

The National Teaching Fellowship Scheme (NTFS) at UoE

# **What is a National Teaching Fellowship?**

National Teaching Fellowship celebrates outstanding individual impact. It celebrates and recognises individuals who have made an outstanding impact on student outcomes and the teaching profession in higher education.

The NTFS is essentially an annual competition run by AdvanceHE. Universities can nominate up to three individuals for up to 55 National Teaching Fellowships each year. Although the scheme has been running since 2000, Scotland was only included in the scheme in 2018. Since then, the University of Edinburgh has had three successful nominations.

# **What’s the benefit of having a National Teaching Fellowship?**

There are both individual and institutional benefits:

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| **Benefits to individuals** | **Benefits to institutions** |
| Achieving a National Teaching Fellowship is widely recognised in higher education within the UK as well as internationally as mark of high quality | Offers an extension to university wide individual recognition schemes, as a means to raise the status of teaching and instil in the pride in the profession and student outcomes |
| The award can help ‘open doors’ to new academic or career opportunities | Showcases the institution’s support of individual teaching excellence and the impact this has on student outcomes. |
| Award winners join a national community of like-minded professionals who are passionate about teaching excellence | Enables staff to cross boundaries, collaborating with colleagues in other disciplines and areas of work, across institutions nationally and internationally |

# **Who can be nominated?**

Anyone who works in Higher Education who has made a significant contribution to student outcomes or teaching in HE. It is open to university staff who support learning as well as those involved directly in teaching. National Teaching Fellows include Library Services staff, Learning Technologists and Academic Learning Developers, for example.

# **What do you have to do?**

You have to prepare a claim against three criteria:

NTFS Criterion 1*: Individual excellence*

Evidence of enhancing and transforming student outcomes and/or the teaching profession; demonstrating impact commensurate with the individual’s context and the opportunities afforded by it.

NTFS Criterion 2: *Raising the profile of excellence*

Evidence of supporting colleagues and influencing support for student learning and/or the teaching profession; demonstrating impact and engagement beyond the nominee’s immediate academic or professional role.

NTFS Criterion 3: *Developing excellence*

Show the nominee’s commitment to and impact of ongoing professional development with regard to teaching and learning and/or learning support.

Each section is up to 1,500 words

Reviewers will be looking for evidence of **reach, value** and **impact** to be demonstrated in the evidence

# **Who is running the NTF Scheme in UoE?**

The Institute for Academic Development will be responsible for preparing individuals for nomination and providing mentoring and support for them. They will undertake the administrative processes associated with the NTFS on behalf of the individual.

# **How are people selected for nomination?**

Individuals will be identified as potential NTFs in a variety of ways. They may come to attention through winning internal awards, they may already be known to the IAD through engagement with learning and teaching, Directors of Learning, Deans and Assistant Principals will be asked to identify potential candidates. Individuals can also put themselves forward for consideration.

# **How will the Scheme work?**

There will be six places available at any time within the nominee preparation ‘pool’. When individuals are accepted into the pool, they will be provided with a mentor to help them develop their claim. At a certain point prior to the annual deadline for nomination, up to three people from the ‘pool’ will be selected for nomination based on their readiness. Individuals have up to two years to develop a claim and will be supported for two nominations (many NTFs do not win first time round).

You can find more information and browse the profiles of previous winners here:

<https://www.advance-he.ac.uk/awards/teaching-excellence-awards/national-teaching-fellowship>