

STARS

The UUSU Student Training and Rewards Scheme, or STARS for short aims to recognise societies in their efforts across the year to offer the best all-round experience to students.

Engaging with STARS is a fantastic opportunity for committees to demonstrate the amazing things they do, gain accreditation for their efforts and provide inspiration to their successors and other societies as to what they can do in the future

WHAT ACCREDITATION LEVELS ARE THERE?

Your society can aim for a Bronze, Silver or Gold award.

- To achieve Bronze status, your society must complete all criteria from the Core list. You cannot access Silver or Gold thresholds without first achieving Bronze status.
- To achieve Silver or Gold status, your society must achieve different criteria across a range of categories as listed below.

WHAT EVIDENCE NEEDS SUBMITTED FOR EACH AWARD?

It will depend based on what criteria you are claiming but for many It will be easier if you keep evidence throughout the academic semesters so that you can pull together when submitting final paperwork.

Try to include anything that shows you have achieved what you have said you have. It could be photographs at an event, screenshots of website or social media. At the very least, please use the text box on the submission form to detail how you have met the criteria in the different categories and why either Bronze, Silver or Gold should be awarded to your society.

Your Student Activities Coordinator will be reviewing each claim and if they feel not enough evidence has been submitted the claim will be rejected.



BRONZE AWARD

These criteria are the minimum expectations of how a society should perform. If you complete all these criteria, your society will obtain Bronze status. You cannot obtain Silver or Gold status without first achieving Bronze.

CRITERIA	DETAILS
Organising a welcome event that fulfils your group's aims and objectives	In semester 1 & 2
Attend Societies Forums	Throughout the academic year
Maintaining an up-to-date society page on the SU website	<p>Your group's page should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A description of your group and its activities, • Contact details including a dedicated contact for interested or new members • A logo • Links to other pages, social media or websites (if appropriate) • Photos or videos (if appropriate). • Links to events throughout the year • Sending members a welcome email & keeping in contact through out the year in this way
Communicating with the Student Activities Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance at catch up meetings each semester with Activities Coordinator • Submission of relevant paperwork in advance of events
Promotion of Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance at Freshers and Refreshers Fayres.

SILVER & GOLD AWARD

Silver – one criteria from each category to be achieved

Gold – A further 5 criteria to be achieved (from any of the categories)

CAMPAIGNS & DEMOCRACY

Anything which seeks to engage with your members, the wider SU or national campaigns, including any SU democratic processes.

CRITERIA

- Gathering feedback from members and using it to influence decisions within your group
- Actively participating with centrally run SU events or initiatives as part of your society
- Organising an event to raise awareness of your societies' cause, campaign or views
- Working with the campus society rep/society council rep to bring forward a motion of change on behalf of your society
- Promote democracy: Host an event to encourage members to vote in UUSU elections

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND COLLABORATION

Anything which seeks to involve the local community or another student community.

CRITERIA

- Collaborating with another society on an event, or project
- Promoting opportunities for volunteering to your members
- Organise a fundraising project/ event
- Collaborate with a society/club on another campus (or university)

INCLUSIVITY AND WELLBEING

Anything which seeks to improve members' wellbeing, as well as widen the group's reach through

CRITERIA

- Running a wellbeing initiative or hosting a wellbeing event for your group
- Actively attempting to engage minority, diversity networks, and typically less-engaged students in your group's activity
- Hosting a session for your group outside of term time
- Actively promote & engage with UUSU welfare campaign (mental health)
- Hold at least 2 alcohol free events per semester
- Promote social sport to your members

PROMOTION AND ENGAGEMENT

Anything which seeks to engage students in your group's activity, including promotion and communication of relevant opportunities and information.

CRITERIA

- Run a "Give it a Go" event
- Having an active online presence on at least one platform & tagging UUSU in at least 3 posts
- Working with UUSU Student Staff to promote your society
- Selling tickets to a free or paid event or student group product online via the SU website
- Increase membership by actively making sure members sign up online
- Academic societies: Hold an event to introduce course reps to members
- Provide opportunities for members to develop new skills such as workshops

LEGACY AND LONGEVITY

Anything which seeks to engage with the group's past, present or future and sow seeds to ensure growth of society

CRITERIA

- Organise a committee development session to develop and strengthen your committee: Team building exercise, hold a planning session each semester
- Fundraising to sustain your society's activity
- Producing a handover document on your society activity during your term (event reviews; contact info internally & externally; specific role handover to enable new person to take over)
- Take & publicise photos taken at events (share with UUSU to help us build our archives)