Teaching Excellence Framework: Year two

Statement of findings

Aston University

UKPRN: 10007759

TEF Gold

This award was made in June 2017 and is valid for up to three years.

The TEF Panel reviewed the provider metrics and provider submission according to the process and criteria specified in the TEF guidance.

The provider metrics supplemented by the submission indicate that students from all backgrounds achieve consistently outstanding outcomes. Very high proportions of students continue with their studies and progress to highly skilled employment or further study, notably exceeding benchmarks. The metrics indicate outstanding levels of student satisfaction with teaching on my course, assessment and feedback, and academic support for a diverse body of students, notably exceeding benchmarks. The provider is below benchmark for one specific group of students with regard to satisfaction with assessment and feedback. The Panel deemed this was fully addressed by the provider submission.

The Panel considered the University submission in relation to the TEF criteria and its judgement reflects in particular, evidence of:

- outstanding physical and digital resources that are actively and consistently used by students, including 24/7 access around assessment periods, universal lecture recording, and implementation of the MyAston app resource
- an embedded and strategic institutional culture that facilitates, recognises and rewards teaching, including support from the University's Centre for Learning, Innovation and Professional Practice
- outstanding personalised provision with the highest levels of engagement and commitment, including bookable personal tutoring sessions and a substantial number of trained student peer mentors
- course design and assessment practices that provide scope for outstanding levels of stretch and challenge resulting in the highest levels of student engagement
- the strategic involvement of professional bodies and employers impacting on embedded employability skills, including the integrated placement year, pre-entry masterclasses, the Talent Bank placement matching service, and the Aston Professional Mentoring scheme
- outstanding teaching and learning practices for students from all backgrounds, with highly valued specialist disability and non-continuation staff strategically supporting students from non-traditional or first-to-university backgrounds.

For further information see: www.hefce.ac.uk/TEFoutcomes

Overall, the TEF Panel judged that the combination of evidence in the provider metrics and the provider submission best fits the descriptor for a Gold award.