

What are the benefits of the Imperial Award?

The Imperial Award can help you:

- discover more about yourself and your potential
- develop practical self-reflection skills
- develop your ability to 'pitch yourself' to various audiences
- gain a formal recognition from the College

With the Imperial Award, you can:

- access online tools to help you reflect on your experiences and build your portfolio
- use online resources and attend workshops and webinars helping you develop self-reflection skills, and improve your ability to communicate about your competencies
- receive individual feedback from peers and assessors
- become a part of a student community, with opportunities for peer feedback and support

Who can participate in the programme?

The Imperial Award programme is open to all students at Imperial, including UG, PGT, PGR and intercalating students.

Is the Imperial Award given to a limited number of students each year?

All students who participate in the programme can complete the Imperial Award. It is your individual journey of self-reflection, self-discovery and building a portfolio to evidence this. Each student is assessed individually and can complete the programme if they meet the criteria; and there are no limits to how many students can do it each year.

If I don't complete the programme within one academic year, can I continue in the following year?

Yes, you can continue until you finish your course at Imperial. However, it is strongly recommended that you start well before your final term at Imperial, allowing yourself enough time to build your portfolio, produce your reflective statements and potentially improve (and re-submit) them based on feedback.

If I'm a first year student, can I complete the Award in one academic year?

You can register and start their journey by populating your portfolio, reflecting on your experiences, using online resources and attending workshops. However, you won't be able to submit your reflective statement(s) until your second year at Imperial. Therefore, you won't complete the programme in your first year, but you can make sure you're ready to produce your statements in your second/third year.

Students on one year courses, even if it is a one year UG BSc (such as the Medicine intercalated year), will be able to submit from the start of their course, and complete it before they finish their course at Imperial.

If I complete one or two streams, but not the full Award, is it still going to be formally recognised?

Yes, completion of any Stream of the Imperial Award will be officially recognised on your degree transcript. Additionally, you will receive a certificate after completing each Stream of the Programme, as well as when you complete the full Award.

What experiences can I use as evidence?

You can use any experience that contributes to your personal development, including but not limited to:

- Clubs, societies and projects
- Academic or wellbeing representation
- Event organisation and management
- Courses
- Life events
- StudentShapers projects
- Volunteering at Imperial, or outside of the College
- Research experiences
- Teaching, tutoring, mentoring or marking
- Work (Casual, part-time or career experiences, enterprises)

Can I use experiences from before becoming a student at Imperial?

If you're an UG student, it is best to use experiences from during University. If you use experiences from before coming to Imperial, you may have to justify why you used that experience to the assessors. The only reason to use an experience from before Imperial is if that experience was highly formative and developmental in a way that impacts your life at Imperial. Otherwise, please use the plethora of experiences that you will have at Imperial to reflect on.

PG students are welcome to draw upon their experiences whilst being UG students at Imperial or other institutions.

What is the benefit of using the online portfolio? Do I need to populate it to complete the programme?

By registering to the Imperial Award, you will gain access to your personal online portfolio. This is a virtual journaling tool, specifically designed so that you can capture and then reflect on your experiences against the Imperial Award attributes. The content of your portfolio is private, and only you can see it.

Although the online portfolio is not a compulsory part of the programme (it is not assessed), it can help you collect your thoughts on specific experiences, monitor your progress and produce your reflective statements. Therefore, we encourage all students to use it as part of their developmental journey through the programme.

Can I submit my reflective statements for the three streams separately, using different submission deadlines?

Yes, you can submit your reflective statements separately, or in one go. You can use any of the submission deadlines available to submit, and/or re-submit your statements.

If I don't meet the criteria, can I re-submit my statements anytime?

Yes, there are multiple submission periods available throughout the academic year. You are free to choose when you want to submit and/or re-submit your statements.

What happens when I submit my statement(s)?

Your statement will be sent to staff assessors for feedback and evaluation. Each submission period has an associated timeline within which you can expect to receive feedback on your statement(s) as well as whether you have met, partially met or not met the criteria.