

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

Summary of 2025-2029 access and participation plan

What is an access and participation plan?

Access and participation plans set out how higher education providers will improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups to access, succeed in and progress from higher education. You can see the full access and participation plan for Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance at <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/about-us/governance/policies-and-freedom-of-information/>

Key points [See pages 1-7 of our full access and participation plan for more information.]

Our Access and Participation Plan aims to make Trinity Laban's student population more diverse and representative of the UK population and of London as a global city. In particular, data shows that we need to increase the number of students coming to the Conservatoire who are:

- From deprived areas
- From low-income families (shown by receiving free school meals at key stage 4)
- From Black, Asian, Mixed and Other ethnic backgrounds (we use the term 'global majority' when we combine these groups as it is preferred by our students)
- Male
- Care leavers

We also need to improve outcomes for some groups of students once they are with us:

- Students who were eligible for free school meals are less likely to finish their degree
- Global majority students, students with a disability, male students and students from deprived areas are less likely to achieve a degree award of 2.1 or above
- Graduates with a disability are less likely to move into highly skilled employment

As has been the case in most universities and colleges, Trinity Laban has seen a steady rise in the percentage of students disclosing a mental health condition. Our Plan commits to helping students with poor mental health to succeed in their studies.

Fees we charge [See fee information appended to the plan]

At Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, the maximum fees charged are:

- £9,250 for full-time undergraduate degree programmes
- We do not offer part-time undergraduate degree programmes. We offer a part-time, one-year level 6 Certificate: Creative Music Making for which the fee in 2024-25 is £4,390

You can see a full list of fees for programmes at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance at: <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/fees-and-finance/>

Financial help available [See page 30 of the access and participation plan for more information]

We provide financial aid to UK undergraduate students from low-income backgrounds and other groups who may need more support. This helps students access higher education and continue studying until their course is completed. The support includes:

Annual cash bursaries of £3,000 for each year of an undergraduate programme for care leavers and care experienced students, and for students with mental health conditions who have been mental health in-patients in the year prior to admission to Trinity Laban.

The **Trinity Laban Welfare Fund** provides grants to students experiencing financial hardship. All students are eligible to apply to the fund, and awards are based on the difference between incomings and outgoings over a year.

An **audition fee waiver** for applicants from low-income backgrounds. The Conservatoire will offer free audition/interview places to applicants from low-income backgrounds who may not otherwise be able to make an application. Full details can be read here:

<https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/fees-and-finance/audition-fee-waivers/>

Information for students [See page 29]

Prospective students receive information on our programmes, fees and financial support from our prospectus, our website and at in-person open days. This information covers:

- Course fees, including estimates of likely annual increases during the programme
- Illustrations of estimated living costs
- Details of financial support available throughout their programme

Enrolled students are sent financial information annually in August with their pre-registration packs. Advice is also posted on the student portal and in student handbooks.

Trinity Laban's Student Services Department provides financial information and guidance to both prospective and enrolled students.

For the most up-to-date information, see our website: <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/fees-and-finance/>

What we are aiming to achieve [See pages 6-7]

Our Plan aims to ensure that:

1. Trinity Laban's student population is fully representative of the diversity of the UK and of London as a global city – we shall increase our proportion of global majority students, male students, students from low-income backgrounds and deprived neighbourhoods, and care leavers
2. All our students do well on their programmes – we shall improve degree completion results for students with disability, male students, global majority students and students from low-income backgrounds and deprived neighbourhoods.
3. Students with poor mental health are supported to succeed in their studies
4. Graduates with disabilities go on to good jobs or higher study at the same rate as their peers

What we are doing to address keys risks to equality of opportunity [See pages 8 – 23]

Our Plan sets out seven intervention strategies to deliver our Access and Participation successfully which focus on our specialist expertise in dance, music and musical theatre, as follows:

1. **Access and skill development** including targeted work with schools and other partners such as local authorities, orchestras and arts companies to support pupils' engagement, progression and attainment in music and dance as well as out of school classes and projects.
2. **Perception of higher education in the arts:** we shall provide opportunities and guidance for young people, their parents/guardians and their teachers to improve their understanding of professional training in our art forms
3. **Admissions and audition:** we shall train all staff involved in auditions to recognise the potential of applicants to be successful at Trinity Laban, and we shall support applicants from target groups to fully demonstrate their ability.

4. **Preparation, belonging and transition** into, through and out of study, including improvements to student induction, timetabling that helps students to better balance their study and other commitments, more help for our Students' Union to support and represent students, and staff development to promote excellent and inclusive teaching.
5. **Support for care leaver and care experienced students:** we shall give annual bursaries to care leavers and work with experts in this area to increase our understanding of the needs our students from care experienced backgrounds.
6. **Mental Health:** we shall offer dedicated financial aid to students with serious mental health conditions and make sure we are creating an environment that both addresses underlying causes of psychological distress and provides rapid and effective support for students experiencing poor mental health
7. **Careers support for students and graduates with a disability** including mentoring and targeted careers guidance for graduates and work with industry partners to address under-representation of disabled artists.

How students can get involved [See pages 26-29]

Students are widely involved in discussion, delivery and evaluation of access and participation work at Trinity Laban. Students helped us to prepare the Plan through workshops and as representatives on steering groups and committees.

Students can contact the Students' Union TLSU@trinitylaban.ac.uk to find out more about representing student views on access and participation.

The variety of opportunities to be involved in access and participation projects and research programmes are communicated to all students by the relevant departments via email bulletins, the student portal, noticeboards and classroom announcements.

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved [See pages 28-29]

We have decided our activities using evidence from our own research and evaluation findings, national guidance on what works, and from our active engagement in arts and arts education sector forums and networks. We shall use data, research and feedback to monitor how well our programme of work is succeeding and to change things if we need to in the best interests of our students. Our evaluation will cover:

- The design of our programme
- The impact of our projects
- The impact of our programme on achieving the aims, milestones and targets in our plan

We shall publish a report on the findings of our evaluation each year on our website.

Contact details for further information

You can email Contact@trinitylaban.ac.uk for further information.

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
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