



BRIGHTON
STUDENTS' UNION

Membership Policy

BYE LAW of

UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON

STUDENTS' UNION

Passed by Trustee Board 23rd April 2021

1. Full Members

- 1.1. All registered students of the University of Brighton are automatically full members of Brighton Students' Union (BSU or the Union).
- 1.2. Union Sabbatical Officers shall automatically be full members of the Union.
- 1.3. There will be no fee for full membership, although individual fees may be applicable to join additional activities such as societies and events.
- 1.4. Full members are entitled to:
 - 1.4.1. gain advice, support and representation from the Union;
 - 1.4.2. participate in union training and development programmes;
 - 1.4.3. vote in union elections & referenda;
 - 1.4.4. hold elected office in the Union;
 - 1.4.5. attend and speak at Union meetings;
 - 1.4.6. join clubs, societies and liberation groups affiliated to the Union;
 - 1.4.7. hold leadership positions in clubs and societies;
 - 1.4.8. make use of Union facilities and events provided by the Union.
- 1.5. Members may opt out of Union membership at anytime – see section 4.

2. Associate Members

- 2.1. The Trustee Board may award Associate Membership status to a student, or group of students who are linked to the University of Brighton. This is likely to be (but not exclusively) students studying alongside University of Brighton students..
- 2.2. Associate members are entitled to:
 - 2.2.1. join clubs, societies and liberation groups affiliated to the Union;
 - 2.2.2. make use of Union facilities and attend events provided by the Union.
- 2.3. In addition to the benefits outlined above, due to the location of the students and nature of contract with the University, students from UBIC will also be entitled to:
 - 2.3.1. gain advice and support from the Union;
 - 2.3.2. participate in union training and development programmes;
 - 2.3.3. attend and speak at Union meetings.
- 2.4. In addition to the benefits outlined above, from time to time, the Trustees may make individual time limit arrangements for specific groups of associate members.
- 2.5. Any fees for associate membership will be determined by the Trustee Board.
- 2.6. The cost of providing associate membership services may never exceed the income received.

3. Honorary Life Members

- 3.1. Honorary Life Membership can be awarded to any student, former external trustee or other individual who is deemed to have given continued time and service to the Union.
- 3.2. It is most likely that recipients will be former Sabbatical Officers, Trustees or senior members of the University.

- 3.3. There will be no fee for honorary life membership.
- 3.4. Honorary life members are entitled to:
 - 3.4.1. join clubs, societies and liberation groups affiliated to the Union in a non representational capacity;
 - 3.4.2. make use of Union facilities and attend events provided by the Union.
- 3.5. Honorary life membership may be revoked by the Trustee Board.

4. Opting Out

- 4.1. In accordance with the Education Act 1994, students have the right to opt out of membership of the Students' Union.
- 4.2. Students wishing to opt out may do so at anytime by writing to the President of the Union, or opting out at the point of enrolment.
- 4.3. Students who opt out are entitled to:
 - 4.3.1. gain representational support from the Union;
 - 4.3.2. make use of Union facilities and attend events provided by the Union. When a limited amount of tickets are available to any Union premises or activity, members may be given preference.
- 4.4. Students who opt out will not be unfairly disadvantaged with regard to provision of representational services or otherwise, by reason of having done so.
- 4.5. The Union will endeavour to offer guidance to registered students who are non-members as appropriate. Where the issues are such that they cannot be dealt with in the Union, direction shall be given to the relevant University department or recognised organisation.
- 4.6. For the avoidance of doubt, non-members may not: vote in any union election, participate in any governance of the Union, join any Union activities.
- 4.7. When accessing any of the entitlements listed in 4.3, non members are still subject to the same code of conduct and disciplinary procedures as members.
- 4.8. Subject to any disciplinary sanction, a student may choose to opt back into membership at anytime whilst a registered student by writing to the President of the Union.

5. Membership Conduct

- 5.1. All members of the Union and opted out students are required to conduct themselves according to the Union policies and procedures whilst engaging in any Union activities.
- 5.2. Any breach of these provisions may be considered a disciplinary matter and may result in any or all privileges of membership being withdrawn. However BSU will never deprive a member of the right of representation conferred by the Education Act 1994.
- 5.3. Details of any Associate Member disciplinary action may be passed onto the relevant body with whom that student studies.