

European College of Business and Management

Access and Participation Statement

The European College of Business and Management (ECBM) is committed to the widening of participation and access to Higher Education, particularly to those students coming from non-traditional routes.

This commitment is evidenced by the ECBM mission and objectives¹ and by its continuing efforts to ensure that young people who may otherwise not be able to grasp opportunities to gain employment and qualifications, are given the opportunity to do so.

We work closely with charities such as the Brokerage in order to provide opportunities to access Higher Education and City jobs for sixth form students from backgrounds under-represented in both HE and City of London financial sector employment. We offer free summer schools to client schools of the Brokerage, and provide opportunities for young people across Europe, so that they can access mobility projects which broaden their horizons and enable them to participate in an international education.

Our programmes are all developed and implemented with the aim of ensuring that students who are in employment or study elsewhere are able to access these opportunities whilst not having to take a 'career break' or giving up work in any way.

Applications for programmes at ECBM

Our admissions procedure reflects the requirements set out in Chapter B2 of the UK Quality Code, where impartial advice and guidance is given to ensure all applicants are supported and placed on courses appropriate to their ability to achieve.

At the application stage, all student data presented is reviewed at weekly 'case conferences' and the presence of any disability/student support or access issue is determined. Where employers are central to the initial stage of work-related employment and study (our Vocational Trainee scheme) the employer refers all personal data to the College, and any support issues are determined at this early stage.

Our Access and Participation Statement has been developed in consultation with staff and other key stakeholders, and is reviewed on an annual basis. We measure our success in meeting our aims by referring to our own student survey data, HESA indicators and post-graduation employment data that we carry out on a regular annual basis..

ECBM has a student support and disability policy which is referenced to the QAA Quality code and establishes the way that support operates at ECBM from application through on-course progression. The principle that individuals of all backgrounds, abilities and aspirations should be able to reach their potential through equal access to study is central to this policy.

Partnership: The ECBM works in partnership with local employers and charities in order to open the opportunity of Higher Education to those who may not have been willing or able to consider a future of traditional full-time university study.

On Programme – success and progression

All applicants are monitored on course and give support via their Programme Manager and. In the case of Vocational Trainees, members of the small and dedicated staff team co-ordinate in order to provide pastoral care and support students through the course.

Many of our students, who are not Vocational Trainees, are studying via ‘blended learning’ and are often based overseas. We continue, however, to have a strong interest in their wellbeing on the programme, applying principles set out in our student support and disability policy.

If a member of the academic or administrative staff identifies that a particular student is need of additional support, they refer them to the Programme Manager for further support.

Discussion and Review

We value student input on widening access and participation. We use suggestions from our Student Focus Groups and attempt to engender an atmosphere of openness and co-operation, of joint-enterprise, with our students. We will review this Access and Participation statement annually. This Access and Participation Statement was published on 31 October 2019.

Footnote:

1 ECBM Mission and objective statement <https://www.ecbm-london.de/en/about-us/>