

GIVING THEM AN EDGE...

The graduate market is extremely competitive as more and more graduates are entering the workforce. Currently there are over 60 applications for every graduate job. The Ulster EDGE Award has been designed to provide our students with the 'edge' in securing graduate level positions by helping them to enhance their employability skills.

AN EMPLOYER'S VIEW:

"Nowadays employers are considering more than just good grades and are always looking for graduates who stand out from the crowd. Participating in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities is an excellent way to further develop employability skills."

Google

"21st century graduates need to demonstrate to employers that they can 'hit the ground running'. In addition to working hard to gain a good degree, students should engage in extra-curricular activities and obtain work experience in order to develop skills that will make them better prepared for the world of work."

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Association of Graduate Recruiters



The EDGE Award is managed by the University's Career Development Centre. For more details about the Award scheme:

- visit the Award at: edge.ulster.ac.uk
- or contact a member of the Award team, email: edge@ulster.ac.uk



ENGAGEMENT, DEVELOPMENT,
GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY



EDGE



A DEGREE WITH AN EDGE



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A CUT ABOVE THE REST...

Ulster's vision is to lead in the provision of professional education for professional life and is committed to supporting graduates to gain stimulating and fulfilling employment.

The Ulster EDGE Award is an exciting new initiative for undergraduate students, offering support to develop skills and attributes within a flexible framework throughout their time at Ulster. The Award is designed to enhance the employability of Ulster students by providing engagement with, and official recognition of, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities and achievements. It is in addition to the degree programme and enrolment is free.



THE AWARD WILL ENABLE STUDENTS TO:

- **Gain valuable employability skills**
- **Add value to their experience at the University**
- **Be formally recognised for their involvement in activities**
- **Articulate their skills and achievements effectively and build self-confidence**
- **Differentiate themselves when applying for employment**
- **Analyse, document and reflect on their learning and development**

The Ulster EDGE Award will be presented at graduation and will be included in the Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR) which provides the opportunity for students to showcase their employability skills to potential employers.



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HOW CAN STUDENTS ACHIEVE THE AWARD?

The Ulster EDGE Award is an achievement record; recognising and rewarding students who wish to reach their full potential by undertaking a programme of employability-related activities over the course of their degree programme. These opportunities can include volunteering, work experience, study abroad, peer mentoring, and engagement with clubs and societies.

Students can participate in this Award by successfully completing four activities. A critical part of the Award process is that

students have to clearly demonstrate their experiences and how they have enhanced their employability.

- **Category 1:** Accredited co-curricular modules
- **Category 2:** Work Experience, Study Abroad and Enterprise
- **Category 3:** Activity Pathway (Internal & External Opportunities)
- **Category 4:** Formal University-wide Opportunities

For a full list of the activities available please visit: edge.ulster.ac.uk

