

Ireland's Disciplinary Excellence in Learning Teaching and Assessment (DELTA) Award – Information webinar

08 October 2021



NATIONAL FORUM
FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING
AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Today's webinar

- Welcome
- The DELTA Award and Framework
- Overview of the application and review process
- Intention to submit
- Perspective of a successful team lead – Dr Helen Mc Guirk, MTU
- DELTA Award application
- Q&A at different points throughout and at the end

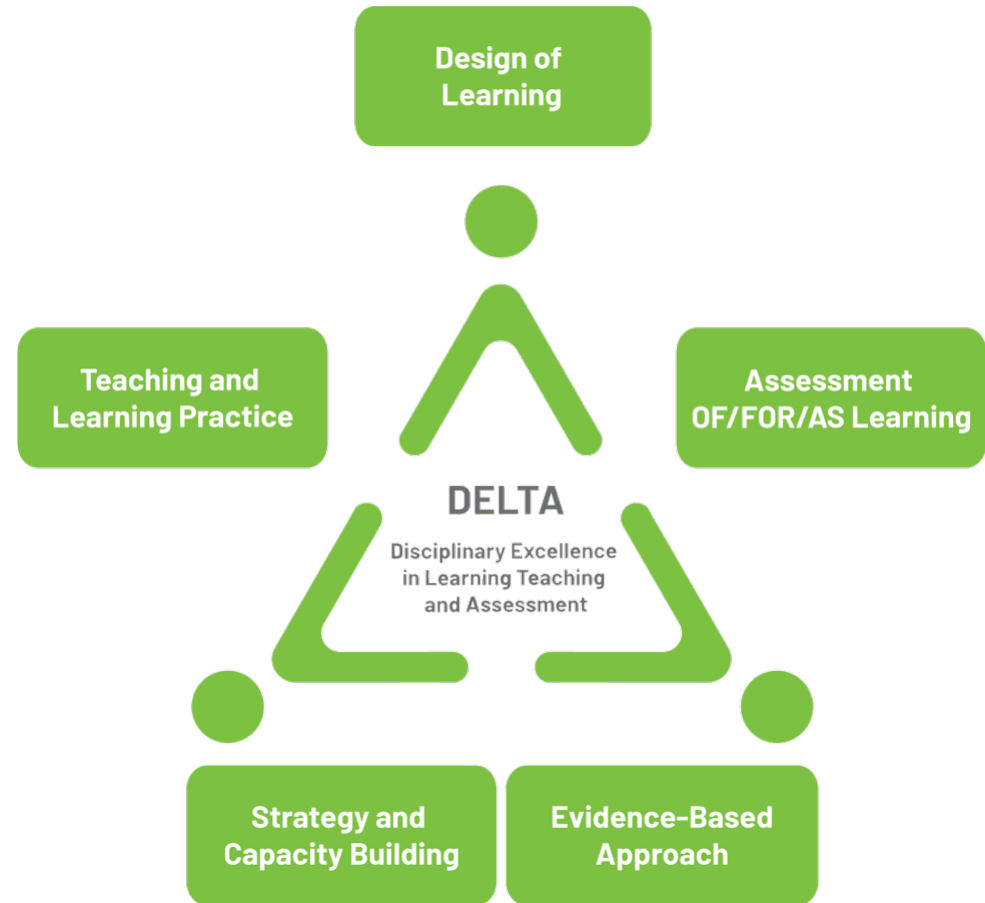


DELTA Award

Non-competitive team award

For discipline groups who can demonstrate a record of excellence in T&LE and who commit to an ongoing, clearly articulated, shared process of continued strategies and activities that sustain this approach.

Five components



DELTA Award and Framework – components and elements

Component

Strategy and Capacity Building

Elements

- T&LE is situated within and informed by ...
- Successful T&LE requires senior leadership ...
- T&LE requires clear identification of enhancement priorities ...
- T&LE requires consideration of the capacity of academics to deliver on the enhancement strategy.



