



University Social Responsibility – Supporting Experiential Learning through European Collaboration

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Experiential learning in ESSA

ESSA aims to...

- better understand how social responsibility and sustainability are **embedded across institutions**
- develop a **flexible approach** to student learning, assessment and certification
- allow students to engage with **real world issues**
- **enhance** the use of student/learner centred approach through **SLICC** model
- effectively integrate **practical training and learning** in and from **real-world situations**

Delivered by...



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



kauno
technologijos
universitetas

Edinburgh
University
Students'
Association



AEFPCEUP

ASSOCIAÇÃO DE ESTUDANTES DA FACULDADE DE PSICOLOGIA E DE CIÊNCIAS DA EDUCAÇÃO DA UNIVERSIDADE DO PORTO

nus

national union of students



ESSA is based around the benchmark standards for university social responsibility

Research, teaching, support for learning and public procurement

The institution's core academic activities are underpinned by the values and principles of social responsibility.

Governance

The principles of social responsibility are respected throughout institutional policy, strategy, procedures and processes. They permeate all levels, as an integral element of management accountability and stakeholder engagement.

Environmental and societal sustainability

The institution is committed to environmental sustainability and biodiversity in all aspects of its operations, including in its use of goods, services and works and in its evaluation of decisions. It takes appropriate action to ensure that its commitments are realised.

Fair practices

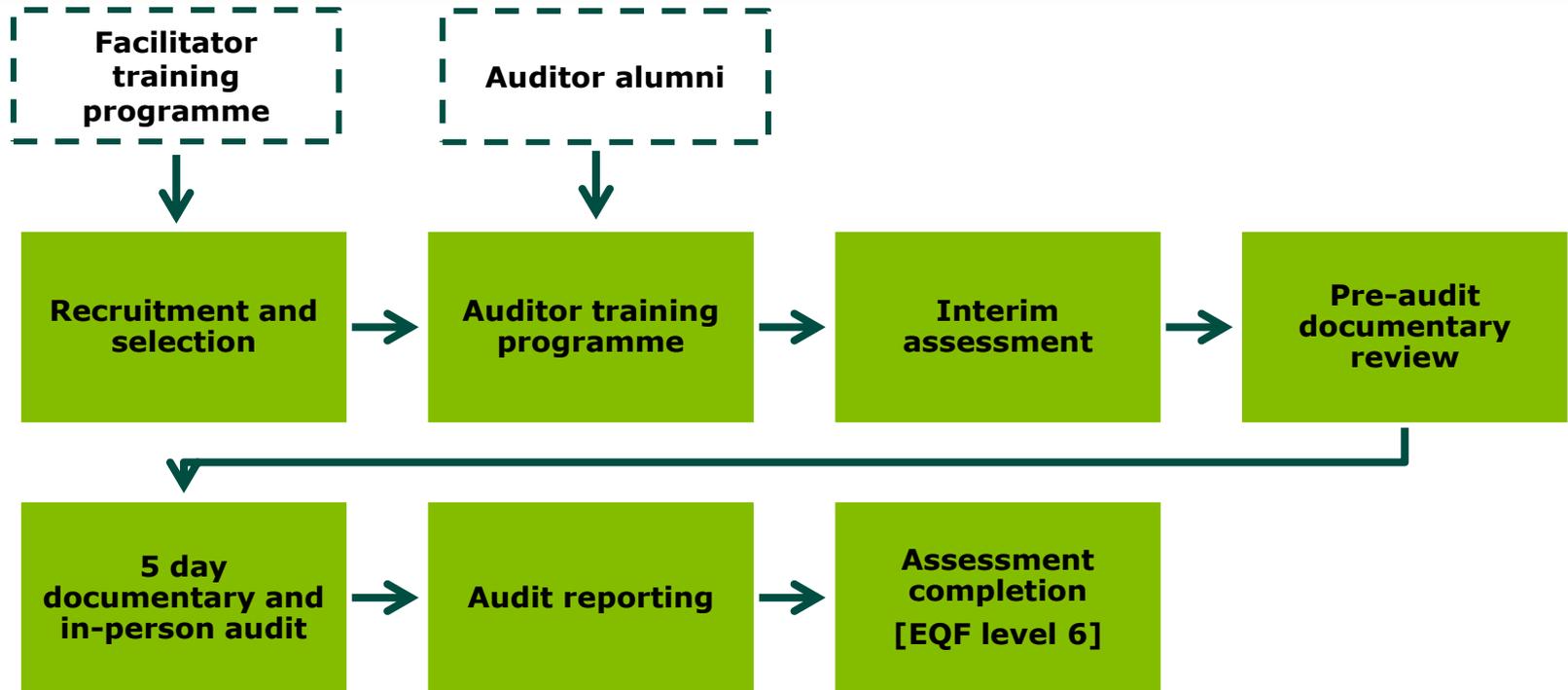
The institution ensures equality and fairness for its staff, students and others as appropriate and its policies and procedures are intended to avoid discrimination or inequity.

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Read the full list of standards at:
<http://www.eu-usr.eu/>



The ESSA student journey



Edinburgh and Kaunas audits



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Outcomes for students

- 10 SCQF Credits (5 ECTS) – formal academic recognition for their work
 - Opportunity to practically apply learning in a real-world situation
 - High satisfaction scores of the student experience, especially in relation to the cross-cultural setting
 - Enhanced employability skills, tangible example of developing Graduate Attributes.
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- 70% feel very confident to act as a social responsibility auditor and 30% feel fairly confident
 - 100% feel that their university could learn from the approach taken in the project to student learning
 - 93% of students said their participation in the project exceeded their original expectations.

Outcomes for students

"I think it will make me much more employable, both with the accreditation, but also as a story to get people to be interested."

"In general the auditor training that we had in Porto and the audit itself were very good. They provided insightful knowledge and space for active learning."

"This has been the best experience of my university education, the learning approach was practical and very beneficial!"

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"Participating in the Kaunas audit has definitely given me a better understanding of how to work with people from different backgrounds and disciplines, which is an important skill that will be useful throughout my life. It has also helped me hone my skills in synthesising information, especially in a short amount of time."

"My employer will know that I have knowledge about functioning of a big institution and I now what an audit focuses on. I will also know how in many fields strengthen the institution that I work in and make it a great place to work and observe."