



BRIGHTON
STUDENTS' UNION

Membership Policy

BYE LAW of

UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON

STUDENTS' UNION

Passed by Trustee Board 26/6/19

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 such as UBIC and Partner Colleges.
- 2.2. Associate members are entitled to:
 - 2.2.1. gain advice and support from the Union;
 - 2.2.2. participate in union training and development programmes;
 - 2.2.3. attend and speak at Union meetings;
 - 2.2.4. join clubs, societies and liberation groups affiliated to the Union;
 - 2.2.5. make use of Union facilities and events provided by the Union.
- 2.3. In addition to the benefits of outlined above, from time to time, the Trustees may make individual time limit arrangements for specific groups of associate members. Such agreements will be reviewed by the Trustees on an annual basis.
- 2.4. Any fees for associate membership will be determined by the Trustee Board.
- 2.5. 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 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 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.