More information about the DELTA Framework and Award

- National Forum website

[DELTA pages](#)

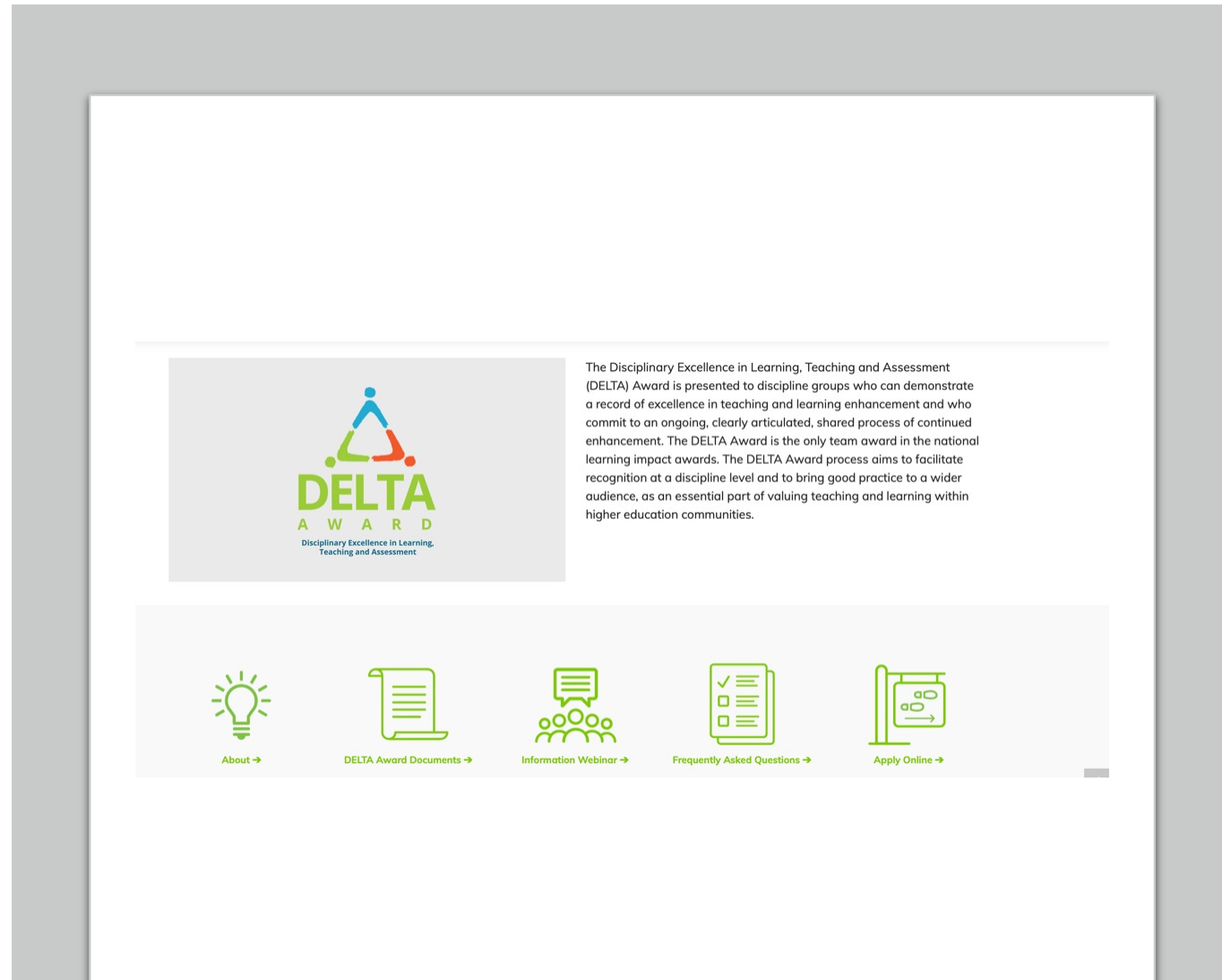
- DELTA Handbook

- DELTA webinars

- DELTA interface

- FAQs and email address

deltaaward@teachingandlearning.ie



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DELTA Award – application process

Two collection points for intentions to submit and full applications in any one year.

Teams lodge an intention to submit by one collection point and the full application by the following collection point.

