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The FASS Awards for Students from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic Backgrounds 2022

Introduction

The FASS Student Awards scheme seeks to address the FASS Business Plan's Key Unit Objective:

'...to maximise student success, and to transform lives, through innovative approaches to lifelong learning in the Arts, Psychology and Social Sciences, and the delivery of an outstanding student experience.'

This award recognises students from Black, Asian, or Minority Ethnic backgrounds who have made exceptional progress during their study, in order to achieve their study goals.

Please read these Terms and Conditions carefully before you apply, and make sure that you understand them.

1. The FASS Awards for Students from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic backgrounds will reward students from these groups under the headings of Outstanding Performance and Outstanding Achievement.
2. One of each type of award will be available for students completing a 22B presentation FASS module.
3. The awards are:
 - a. The Professor Marcia Worrell Award for Outstanding Performance;
 - b. The Professor Stuart Hall Award for Outstanding Achievement.
4. The awards are intended to give recognition to those students from underrepresented groups, who have either gained outstandingly high marks in their modules, or who have made exceptional steps towards achieving their study goals.

Eligibility

5. To qualify for these awards, students must meet **all** the following criteria:
 - a. Identify as being from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background;
 - b. Be ordinarily resident in the UK;
 - c. Be studying or have recently completed the appropriate presentation of a FASS module;
 - d. Submit your application by **10.00am on 30 September 2022**.

Prizes

6. The prizes for each award are to consist of:
 - a. £250 (this can be either via BACS transfer, or a gift voucher/card);
 - b. An engraved trophy;
 - c. A certificate.

In addition, the recipient students' names will be listed on a 'Roll of Honour' on the faculty's website.

7. Any prize money paid by the Open University in error or paid as a result of false information being submitted, will be recovered from the applicant.

Publicity

8. The Open University (OU) relies on its students, alumni and ambassadors to raise the profile of its work. We may contact you to request permission to include you in our publicity.

Applications

9. Applications for the Professor Stuart Hall Award can be submitted by email to FASS-AD-Teaching-Students@open.ac.uk, with the subject line 'FASS Student Awards – 22B application', or by post to:

FASS Student Awards
C/O Manager, Student Experience & Nations
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
The Open University
Walton Hall
Milton Keynes
MK7 6AA

10. The deadline for applications is midnight on the date shown above. No further applications will be accepted after this.
11. It is the students' responsibility to provide any supporting evidence required for their application. Any application form received which is incomplete cannot be considered.
12. We encourage students to discuss their applications with their tutors, although this is not a condition of the application process.
13. The Open University accepts no responsibility for applications that are lost, delayed, misdirected, incomplete or cannot be delivered.
14. For students to be certain their postal application has been received, it should be sent using a 'signed for' delivery service such as special or recorded delivery. Proof of postage using an unrecorded delivery service cannot be considered proof of delivery to The Open University.
15. Award recipients will be notified by email and letter on or before **1 November 2022**. If the recipient rejects the award or the application is in breach of these Terms and Conditions, the award will be forfeited and The Open University shall be entitled to select another recipient.
16. The award recipients may be offered the opportunity to take part in promotional activity related to the FASS Awards for Students from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic Backgrounds such as attending fundraising events or taking part in forums.
17. The Open University shall use and take care of any personal information supplied to it as described in its [Privacy Notice](#), a copy of which is available on request, in accordance with

data protection legislation.

18. By submitting an application, the students agree to the collection, retention, usage and distribution of their personal information in order to process their application and for contact purposes.
19. The Open University accepts no responsibility for any disappointment incurred by the applicant as a result of entering the application process. The awards are discretionary, and the outcome is final.
20. The Open University will take all reasonable steps to continue the services offered as part of this scheme. There may be circumstances outside of our control where we are unable to provide those services in full or in part for reasons such as fire, flood, pandemic, terrorist acts or industrial disputes. Where those, or similar, circumstances arise we will minimise disruption so far as we are reasonably able to.
21. Promoter: The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA.

A. Frequently Asked Questions

How were the eligibility criteria decided?

The aim of the awards is to provide recognition and celebrate our diverse student population and ensure that students receive encouragement to help them succeed in their studies. The eligibility criteria were designed to encourage individuals from specific target groups to maximise their experience with The Open University.

Why do the entry criteria positively discriminate when The Open University claims to be "open to all"?

We value all our students and we want to do our best to ensure that the Faculty reflects the whole of society. Analysis indicates that a smaller proportion of students from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds complete their modules or are awarded high marks when compared with white students. Addressing this disparity is a top priority for the Open University, and we feel these awards can contribute by providing positive role modelling, promoting a sense of belonging, and recognising and celebrating the achievements of students who are Black, Asian or from Minority Ethnic backgrounds to help inspire others. Widening access to and success in higher education is at the heart of the OU's mission. We aim to support students whatever their backgrounds, to reach their potential and fulfil their ambitions.

Why isn't the award scheme open to all students?

The eligibility criteria are in place to maximise the benefits of the scheme and ensure it reaches those who will benefit from it most at this point in time.

What can the award money be spent on?

There are no restrictions on how the money can be spent.

Do I have to contact my tutor about my application for the Professor Stuart Hall Award?

We would encourage you to speak to your tutor in order to submit the strongest possible application. However, you do not need to do so, and we will consider all applications from students who are from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic backgrounds.

How will the winner of the Professor Stuart Hall Award be selected?

The statements written by students applying for the award will be assessed individually by members of a diverse panel of staff from across the University. The panel will then meet to discuss their recommendations and jointly agree on the student who, in the combined judgement of the panel, has demonstrated the most outstanding achievement in their FASS studies.