# Recognising Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Advance HE offers three prestigious and nationally recognised awards that celebrate excellence in teaching and learning; National Teaching Fellowships (NTF), Collaborative Awards for Teaching Excellence (CATE) and Principal Fellowship of the HEA (PFHEA).

The University of Northampton is keen to support staff to achieve recognition through these awards and invite staff involved in teaching and the support of learning to consider applying.

## [**National Teaching Fellowship (NTF)**](https://www.advance-he.ac.uk/awards/teaching-excellence-awards/national-teaching-fellowship)

The National Teaching Fellowship Scheme celebrates and recognises individuals who have made an outstanding impact on student outcomes and the teaching profession in higher education. Award winners come from across the spectrum of experience, from relatively new teachers to experienced practitioners. What they have in common is their impact on learning and teaching.

The scheme has been running since 2000 and there are nearly 1000 National Teaching Fellows (NTFs) forming a passionate and committed national community of practice for learning and teaching through the Association of National Teaching Fellows (ANTF).

It is a competitive award:

* just 55 new National Teaching Fellowships are awarded each year
* applicants need to be nominated by their university and each university is allowed just 3 applications each year.

We will therefore operate an internal selection process, to determine suitability against the published criteria, which can be found by following the link above.

Successful internal candidates will be offered ongoing support with their application, including a dedicated mentor.

The scheme is open to all staff, including part time and Associate Lecturers, but you should normally be at least a Fellow of the HEA. Applicants should secure support from their Dean/Head of Department before submitting to the selection process.

Previous Northampton winners include: Dave Burnapp, Sandy Gilkes, Chris Powis, Shân Wareing.

## [**Principal Fellowship of the HEA (PFHEA)**](https://www.advance-he.ac.uk/fellowship/principal-fellowship)

Principal Fellowship is the highest level of Fellowship offered by Advance HE and is aimed at highly experienced and/or senior staff who have a sustained record of delivering positive impact at a strategic level in learning and teaching. This may be demonstrated within an institutional setting and/or on a wider stage, such as leading on aspects of national policy and strategy regarding Higher Education Learning and Teaching in your discipline and/or profession.

The route for applications for Principal Fellowship is via direct application to Advance HE but the University is happy to offer support for applicants, including mentor support.

There is no limit on the number of Principal Fellow applications; each application is assessed by a panel of Advance HE Accreditors against the published criteria, which can be found by following the link above. However, given the application fee, and the internal capacity for mentorship, we will operate a similar internal selection process to that for the other listed awards.

Advance HE provides a [Fellowship Category Tool](https://www.advance-he.ac.uk/form/fellowship-decision-tool) which can help individuals determine whether they have the experience and scope of strategic impact relevant to an application for Principal Fellowship.

Applicants might include Programme or Subject Leaders, Deans, Deputy Deans or Associate Deans or members of Professional Services who can demonstrate strategic impact of their work on learning and teaching. Northampton’s existing Principal Fellows include: Shirley Bennett, Karen Jones, Peter Jones, Chris Powis, Shan Wareing.

## [**Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence (CATE)**](https://www.advance-he.ac.uk/awards/teaching-excellence-awards/collaborative-award-for-teaching-excellence)

The Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence (CATE) is a team award, to celebrate collaborative excellence in teaching and learning. 15 Awards are made annually to teams in recognition of innovative collaborative work that has a positive and sustained impact on student learning. Team members can come from academic and/or professional services and may include members from outside of the University. Any claim should ideally involve student collaboration. Team members should hold Fellowship of the HEA and should not also be applying for a National Teaching Fellowship.

It is a competitive award:

* just 15 new CATEs are awarded each year
* teams need to be nominated by their university and only 1 application is allowed per university each year.

We will therefore operate an internal selection process, to determine suitability against the published criteria, which can be found by following the link above.

The successful team will be offered ongoing support with their application, including a dedicated mentor.

All internal applications should be agreed with the Dean or Head of Department before consideration by the internal award panel.

## Timeline for NTF, PFHEA & CATE applications:

**Applications open 24th June**

**Friday 22nd July 2022:** Submit expression of interest to Shirley Bennett. You need to evidence support from Dean/Head of Department so please copy them into your email. You will be sent a copy of the criteria and the Record of Educational Impact Template appropriate to your chosen target award.

**Friday 2nd September 2022:** Submit internal application. To help you initiate your preparation of a successful submission this should comprise
Your completed Record of Educational Impact

* 500 words of text against each of the criteria for your target award
* a 500-word contextual statement and current CV.

**Week beginning Monday 3rd October 2022:** Panel to meet and candidates informed of decision regarding Mentorship and/or institutional nomination

**October 2022 – March 2023:** Mentors allocated and supported writing opportunities offered throughout period.

**Week ending tba March 2023**: NTF + CATE only - Final Applications submitted to University

**Week ending March tba 2023:** NTF + CATE only - Final checks and applications upload to Advance-HE