Where teams submit the full application by

- 1st Wednesday in July – decision by 1 November same year
- 1st Wednesday in December - decision by 31 March of the following year

Some teams defer (this is possible – just let us know)



Situating today's webinar in the DELTA Award application and review process

October 2021	Information webinar (today)
December 2021	Lodging of 'intention to submit'
April 2022	Applicant webinar (pre-submission)
July 2022	Application submitted
September 2022	Review of applications and feedback provided to teams
October 2022	Applicant webinar (pre-conversation)
October 2022	Conversations between panel and applicants
November 2022	Outcomes announced



Applying for your first DELTA Award

- Complete 'Intention to submit' form on National Forum website
- Team works together to plan and submit complete DELTA application through the dedicated interface
- Preliminary review of 'Understanding DELTA'
- International panel and student representative review application
- Conversation with the international panel and student representative



Applying to Renew DELTA Award

- Complete 'Intention to submit' form on National Forum website
- Team works together to re-evaluate progress and plan future focus
- Team submit complete DELTA application through dedicated interface
- Preliminary review of 'Understanding DELTA'
- Application may be selected for review by international panel and student representative
- Conversation with the international panel and student representative



Q&A



Beginning the process:

setting up a dedicated account and lodging an intention to submit



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The Disciplinary Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Assessment (DELTA) Award



The Disciplinary Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Assessment (DELTA) Award is presented to discipline groups who can demonstrate a record of excellence in teaching and learning enhancement and who commit to an ongoing, clearly articulated, shared process of continued enhancement. The DELTA Award is the only team award in the national learning impact awards. The DELTA Award process aims to facilitate recognition at a discipline level and to bring good practice to a wider audience, as an essential part of valuing teaching and learning within higher education communities.

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[About](#) →



[DELTA Award Handbook](#) →



[Information Webinar](#) →



[Frequently Asked Questions](#) →



[Apply Online](#) →

Link to interface



[← Back to Awards](#)

Already Registered?

Login

Email

Password

Remember Me

[Forgot Password?](#)

Create an Account

Get started with your online application by creating an online account. This form should be completed by the **team lead** for your DELTA Award application.

Name *

First Name Last Name

Institution *

Faculty/School/Department * Position *

Landline Number * Mobile Number *

Email *

Enter Email Confirm Email


Create a Password *

Enter Password Confirm Password

Strength indicator

CAPTCHA

I'm not a robot

 [Privacy](#) [Terms](#)

Please note that the delivery of communications may be managed by third party service providers. Any personal data collected will be used solely in accordance with the [privacy policy](#).

Setting up a dedicated account (team lead only)

When your account is set up you will see your dashboard

▸ Dashboard

▸ Intention to Submit

▸ DELTA Application

▸ DELTA Award
Handbook

▸ Frequently Asked
Questions

▸ My Account

▸ Logout

Welcome


This is your dashboard for the DELTA application process.

On the left hand side, you will find links to the application forms required to complete the process.

You are first asked to complete an 'intention to apply', identifying the team and notifying the National Forum of the intention to apply for a DELTA Award.

Following completion of this form, you can proceed to complete a full DELTA application.


Information video for applicants



Teaching and Learning Fellowships 2020 national HE context, including policy and practice, within which teaching and learning enhancement is currently situated

Does the piece provide a distinctive perspective on contemporary higher education which suggests a breadth of knowledge about the broader higher education context, including:

- an appreciation of the complexity of this context
- considered interpretation of the relationship between policy and practice in context
- an understanding of where and how Ireland is situated in this context?

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Intention to submit elements

- Identifying the Team: Who is involved?
- Current profile of the disciplinary group and the course offerings
- Identify your area of study
- Outline what you see as the value of having the DELTA award for your team and for your students
- Process you intend to follow
- Understanding DELTA
- Confirmation of submission date planned

Click Intention to Submit



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Resource Hub ▾

Dashboard

Intention to Submit

DELTA Application

DELTA Award Handbook

Frequently Asked Questions

My Account

Logout

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Information video for applicants

TL Teaching and Learning Fellowships 2020 national HE context, including policy and practice, within which teaching and learning enhancement is currently situated

Does the piece provide a distinctive perspective on contemporary higher education which suggests a breadth of knowledge about the broader higher education context, including:

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▸ Dashboard

▸ Intention to Submit

▸ DELTA Application

▸ DELTA Award
Handbook

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Questions

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Intention to Submit

The first step in applying for (or renewing) a DELTA Award is identifying the team that will collaboratively agree to make the submission.

