

# Non-Affiliated Student Groups

## Context

Queen Mary, University of London Students' Union (The Union) supports over 300 affiliated student groups through training, development, grant funding, financial management, access to bookable rooms and facilities, and supporting students to lead and facilitate their groups' own activity.

Each of the activity areas have their own affiliation and joining process as outlined in the individual Bye-Laws.

The Union is a registered charity and all its bodies (including student groups) need to be transparent and accountable to the public and appropriate legal authorities. The Union has policies and procedures which groups follow to ensure this, as the Union is overall accountable for these groups' activities.

As a charity the Union's object is the advancement of education of students at Queen Mary, University of London for the public benefit. The Union partly delivers this by providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities for the personal development of its students and are accountable to the Charity Commission for this.

## Non-Affiliated Student Groups

Non-affiliated groups are those groups that have either chosen to remain independent from the Union or have not been approved by the relevant activity group Committee or Board.

Non-affiliated groups will not be supported by the Union in the same way as affiliated groups. This means they will not have access to funding, staff support, bookable rooms or facilities for their own activities.

These groups are advised to contact the University directly or, if they have dedicated University staff support, to contact them for bookings or any support with their group activity. These groups are welcomed and encouraged to apply for affiliation to the Union – details of how to do this can be found on the website.

If a non-affiliated group wants to work with an affiliated group to host an event this must be booked and organised in accordance with the Union's procedures. The affiliated group must be leading the event and all proceeds going to the affiliated group.

Non-affiliated groups can get involved with the Union through the Education and Welfare teams on campaigns or issues facing the student body. They can also work with Raise and Give (RAG) to raise money for the RAG charities. However, RAG will not support non-affiliated groups with fundraising activity for their own causes.

All students are automatically members of the Union and individual students within non-affiliated groups can still access the same support available to students.