

BBSTEM UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE



OBJECTIVE

We aim to bring together Britain's universities and BBSTEM, combining efforts to improve career prospects for Black youth and diversity outcomes in the UK's STEM sector. Our aim is to have 50 university members by the end of summer 2021. BBSTEM is the first organisation working across the UK specifically focused on supporting and championing Black individuals across science, technology, engineering and maths. Through our work we have been featured in The Financial Times, The Guardian and the Barbados Nation News.

MOTIVATIONS

6.2% of UK domiciled students enrolled onto STEM related subjects at UK universities are Black (4.8% Black African, 1.2% Black Caribbean, 0.2% Black Other). According to the most recent Advance HE annual engagement survey of more than 30,000 students, Black students are more likely to report high levels of engagement with their university degree course, and are more likely to take part in societies, and to volunteer than white students. Yet this engagement and talent at the beginning of the pipeline is not translating into a similar increase in Black scientists, Black mathematicians, and Black engineers:

- Data from the Office for Students shows Black students are more likely to drop out than any other ethnic group.
- Equality Challenge Unit data shows almost 8 in 10 white students received a first or 2:1 in 2015-16, compared to just 5 in 10 Black students. And even after graduating with a good degree, the gap remains: "BAME students are less likely to be employed by engineering companies than their white counterparts." (Royal Academy of Engineering, UK STEM Education Landscape Report).
- The unemployment rates of Black graduates were over 2 times higher than for white graduates and 1.5 times that of Asian graduates.
- 34.1% of Black graduates work in high-skilled employment; much lower than all other ethnic groups.
- At the other end of the pipeline, there are only 26 Black female professors in the UK - too few people for HESA to break this down by discipline while maintaining anonymity.

MEMBERSHIP

BBSTEM is committed to being a not-for-profit employer-led initiative. BBSTEM University Alliance membership will cost **£2,500** for 12 months from September to August, coinciding with the academic year. The membership fee will go towards events, research and advocacy work within the sector. Membership is per organisation, therefore multiple delegates from your university can benefit from the alliance.

BENEFITS

Benefits to joining include, but are not limited to:

- Access to our research and findings – we write impact reports and conduct evaluations after every engagement we have. This will give you an insight to the challenges Black youth face, entering or currently, in the STEM sector and social issues. This gives you an opportunity to delve deeper within the current sector.
- Early access to BBSTEM events for you to share with your university. We will send you details of insight events or programmes that will benefit your university students' in advance of promoting through our social media channels.
- Mentions across press releases, newsletters and you'll be featured on our online platforms.
- You'll be recognised as a BBSTEM University Alliance Leader which you'll be able to share across all your assets using the BBSTEM branded logo. Alliance members will be able to publicise their organisation's commitment to diversity.
- Access to round table discussions and networking opportunities with BBSTEM members of peers, and customers (which may present great networking opportunities for yourselves).
- Enhanced learner experience for Black students, hence increasing employment rates for Black students.
- Contributes to an existing Higher Education Race Equality Charter status. Mainly committing to higher degree attainment rates, improved continuation rates and improved employment outcomes for students.

WHAT YOU STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO

- Employer led insight days.
- Access to industry and academia opportunities from employers actively welcoming diverse talent.
- 1-1 mentoring from a BBSTEM professional member.
- Opportunities to build their professional network.
- Ad-hoc events and programmes. Previous events include networking events, mental health awareness workshops, entrepreneurship and collaboration with other STEM groups.

FAQS

Can Research Institutes in the UK sign up to the University Alliance?

Yes absolutely! Research institutes often has PhD and Postdoctoral researches, and therefore they will be eligible to become an alliance member.

What is the university commitment?

By signing up to the alliance, you are committing to supporting your Black STEM students. We expect you to inform your Black STEM students of BBSTEM and the programmes we offer for them and promote our events and activities internally throughout the university. This could be via your student unions, freshers' fairs, career events, faculty communications and social media.

How do we sign up to the alliance?

Firstly, please contact a member of the team to express your interest in signing up. We will send you a term sheet and terms and conditions which will need to be reviewed and signed by your nominated university contact. Depending on your university finance process, a PO number issued to us may be required to process the fee.

How many people can we nominate to be the University Alliance point of contact?

Please nominate one point of contact. This makes a much more seamless line of communication between BBSTEM and the University for sharing of resources, events and supplementary material. The nominee will then be able to distribute the resources provided to the relevant interested parties within the university.

Is there one membership cost per faculty?

No, the membership cost is per university. The alliance is a centralised approach where all STEM faculties can benefit.

I missed the launch webinar, was it recorded?

Yes, you can access the recording of the launch webinar here:

<https://bit.ly/3haB6Kv>

The password to view the recording is: **ghNvZ=PD**

Can we have access to the slides presented during the webinar?

Yes, the slides can be accessed from here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a0zCNEZhu7dmU8QjcuFQC4VfHt9fC-TK/view?usp=sharing>

Do you have any material we can distribute amongst campus?

Yes, we can send you flyers and pens that can be distributed throughout your campus.

How can I get involved beyond the Alliance?

You can sign up as a professional member through our website. Here you will be kept up to date with all BBSTEM activities and volunteer yourself for any of our opportunities. You can also opt in to be a mentor to one of the university students in our network. You can promote your job opportunities or academia positions on our jobs board. It's always a bonus when our supporters amplify the work that we do, by sharing and promoting the work we do to their peers and through their social media channels.

KEY CONTACTS

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For more information on the alliance, please visit

<https://bbstem.co.uk/bbstem-uni-alliance/>

We look forward to welcoming you into the BBSTEM University Alliance!