

Access agreement monitoring return academic year 2010-11: Milestones and targets
School of Pharmacy

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 monitoring: 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)

Milestone / target type (from drop-down menu)	Description	Baseline data (number or percentage)	Baseline year	Target (number or percentage)	Target year	Progress to date					Performance summary (from drop-down menu)
						2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	
State School (location adjusted) (HESA Table T1a)	The number of young full-time first degree entrants from state schools does not decline significantly (i.e. by more than 5%) from the previous year.	84.8	2006		2011	84.8	85.8	83.6	90.3	85.7	Target met/exceeded
State School (location adjusted) (HESA Table T1a)	The number of young full-time first degree entrants from socio-economic classes 4-7 does not decline significantly (i.e. by more than 5%) from the previous year.	39.8	2006		2011	39.8	35.2		39.8	35.1	Target met/exceeded
NS-SEC (location adjusted) (HESA Table T1a)	The number of young full-time first degree entrants from low participation neighbourhoods does not decline significantly (i.e. by more than 5%) from the previous year. Where the School is below the location adjusted benchmark the School must show a year on year increase.	1.7	2006	3	2011	1.7	1.5	4.3	5.1	5.9	Target met/exceeded
Other (please give details in comments box)	The percentage of students on full and partial state support meet or exceeds the national average of 50%	58.6	2007	0.5	2011		58.6	60.6	56.4	59.6	Target met/exceeded

b) Other milestones and targets

Milestone / target type (from drop-down menu)	Description	Baseline data	Baseline year	Target	Target year	Progress to date					Performance summary (please select from drop-down menu)
						2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	

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

HESA PI category	Progress to date						Two-year change (2007-08 to 2009-10)	Five-year change (2004-05 to 2009-10)
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10		
State School (%)	78	82.8	84.8	85.8	83.6	90.3	4.5	12.3
<i>Distance from benchmark</i>	-0.8	2.2	3	2.7	1.4	7.9	5.2	8.7
NS-SEC 4-7 [socio-economic class] (%)	37.1	33	39.8	35.2	N/A	39.8	4.6	2.7
<i>Distance from benchmark</i>	11.2	6.7	11.6	8.2	N/A	9.4	1.2	-1.8
Low participation neighbourhoods (young) (%)	N/A	N/A	1.7	1.5	4.3	5.1	3.6	N/A
<i>Distance from benchmark</i>	N/A	N/A	-2.2	-2.6	0.8	1.4	4.0	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.

Context

Over the past 18 months the School of Pharmacy was engaged in a Strategic Options Review which considered the long-term future of the School. The Review considered how the School could best deliver its mission in the context of the changing HE sector - by remaining as an independent College of the University of London or merging with a larger institution. A substantial amount of time was invested in exploring the viability of both options and wide consultation was undertaken with stakeholders. In May 2011, the School's Council voted in favour of the School merging with University College London and the School officially merged on 1st January 2012.

A significant amount of work has been undertaken with colleagues at UCL around student services and student support, including Access and WP. This has opened up a wealth of opportunities for School of Pharmacy students including access to the UCL Library, Student Welfare and Support Network, Accommodations Services and from 2012-13, the bursary scheme. From 2012-13 onwards the School of Pharmacy will no longer have a separate Access Agreement and WPSA but will be included in the UCL agreement.

Bursary Scheme

The School committed itself to investing up to a maximum 25% of its additional fee income in the School bursary scheme. This has been achieved and the amount of money distributed as bursaries has increased year on year. In 2010-11, the School contributed 25.8% of its additional fee income to bursaries. The actual figure was £295,185 which was higher than the £279,540 estimated in the original Access Agreement.

Targets

The School has made good progress against its targets which were set out in the 2006-2011 Access Agreement and WPSA. The most significant improvement has been the increase in the proportion of students from Low Participation Neighbourhoods. The baseline figure was 1.7% in 2006-07 and had increased to 5.1% by 2010-11.

The target for young full-time first degree entrants from state schools and NS-SEC 4-7 (socio-economic class) was to ensure that the proportion of students from these groups did not decline by more than 5% year on year. The School has managed to achieve this and to increase the proportion of students from both groups over the past 5 years (with the occasional fluctuation).

The School has consistently exceeded its target of enrolling 50%+ entrants who are in receipt of full and partial state support.