

Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2018

Main table:

- The main table awards are based entirely on student reviews that can be submitted either in person, during a Whatuni-led campus review collection, or via an online link.
- Categories in the main table are as follows; 'University of the Year', 'Accommodation', 'Job Prospects', 'Course and Lecturers', 'Student Union and Societies', 'Uni Facilities', 'City Life', 'Student Support', 'Giving Back', 'International' and 'Postgraduate'.
- For universities with 15,000 total undergraduates or less, the threshold for inclusion in the awards is 150 reviews.¹
- For universities with 15,001 undergraduates or more, the threshold for inclusion in the awards is 200 reviews.¹
- Reviews are welcome from all students. Postgraduate and International students' submissions will contribute towards your ranking in the Postgraduate and International categories, as well as all other categories within the main table.
- Institutions must have taught degree awarding powers (TDAP) to be eligible for ranking in the main table.
- To book a review collection campus visit please contact Jade at jade.whittaker@hotcourses.com.

Independent Higher Education category (new for 2018):

- This category is open to all UK independent higher education institutions that are eligible to feature on Whatuni.
- There are no exclusions around taught degree awarding powers (TDAP) to be included for ranking in this category. Institutions must deliver at least one undergraduate programme, open to domestic students, which is accredited by your own or an approved body's HE awarding powers.
- Institutions need a minimum of 30 reviews to be eligible in this category.
- Student reviews towards this category are to be submitted via an online link.
- Reviews are welcome from all students studying a Level Five qualification or higher.
- A viable number of institutions must meet the minimum review threshold for this category to feature in the awards.
- Students will be invited to comment/score the following aspects of their experience; 'Overall Experience', 'Job Prospects', 'Course & Lecturers', 'Uni Facilities', 'City Life', 'Student Support', 'Giving Back'. The rankings for this category will be based on 'Overall Experience' scores only.
- To get involved with the awards your institution must have course listings on Whatuni. To check if you already feature on the site, please search here: <https://www.whatuni.com/degrees/find-university/>
- If you do not already have a profile on Whatuni and would like to be involved, please contact Ellie at eleanor.back@hotcourses.com.

Further Education College category (new for 2018):

- Category is open to all UK further education colleges that are eligible to feature on Whatuni.
- Institutions need a minimum of 30 reviews to be eligible in this category.

¹ Full time and part time students, based on HESA data from academic year 2015/2016.

- Student reviews towards this category are to be submitted via an online link.
- Reviews are welcome from students studying a Level Five qualification or higher.
- A viable number of institutions must meet the minimum review threshold for this category to feature in the awards.
- There are no exclusions around taught degree awarding powers (TDAP) to be eligible for ranking in this category.
- Students will be invited to comment/score the following aspects of their experience; 'Overall Experience', 'Job Prospects', 'Course & Lecturers', 'Facilities', 'Student Support', 'Giving Back'. The rankings for this category will be based on 'Overall Experience' scores only.
- To get involved with the awards your institution must have course listings on Whatuni. To check if you already feature on the site, please search here:
<https://www.whatuni.com/degrees/find-university/>
- If you do not already have a profile on Whatuni and would like to be involved, please contact Ellie at eleanor.back@hotcourses.com.

How to get involved:

- Students can submit an online review of their university/college at any time. Reviews submitted at any point up until 28th February 2018 will be included towards the 2018 ranking, with results announced at our annual awards ceremony on 19th April 2018.
- The review link is: www.whatuni.com/review. Please note that the tailored review form for the FE College and IHE categories will not be showing live until 29th November. However, reviews can still be submitted for these categories from now and will count towards the awards (only the 'Overall Experience' score is used for ranking).
- We've found the best means of generating reviews is to include this link in student emails, alongside artwork promoting our incentive for students to submit a review (a £200 food shop for one student who submits a review before 1st Dec, new incentive to follow after this). Please get in touch with us for artwork.
- The review link and artwork can also be promoted on social media channels, which allows you to target those students who are likely to be most engaged with uni/college life.
- Get in touch with us so we can monitor your review progress, help with best practice and confirm when you have reached the eligibility threshold (eleanor.back@hotcourses.com).

Submission award – 'Best Prospective Student Engagement Campaign' (new for 2018):

What are the judges looking for?

This award will be judged by the Whatuni Student Advisory Board, a group of twenty-five sixth form, college or university students and SU presidents. We're looking for campaigns and initiatives that engage **prospective students** in new and exciting ways. What have you done that's improved the experience for applicants on their journey into university, from initial research through to enrolment and beyond?

In the spirit of the Whatuni Student Choice Awards, the judges especially want to see campaigns that champion the student voice. Below are a few examples to get you thinking along the right lines:

- How have you helped prospective students make the right decision with regards to their choice of institution or course?
- Have you developed something to specifically help certain under-represented groups into university?

- Have you developed new pre-arrival or orientation projects to ensure your students begin their university life as well prepared as possible?
- How have you engaged with students to support them on their journey into university?
- How have you ensured that the student voice is reflected in your communications and campaigns to genuinely reflect the student experience?

Judging Criteria:

- Is the campaign or initiative innovative, unique and new?
- Has it made a difference and made an impact to prospective and enrolled students as well as to your institution?
- Please provide both qualitative and quantitative evidence to support your submission.

Terms:

- Awards will be judged by the Whatuni Student Advisory Board, made up of both school and university students.
- Application by submission of up to 600 words and up to three pieces of supporting information, for example website screenshots, videos, prospectuses.
- One application will be accepted per university.
- Please download a copy of the application form from <https://www.hotcoursesgroup.com/whatuni-student-choice-awards/>. When completed, submit the form and attached pieces of supporting information to events@hotcourses.com. We will send confirmation that we have received your application.
- Deadline for entries is the 28th February 2018.
- In addition to a WUSCA award, the winners of the submission award will also receive a visit to your institution by Aaron Porter our Director of Insights, who will present a breakdown of real time prospective student trends relevant to your institution, analysis of your WUSCA results and provide a report of all your qualitative and quantitative review data.

It is free-of-charge to enter all awards and categories.