Teaching Excellence Framework: Year two

Statement of findings

The University of Essex

UKPRN: 10007791

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 University metrics, supplemented by the submission, indicate that students from all backgrounds achieve outstanding outcomes with regards to continuation and progression to highly skilled employment or further study, notably exceeding the University's benchmark. The metrics indicate outstanding levels of satisfaction with teaching, academic support, and assessment and feedback, markedly exceeding the University's benchmark.

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

- major investment in employability through the Employability Strategy and the creation of opportunities for all students to develop employability skills
- a culture that uses student feedback to develop rigorous and stretching teaching that is tailored to student needs
- effective retention strategies, including a peer mentoring scheme for all new students and targeted support for disabled students, supported by the Student Engagement Team
- all students guided to become independent learners through a staged introduction to research in the curriculum, led by academic staff whose research is embedded in the curriculum
- an institutional culture that facilitates, recognises and rewards excellent teaching is embedded across the University
- outstanding digital provision, informed by student feedback, which is industry-leading and actively and consistently used by students to enhance learning and progression.

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.

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