

Guidance for the Award of Green Apple (GA) funding for Education for Sustainable Development

Background

As a signatory of the Sustainable Development Goals accord, the University of Bristol is committed to embedding Sustainable Development principles and experiences in the education it offers its students. The Green Apple Scheme supports initiatives by staff and students to do this. Expanding the provision of Education for Sustainable Development experiences to students, both in the formal curriculum and in extra-curricular activities.

Student involvement is expected in most projects, though it may not be necessary in some cases. Projects may be student-led but must have a member of staff who takes responsibility for the budget. Projects engaging stakeholders beyond the university are also welcome, provided they show clear educational outcomes for the students involved.

What funding is available?

Funding is offered within the Universities Education for Sustainable Development budget and is available all year round, subject to availability.

Who can apply?

Any members of academic or professional services staff may apply. This includes staff on fixed-term contracts, where the contract covers the period of the project. There are no minimum experience requirements. Students may apply but must have a member of staff as their mentor who will be responsible for the budget.

How much funding can I apply for?

Green Apple (GA) funding provides short-term grants of £500-£1000.

What can the funding be spent on?

Projects must show that they further student understanding of one or more aspects of sustainable development. This could be within formal curriculum, an interdisciplinary open unit, or extracurricular activities.

Money awarded from this fund can be used to pay for:

- Event organisation
- Development of educational assets (e.g. videos)
- Horizon scanning: attending conferences and events which support the project and associated costs e.g. travel expenses
- Staffing costs, including employing students on short-term contracts
- Resource/material costs
- Software and equipment costs where these are directly relevant to the project

Suggested projects which we would consider include, but are not restricted to:

- Talks by external speakers on sustainable careers
- Creating a short video for students, briefing them on aspects of sustainable development relevant to their discipline
- The development of course materials for existing or new units, which embed aspects of sustainable development in them; course materials (e.g. online resources) useful for multiple disciplines are particularly welcome
- Student-led outreach activities: for example, the creation and running of workshops for local schoolchildren
- Buying software, or other assets for use in the teaching of sustainable-development related content.
- The organisation of interdisciplinary events for students and staff: to discuss and debate an aspect of sustainable development, this could include external speakers

- Review of an existing program on where and how sustainable development concepts could be integrated into it

Guidelines

We strongly recommend that you contact us in advance of application and get feedback on the appropriateness of your ideas for this scheme.

The GA fund provides grants of £500-1000 for a project. This will be awarded via an open application process. We welcome applications all year round.

As part of the funding agreement, successful applicants are expected to review 1-2 Green Apple applications per year. This is a light touch review process to assess suitability and offer feedback to applicants.

We accept co or joint applications, providing a project lead is identified.

The responsibilities of successful applicants will be to:

- Concentrate activity on implementing the plans set out in their project proposal
- Share, and where appropriate, implement, the conclusions of their project within the University
- Provide a short project overview as a blog article, for the Sustainability web site.
- Extracurricular student engagement opportunities should be added to the My Opportunities platform and promoted through the Student Union
- Applications must receive support from the relevant Head of School/Division, co-researchers school and/or external stakeholders before submission

We will favour projects which do one or more of the following:

- Engage large numbers of students
- Have transformative potential for longer term changes of awareness and educational practice
- Include content and promotion of sustainable career options for students

Deadline for spending funds

All allocated funds must be spent by 31 July of the following year.

Key Contacts

Contact the Education for Sustainability team with any questions and to submit your application:

edu4sd-team@bristol.ac.uk

Prof Chris Preist, University Academic Director of Sustainability

Maria Pointer, Education for Sustainable Development Coordinator (Maternity Cover)

To apply for the funding

Fill out the Green Apple Application Form and submit via email to edu4sd-team@bristol.ac.uk

You can expect to receive a response within 4 weeks of submission.