuccessful?

We will only contact those that have been shortlisted. If you haven't heard from us by June 15th, 2021, you will not have been shortlisted on this occasion.

If you have any other questions, please email WUSCA@idp.com

Good luck!