



ASTON STUDENTS' UNION TRUSTEE BOARD RECRUITMENT

Aston Students' Union (ASU) is looking for motivated and talented people to become trustees, helping to manage the strategy, governance and finance of the organisation, providing a solid structure of expertise and experience to ensure the Students' Union achieves its charitable aims.

About Aston University Students' Union (ASU)

The Students' Union is an incorporated association and registered charity (1152067). Aston SU strives to be an SU for everyone, we want to give students the experience they deserve.

ASU is going through a transformative process. Fuelled by growing student members and increasingly high expectations, it aspires to make the student experience at Aston the best it can be. The award winning SU Building, in the heart of campus, is allowing more students than ever before to experience the Union.

We are looking for motivated and talented students to become trustees, helping to manage the finance and strategy of the organisation, providing a solid structure of expertise and experience to ensure the Students' Union achieves its charitable aims.

ASU is membership organisation, made up of the 18,000 students studying at Aston University. Our members are as diverse as the city itself. You can find out more about this exciting organisation here: [About Aston SU](#)

Why we need you – Experience and Skills

Every University is required to have a Students' Union by virtue of the 1994 Education Act. The objectives for each students' union are to represent the needs of students to the University, to provide, where relevant, welfare services, to ensure there are opportunities to play sport and engage in recreational activities and to run free and fair elections for our own governance. Each Union is also regulated by the Charities Commission and, as an affiliate of the National Union of Students (NUS), is part of a network of 7 million students.

You'll be part of a team of up to 12 other trustees made up of a mixture of officers, external alumni and students. There are normally four to six trustee meetings each year. ASU believes the eclectic mix of trustees ensures decisions will be student-focussed with a firm consideration on the sustainability of the organisation. The Trustee Board is chaired by the Students' Union President.

You have an opportunity to play a key leadership role in one of Birmingham's biggest and most exciting charities.

You can find out more about our board here: [The Board of Trustees](#)
Meetings take place both virtually and physically.

Trustee Responsibilities

Trustee boards don't do, they ensure things get done.

Charity trustees are the people who serve on the governing body of a charity. They may be known as trustees, directors, board members, governors or committee members. Trustees have and must accept ultimate responsibility for directing the affairs of a charity, and ensuring that it is solvent, well-run, and delivering the charitable outcomes for the benefit of the public for which it has been set up.

Funding and Staffing

90% of income is derived from a Block Grant awarded by the University of £1.6m Commercial services and other fundraising account for the final 10%. Total turnover is around £3m. ASU employs around 50 staff, half permanent and half student staff, within the four key areas of Marketing and Commercial Development, Finance and Central Support, Membership Services, and Student Officers.

How are appointments made?

Trustees are appointed by the appointments committee, following submission of a CV and covering letter and then interview. The panel are particularly keen to hear from traditionally underrepresented students on Trustee Boards.

What can you expect from the Students' Union?

A typical year would include:

| MONTH | ACTIVITY |
|--------------------|---|
| AUGUST - OCTOBER | 4th Quarter Finance and KPIs Report |
| | Email oversight of Fresher's Activity |
| | Annual Accounts and Trustee Report |
| NOVEMBER – JANUARY | First quarter reporting |
| | Review market research |
| | Establish plans of coming year |
| FEBRUARY -APRIL | Overview of the election process (via email) |
| | Meeting to consider 2nd Quarter Finance and KPIs report |
| | Budget boundaries set for coming year |
| MAY – JULY | Budget for following year |
| | 3rd Quarter Finance and KPIs Report |
| | Strategic Planning Review Day |
| | Attend Union Awards event |
| | New Trustees Induction |

You will receive any papers and documents for the meetings in good time, which of course we expect you to have read in advance!

We expect all new trustees to complete a new induction programme.

NEXT STEPS

- If you would like to clarify any information or have an informal chat about the role, please email s.hussain30@aston.ac.uk.
- To apply, please send a CV and covering letter to our HR and Governance Coordinator, Shadab Hussain on s.hussain30@aston.ac.uk. The covering letter should detail how you meet the criteria required for the role.

Further information about the board can be found here: https://www.astonsu.com/your_su/governance/