



2024 Honorary Awards (HE26)

Policy Name and Reference	HE26 Honorary Awards
Version	1.0
Name of Responsible Committee	Corporation
Job Title of Responsible Author	Group Academic Registrar
Date First Issued	01/03/2024
Date Current Version Issued	01/03/2024
Date of next Planned Review	01/03/2027
Linked Policies or Process Documents	HE01 Academic Regulations

Revision History

Version Number	Date	Type of Amendment	Amendment Details
1.0	01/03/2024	New process	
1.1	02/07/2024	Minor Amendment	Amended procedure for revoking an award.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This document details the procedure for nominating potential recipients of TEC Partnerships honorary awards. A procedure is also set out for TEC Partnership to follow when considering nominations. This process sets out how nominations can be made to Corporation for the approval of honorary awards up to the authorisations as set out in HE01 Academic Regulations and the Degree Awarding Powers granted by the Office for Students under the Higher Education and Research Act 2017.

2.0 Context and Scope

2.1 The Corporation of TEC Partnership has responsibility for awards made by TEC Partnership, and has delegated the process of nomination for honorary awards to the Honorary Award Committee.

2.2 TEC Partnership may make the following honorary awards at its graduation ceremonies, where academic awards are already being made using TEC Partnership Degree Awarding Powers:

- **Honorary Fellowship** is awarded in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the TEC Partnership extending beyond the immediate area of responsibility;
- **Honorary Foundation Degree** is awarded in recognition of outstanding contributions to TEC Partnership and/or and public life locally and/or regionally;
- **Honorary Bachelors Degree** is awarded in recognition of an outstanding contribution to academic achievement and/or to social, economic or cultural life.

Corporation will not make an Honorary Awards where professional or regulatory status could be inferred. All awards will be unnamed.

Appendix 1 sets out the specific criteria for the award of each type of award.

2.3 TEC Partnership will operate an Honorary Awards Committee that will consider applications before each set of graduation ceremonies. The committee will report recommendations into the Corporation for the approval of Honorary Awards. The committee will comprise of the following voting members:

- Chair of Curriculum and Quality Oversight Committee
- Chair of ELT
- Chair and Vice-Chair of HECQS
- Nominated HE academic staff member
- HE Student Governor

The committee must select a chair from their membership who also holds a casting vote as required.

The Group Academic Registrar will be the officer responsible for organising the committee, arranging for appropriate minutes to be taken, and must attend to provide the committee with guidance on academic regulations.

3.0 Process

3.1 Nominations for honorary awards may be made by current staff or students of TEC Partnership and by current members of Corporation (including co-opted committee members). Anonymous nominations are ineligible.

3.2 A nomination that has involved the nominee in its preparation will be ineligible. Those making a nomination must declare any actual or potential conflict of interest.

3.3. Nominations should be submitted to the Honorary Awards Committee by the specified deadline.

3.4 The Group Academic Registrar will collate the information and schedule the Honorary Awards Committee.

3.5 The Committee must consider the following aspects as part of considering each nomination:

- how the proposed award will bring a positive impact to TEC Partnership and the areas that are served by the organisation;
- if there are any previous or ongoing criminal investigations or convictions that could bring the TEC Partnership into disrepute;
- nominees for honorary awards do not have any other adverse actions or history that could negatively impact TEC Partnership. These may include issues around British Values and Prevent, Safeguarding, or Freedom of Speech.

3.6 The Committee will consider submissions and approve, decline or refer them for resubmission in a subsequent year.

3.7 Following rejection of a nominations there should not normally be a resubmission within three years.

3.8 Following approval of an award, the names of accepted honorary graduands or fellows must be noted by a full Corporation meeting before the proposed graduation ceremony.

3.9 Confidentiality must be observed until a nomination has been considered fully. This may extend until the ceremony at which a nominee receives the award.

3.10 The Corporation may rescind TEC Partnership Honorary awards held by individuals who through their actions, in the opinion of Corporation, have brought TEC Partnership into disrepute. A referral with relevant information must be made to the Group Academic Registrar, Director of Governance or CEO. Once a referral has been received regarding the conduct of an award holder, a motion will be made to Corporation, with 5 working days' notice, for

Corporation to revoke the award. A revocation will be passed by a simple majority on the motion made to Corporation. In instances where action is needed sooner, it is permissible for the Chair of Corporation to make a decision by chairs action.

3.11 The Corporation will not normally consider a nomination for:

Honorary Fellowship

- Serving members of Corporation or a Committee Member
- A Current serving elected politician.

Honorary Foundation and Bachelors Degrees

- A current employee, student, or serving member of Corporation or a Committee member;
- A current serving elected politician.

Appendix 1 Criteria for awards

1.0 For the award of an Honorary Fellowship nominees will normally:

- Have made an outstanding contribution to TEC Partnership extending beyond the immediate area of their responsibility;
- Neither be a serving Corporation Member, nor the holder of a higher honorary award of the TEC Partnership.

1.1 For the award of an Honorary Foundation Degree nominees will normally:

- Have made outstanding contributions to the TEC Partnership and/or public life locally and/or regionally;
- In considering the award of an Honorary Foundation Degree, nominees should normally have made an outstanding contribution that has had impact in a given industry or sector.
- Neither be a current employee, student or serving Corporation or Committee Member, nor the holder of a higher honorary award of the TEC Partnership.

1.2 For the award of an Honorary Bachelors Degree nominees will normally demonstrate an outstanding contribution to:

- Academic achievement; and/or
- Social, economic or cultural life.

The nomination will also indicate how, if the award was made, the nominee would:

- Enhance the reputation of the TEC Partnership;
- Provide a long-term positive relationship and/or development opportunity for the TEC Partnership.

In addition, the nominee must not be:

- A current employee, student or serving Corporation or Committee Member.

