

## Guidance for the Award of Green Apple (GA) funding for Education for Sustainable Development

### Background

Through the Sustainability cross-cutting theme of its strategy, the University of Bristol is committed to embedding Sustainable Development principles and experiences in the education it offers its students. The Green Apple Scheme is intended to support initiatives by staff and students to do this, and to expand the provision of Education for Sustainable Development experiences to students, both in the formal curriculum and in extra-curricular activities.

GA funding is available all year round and is intended to fund a specific activity over a short, set period or to kick start a new activity with the potential to be independently sustainable afterwards.

Student involvement (UG and/or PG) is expected in most funded projects, though in some cases may not be necessary for a clear and justified reason. Projects may also be student-led, but are required to have a member of staff as a mentor who takes responsibility for the budget. Projects which engage stakeholders beyond the university are also welcome, provided they can demonstrate clear educational outcomes for the students involved.

### Selection criteria

All projects must demonstrate that they can (directly or indirectly) further student understanding of and engagement with at least one aspect of sustainable development. They may do this within a subject specific formal curriculum, an interdisciplinary open unit, or extracurricular activities which contribute to students’ wider educational experience at the University of Bristol. Projects which have large reach (in terms of the number of students engaged, and/or reach beyond a single discipline) or transformative potential (in terms of longer-term changes of awareness and educational practice) will be favoured.

Example projects which would be considered for funding include, but are not restricted to:

* The creation of a short video for students in a given school, briefing them on what aspects of sustainable development are relevant to their discipline and why.
* The development of course materials for existing or new units, which embed aspects of sustainable development in them. Course materials (eg online resources) which can be used in multiple disciplines are particularly welcome.
* The creation and running of student-led workshops for Bristol schoolchildren related to sustainable development, or other student-led outreach activities.
* The purchase of software or other assets for use in the teaching of sustainable-development related content.
* The organisation of interdisciplinary events for students and staff to discuss and debate an aspect of sustainable development, possibly including external speakers.
* Review of an existing program as to where and how sustainable development concepts could be integrated into it.

### Guidelines

* We strongly recommend you contact us in advance of application, and get feedback on the appropriateness of your ideas for this scheme.
* The GA fund will typically provide grants of £500-1000 for a project, but can offer up to £1500 for those with larger reach or impact. This will be awarded via an open application process and applications are welcomed all year round. In exceptional circumstances larger grants may be given.
* Any members of academic or professional services staff (including staff on fixed term contracts where the contract covers the period of the proposed project) may apply. There are no minimum experience requirements. Students may apply, but must have a member of staff as their mentor. The mentor will be responsible for the budget. Staff applicants are expected to be members of the ESD Staff Network.
* Co or joint applications are accepted; although a project lead must be identified.

* The responsibilities of successful applicants will be to:
  + Implement the plans set out in their project proposal.
  + Disseminate, and where appropriate, implement, the conclusions of their project as appropriate within the University.
  + Provide a short project overview as a blog article, for dissemination on the ESD staff network sharepoint site.
  + Extracurricular student engagement opportunities should be promoted through relevant student societies and the Student Union.
* Submitted applications must receive support from the relevant Head of School/Division, co-researchers school and/or external stakeholders before submission.

### Funding

* Allocated funding must be spent before the end of the financial year (31st July) for which it was awarded. Any allocated funding not spent within the financial year will be withdrawn as it cannot be transferred across financial years.
* Money awarded from the GA fund can be used to pay for:
* Event organisation
* Development of educational assets (eg videos)
* Staffing costs, including employing students on short-term contracts.
* Resource/material costs
* Software and equipment costs where these are directly relevant to the project.

### Application Process

GAF applications are accepted all year round. All applications are reviewed by representatives of the University Sustainability Council. Feedback on the outcome of all applications will be sent no later than 4 weeks from the original submission date.

Email your completed GA fund Application Form to: chris.preist@bristol.ac.uk

If you have any questions, please direct them to: chris.preist@bristol.ac.uk