

The EliteUWE scheme criteria for non-partner sports

The Centre for Sport runs a sports bursary scheme for athletes not competing in strategic partner sports, but whose sport is part of the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) framework. A full list of sports is available on the BUCS website at: <http://www.bucs.org.uk>

Typically athletes may be supported through the provision of services (physiotherapy, strength and conditioning, nutrition) and/or a sports bursary to assist with University or training costs. The maximum bursary amount of funding awarded to athletes in this group is £3000. Access to support services is generally unlimited (subject to individual programme planning)

Athletes in this category will fulfil the following criteria

1. Their sport will be part of the BUCS framework
2. Based on current personal bests, previous results or similar evidence, they are likely to achieve a podium, or points scoring position at the appropriate BUCS championship
3. Are not currently receiving any financial support from their NGB, above and beyond reasonable expenses incurred to enter/compete at events
4. Are not currently competing at a level that provides prize money
5. Are not receiving significant commercial sponsorship
6. Have no history of disciplinary or doping infractions in any sport
7. Athletes will be evaluated by an interview panel who will consider any or all of the following factors:
 - a. Likelihood of BUCS points, particularly for sports with individual championships
 - b. Level of coaching and expertise available at UWE
 - c. Length of course of study at UWE
 - d. Training facilities and/or equipment available at UWE or close by
 - e. Available staff expertise and resources
 - f. Perceived positive impact that funding will have on performance
 - g. The overall costs of participation in the sport
 - h. Likelihood of performance improvements during the period of study
 - i. Willingness to engage with UWE support services
 - j. Any other factors deemed relevant by the panel
 - k. Willingness to sign and confirm to the UWE Anti-Doping agreement
 - l. Support from Coaches and/or NGB to utilise services and staff available at UWE Bristol

Upon application athletes may be accepted onto the programme or asked to attend an interview to further explore areas outlined above.

Note regarding Equestrian Sports and Disciplines

Please note - The Centre for Sport at UWE Bristol does not currently provide bursary funding to athletes in any Equestrian related sports.

Background Notes for Athletes

1. All funding and support service provision is discretionary following an evaluation by Centre for Sport staff and individual athlete interviews with shortlisted candidates
2. All Undergraduate and Postgraduate students are welcome to apply in accordance with the following:
 - a. They are currently, or will become, an internally registered student at UWE Bristol
 - b. They are eligible to compete in BUCS (e.g. 60 credit minimum course load)
3. Priority is normally given for sports with individual BUCS championships or disciplines – for example Fencing and Athletics.
4. All funding and support service provision is subject to maintaining a good academic status (2:2 or above) during the period of support.
5. All funding and support service provisions are reviewed annually
6. All funding and support service provisions are subject to review at any time.
7. The Centre for Sport reserves the right to support any student- athlete at any time regardless of the published criteria.

How to Apply

As soon as they are considering study at the University of the West of England, athletes should begin the sports bursary application process by completing an online enquiry form which can be found on the UWE Sport website at: http://www.formstack.com/forms/uwe-eliteuwe_statement_of_interest

After a review of the submitted information, athletes will either be asked to attend an interview, accepted onto the programme, or will be contacted by a partner organisation to discuss their likely suitability for support. Unfortunately we are not able to support all applicants.

Note For International Students

International students are encouraged to apply for membership of the scheme and as such are subject to the same performance related criteria as outlined above. In addition to the EliteUWE scheme, an additional fully funded International Sports Scholarship also exists and applicants are encouraged to visit the “Fees and Scholarship” section of the International Admissions webpages to find out more information; <http://www.uwe.ac.uk/international/index.shtml>

Successful applicants for the International Sports Scholarship are required to be in the very top few performers in their sport, on a global scale as well as being able to commit to representing UWE in BUCS competition.

For Other Students

1. Students currently enrolled at UWE on either undergraduate or postgraduate programme are encouraged to apply, ideally prior to the start of the academic year in order to gain maximum benefit from the programme.
2. In addition to the above criteria for new students, current students will be expected to have taken part in BUCS competition in the year(s) preceding their application and should include these results details in their initial communication.

Other Information

Academic Flexibility

UWE Bristol is proud of its teaching and learning standard and as such is able to cater for a wide range of learning and delivery styles. The majority of programmes utilise a range of lectures, seminars, workshops, practical and online resources.

EliteUWE members will not receive guaranteed special dispensation from their academic programme however the Centre for Sport will aim to build a helpful relationship between the athlete and their academic department. There is however no guarantee that this will permit academic flexibility.

British University and Colleges Sport – Eligibility

Supported athletes are required to represent UWE in BUCS competition and athletes should confirm that they would be eligible to compete by consulting the latest eligibility criteria, published by BUCS and available on their website.