

Introduction to the EDGE Award

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What is the EDGE Award?

EDGE represents (Engagement, Development, Graduate Employment)

The Ulster EDGE Award, supported by leading graduate employer PwC, has been designed to enhance the employability of Ulster University undergraduate (full and part-time students) by providing official recognition of evidence of activities outside your programme of study.

There are 2 levels of the Award:

The Ulster EDGE Award requires you to complete 4 EDGE accredited activities alongside your degree.

The Ulster EDGE Excel Award requires you to complete 6 EDGE accredited activities alongside your degree.

Why get involved?

You need to stand out from the crowd!..

On average there are over 85 applications for every graduate job. Employers are placing more emphasis on recruiting graduates who not only have a degree but who are equipped with key transferable skills and have a desire to learn more and improve their skills during their time at university. The Award certificate is presented at graduation, and will be included in your official transcript, providing you with the opportunity to showcase your employability skills to potential employers.

How do you achieve the Award?

From the six different categories available (with over 100+ activities) you need to complete 4 activities for the EDGE Award, or 6 activities for the EDGE Excel Award. All activities cannot be from the same category.

There are six different categories to choose from (with over 100+ activities). The categories include:

- ❖ **Category one:** Careers and Skills Development
- ❖ **Category two:** Work Experience, Placements and Internships

- 📌 **Category three:** Subject Specific Opportunities
- 📌 **Category four:** Civic Contribution
- 📌 **Category five:** Developing a Global Vision
- 📌 **Category six:** Students' Union Activities

View the full list of activities at: <https://advice.employability.ulster.ac.uk/edge>

Note: There are four keys steps to achieving the Award:

- 📌 Step 1 – Registration (online via the Award website)
- 📌 Step 2 – Complete activities at your own pace, over the duration of your degree programme. Each activity has a delegated coordinator (who is responsible for accrediting the completed activity), their contact details can be found at the end of each activity descriptor
- 📌 Step 3 – Check and continue to monitor your individual progress
- 📌 Step 4 – Finalists need to check Blackboard at the start of their final semester for application deadlines

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