



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

# TEACHING EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK SUMMARY



THE EXERCISE RUNS ANNUALLY,  
BUT TEF AWARDS LAST FOR  
**THREE YEARS**



## What is the TEF?

- The Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) has been introduced by the government to encourage excellence in teaching and to seek to measure the teaching quality of Higher Education providers
- It is intended to help students choose where to study by providing information about teaching provision and student outcomes



**295**  
**UK INSTITUTIONS  
PARTICIPATED  
IN TEF 2017**

**2017/18**

**KNOWN AS TEF2  
IS THE SECOND  
ROUND OF TEF**

## When was TEF introduced?

- The TEF was introduced by government in 2016. The ratings for the first round of TEF (TEF1) have already been awarded. In TEF1 there was a single level of award (Meets Expectations) which was awarded to all providers which met a minimum criteria for quality.
- The 2017 TEF exercise (TEF2) is the first 'opt-in' round, with institutions assessed on the basis of metrics and a narrative submission.

# How does the TEF work?



## Teaching quality

- NSS Teaching Quality
- NSS Assessment and Feedback



## Learning environment

- NSS Academic Support
- HESA Non-continuation rates



## Student outcomes and learning gain

- DLHE Employability
- DLHE Highly skilled employability

### Metrics:

### Qualitative:

Institutional narrative demonstrating impact and effectiveness of teaching and learning initiatives

- The TEF metrics are 'benchmarked'. Institutions' performance in each of the metrics is compared against a 'target' performance, which all things being equal (given student population mix and characteristics), an institution might be expected to achieve. Institutions which outperform their benchmark are given

a positive flag; where performance falls significantly below a benchmark, institutions are given a negative flag.

- Institutions also submit a 15-page narrative which provides further information and detail on how they provide an outstanding educational experience for their students.

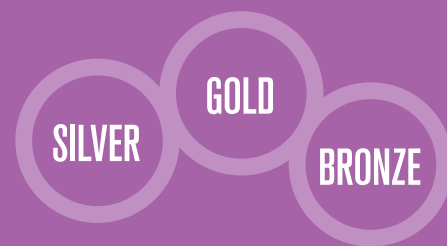
- The TEF Panel (supported by a team of TEF Assessors) will balance an institution's performance across the metrics with the evidence provided in the narrative to determine a final outcome.

## What doesn't TEF measure?

- TEF focuses on undergraduate education (although PGT may be added in the future) and is at institution level only.
- The TEF uses proxy measures to try to assess the quality of teaching across institutions but there are lots of data and information about what to expect from your university experience that are not covered in the TEF metrics.
- TEF is therefore one of a number of information sources prospective students might wish to consult before deciding where to study.

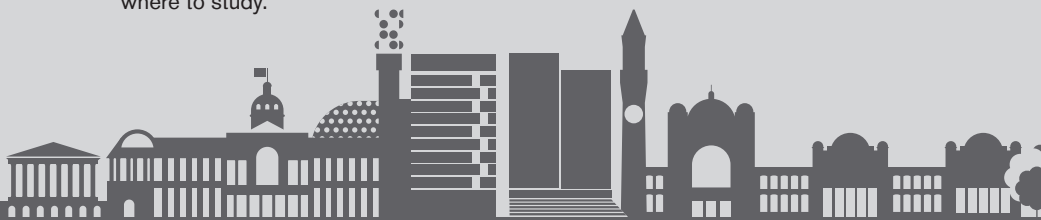
## How does TEF impact tuition fees?

- Successful TEF outcomes (a gold, silver or bronze award) will allow universities to uplift tuition fees for undergraduate Home and EU students in line with inflation.
- HEIs are permitted to increase fees annually from 2017/18.
- The University of Birmingham reviews and agrees its UG fee levels each year; Home fees are likely to increase annually by the maximum approved rate for students starting study from October 2017.



## How will institutions be rated?

- From TEF2, institutions will be awarded ratings of 'Bronze', 'Silver' or 'Gold'.
- The final decision of award level will be made by the TEF panel, which is made up of students, academics, Widening Participation experts and employers.



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## What does TEF 2017 mean for UoB?



Based on the evidence available, the TEF Panel judged that the University of Birmingham delivers consistently outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for its students. It is of the highest quality found in the UK.