Access agreement monitoring return academic year 2010-11: Milestones and targets University College London

Milestones and targets

This document reflects the institution's own analysis of its performance against the targets and milestones that it set itself in its access agreement for 2010-11. OFFA considered it as part of our holistic consideration of the institution's progress against its access agreement; we also took into account the other information provided in the monitoring return, the institution's general performance on widening participation, and our knowledge of its access agreement and previous monitoring rounds.

For further information about monitoring performance against milestones and targets, please see part four of the report, Access agreement and widening participation strategic assessment moniotoring: Outcomes for 2010-11.

Table 1 contains a report from the institution on its progress against the milestones it set itself in its access agreement relating to 2010-11.

Table 1a): This shows statistical milestones/targets relating to the institution's applicants, entrants or student body – e.g. those based on HESA, Ucas or similar data that the institution uses to measure the outcomes of its widening participation work.

Table 1b): This shows other milestones and targets that the institution chose to include. These typically relate to outreach, lifelong learning, or institutional mission and targets.

Table 2 sets out the HESA performance indicators for young entrants covering state school, social class (National Statistics Socio-economic Classification – NS-SEC) and low participation neighbourhoods (LPN). These are reproduced to provide a context for the institution's overall performance. Please note that 2010-11 performance indicators are now also available; however, these had not been published at the time institutions were submitting their monitoring returns and are not presented here. For more information on HESA performance indicators, see www.hesa.ac.uk/pi.

Table 3 provides the institution's commentary on its progress. Specifically, we invited institutions to:

- comment on the level of progress made against their access agreement targets
- set the figures in some context, for example, if there were any external factors which may have influenced them
- provide explanations where they did not meet targets or where progress was less than anticipated.

1. Access agreement milestones and targets

a) Statistical milestones and targets relating to your applicants, entrants or student body (e.g. HESA, UCAS or internal targets)

						Progress to date					
Milestone / target type (from drop-down menu)		Baseline data (number or percentage)	Baseline year	Target (number or percentage)	Target year	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	Performance summary (from drop-down menu)
Applications	To increase applications from prospective students from NS-SEC 4-8 by 15%	0.191	2008	0.22	2011	0.223	0.225	0.191	0.178	0.237	Target met/exceeded
Applications	To increase applications from prospective students from low participation neighbourhoods by 15%	0.046	2008	0.0529	2011			0.046	0.05	0.051	Progress made – on course to meet target

b) Other milestones and targets

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Milestone / target type (from drop-down menu)	Description	Baseline data	Baseline year	Target	Target year	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	Performance summary (please select from drop-down menu)
Student support services	Roll out of UCL Transition Programme to all undergraduate academic departments by 2009/10	300 students	2005	All first year UG students	2009	600	1250	1781	All first year UG students	All first year UG students	Target met/exceeded
Outreach / WP activity (other - please give details in the next column)	UCL Open Day. 1,500 prospective undergradutes to attend during the course of the day. Attendance assistance to be offered to 20 schools and colleges. 15% of those attending to aubmit applications to UCL.	0	2005	1500 attendees, grants offered to 20 schools, 15% of attendees applying to UCL		35% of attendees	attendees, attendance grant offered to	5,500 attendees, attendance grant offered to 82 schools, 38% of attendees applied to UCL	6,300 attendees, attendance grant offered to 100 schools, 37% of attendees applied to UCL	7,000 attendees, attendance grant offered to 100 schools, application statistics not yet available.	Target met/exceeded
Other (please give details in the next column)	Development of widening access recruitment materials	N/A		Development of appropriate materials	2008	information on financial costs and support services.	brochure was produced and sent out to schools, outlining UCL's services. The UG prospectus was reviewed to ensure it was inclusive and representative of all UCL students. Short videos	the addition of a statistical booklet for HE advisers with transparent information	As before with the addition of mini-sites (within the UCL website) for key outreach projects.	the addition of an online virtual open	Target met/exceeded
Outreach / WP activity (other - please give details in the next column)	Pre-enrolment study support scheme. Initially 20 students, rising to 60 to 80 students.	N/A		60 to 80 students	2011	Activity not started	Activity not started	15 students	32 students	38 students	Progress made – on course to meet target
Outreach / WP activity (other - please give details in the next column)	Family Days: 1,500 people to attend	N/A		1,500 attendees		Activity not started	Activity not started		142 attendees	277 attendees	Progress made – but less than anticipated
Outreach / WP activity (other - please give details in the next column)	People with disabilities 'Visit UCL' pre- application bursary scheme. To facilitate 20 visits	N/A		20 visits	2011	Activity not started	Activity not started	4	3	0	Progress made – but less than anticipated

2. HESA widening participation perforance indicators to 2009-10 (from HESA table T1b)

			Progress to date					
HESA PI category	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09		Two-year change (2007- 08 to 2009-10)	_ ,
State School (%)	61.4	62.4	66.6	64.6	64.1	65.3	0.7	3.9
Distance from benchmark	-9.8	-9.4	-7	-10.7	-6.7	-5.9	4.8	3.9
NS-SEC 4-7 [socio-economic class] (%)	17.9	17.5	18.9	17.7	N/A	17.5	-0.2	-0.4
Distance from benchmark	-0.9	-1.5	-0.9	-2	N/A	-0.8	1.2	0.1
Low participation neighbourhoods (young) (%)	N/A	N/A	3.3	4	3.4	3.8	-0.2	N/A
Distance from benchmark	N/A	N/A	-0.8	-0.7	-0.9	-0.5	0.2	N/A

3. Institution's commentary

For your statistical and other access agreement milestones (from Tables 9a and 9b), please provide a narrative (maximum 750 words) which:

- comments on the level of progress made against the targets
- sets the figures in some context, for example if there have been any external factors which may have influenced them
- provides explanations where you have not met targets or where progress has been less than anticipated.

UCL has met, or is on course to meet, the majority of its access agreement targets. The number of applications from NS-SEC 4-8 students has risen by 24% over the last two years and applications from students from low participation neighbourhoods have risen by 10%. We are pleased to see outreach activities having a positive impact on applications and we are set to continue this drive with ambitious targets in future access agreements.

However, progress has been less than expected in two areas: family activities and working with students with disabilities. Originally, it was intended that UCL would hold an open event for local families to encourage them to discover more about university life and UCL. During the planning stages, it was felt that a general open-house style event would not be targeted enough and might not attract the hardest to reach groups. Instead, UCL has developed a series of small-group events, working with parents on a smaller and more individual scale. This approach has proved successful and, although it means working with fewer families and parents each year, we feel this targeted approach is the right one to take.

We acknowledge that there is more to do in supporting students with disabilities through the application process. Long-term staff absences meant that the *Visit UCL* scheme didn't run in 2010/11. For future years, we will be working more closely with school SENCOs to increase awareness of the scheme and awareness of our other outreach activities. In the summer of 2012, UCL will be piloting a summer school for D/deaf students with the hope of expanding UCL's work with D/deaf students in future years.