Our team intend to...

- apply for DELTA Award
- renew DELTA Award

Next

[Save and Continue Later](#)

Intention to submit – team members

Team Members

Academic Staff *

Name	Email	Role	Experience (no. of years in HE)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> ⊕

Professional Service Staff *

Name	Email	Role	Experience (no. of years in HE)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> ⊕

Students *

Name	Email	Year of Study	Other Representative Role Held
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> ⊕

Intention to submit – discipline group



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Please describe your discipline group *

A discipline group can be a school, department, a programme team (including multidisciplinary teams) or any established collaboration, group of teachers within a subject/discipline recognised by their host institution.

Max: 100 words

Current Offerings of your Discipline Group *

Course Title	Level	Annual Student Cohort	Comments
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Please Identify your area of study *

Intention to submit – value of a DELTA Award



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Please outline what you see as the value of having the DELTA award for your team and for your students *

As noted in the DELTA Award Handbook, the DELTA Award initiative 'provides an opportunity for a discipline group to achieve national recognition for existing achievements and for their ongoing commitment to enhancing teaching and learning'. It is our intention that the DELTA Award is of benefit to your disciplinary team and to your students. (max 200 words)

Max: 200 words

- * I confirm we have read the DELTA handbook and understand what is required of us in order to submit for a DELTA award.
- * I confirm that this discipline-focused group is a recognised functional unit within your institution
- * I confirm we have the support of our institution

(A signed endorsement by the registrar of your institution will need to be supplied to the National Forum when submitting your full application)

Intention to submit – plan for developing submission



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(A signed endorsement by the registrar of your institution will need to be supplied to the National Forum when submitting your full application)

Please outline your plan for developing your submission (max 200 words) which will require you to report on: *

- taking stock – mapping the aspects of enhancement of teaching and learning which have already been implemented
- using the National Forum's DELTA Framework to identify the agreed future focus for teaching and learning enhancement for the period of the Award (3 years)
- developing an action plan for teaching and learning enhancement that considers and prioritises the specific components of the DELTA Framework

Max: 200 words

Intention to submit – Understanding DELTA

Be sure to complete the ‘Understanding DELTA’ section.

Understanding DELTA *

Please convey your understanding of the DELTA Framework and communicate what it means for your team to enact the DELTA components into your planning, practice and reflection more broadly. Include how you have engaged with the DELTA framework in a critical way which demonstrates that you understand DELTA as a holistic and comprehensive process rather than one which relies on one T&L initiative or innovative approach. Explain your interpretation of DELTA as an award for discipline groups who can demonstrate and plan for sustained achievements in teaching and learning enhancement. (max 300 words)

Max: 300 words



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Review process – preliminary review

- Review of the team's understanding of the DELTA Framework - 'Understanding DELTA'
- Reviewed by National Forum colleagues, and where required by an international panel member and a student representative

This section of the form is reviewed to ascertain the applicant team's overall understanding of the DELTA Framework and the DELTA Award. The team will be provided with feedback from this review stage. The team will have the opportunity to consider the feedback and to respond if necessary.



Intention to submit – submission date

I confirm we are working towards the following submission date: *

(Please select which submission month applies)

- July
- December

Please select which submission year applies *

- ✓
- 2022
- 2023
- 2024

with good faith as a record of the team's genuine intention to submit for the DELTA award by the chosen submission date. In the event that a discipline team finds it unlikely or impossible to submit by the designated date, the team should contact that National Forum as soon as possible in order to record a later submission date.

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Q&A



The DELTA Award experience – Dr Helen McGuirk, MTU

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DELTA AWARDS
2021-2024
Outstanding Excellence in Learning,
Teaching and Assessment

Entrepreneurship Team,
Munster Technological
University

MTU
Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan
Munster Technological University

Team Lead; Dr. Helen McGuirk,
Head, Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship
Excellence, School of Business

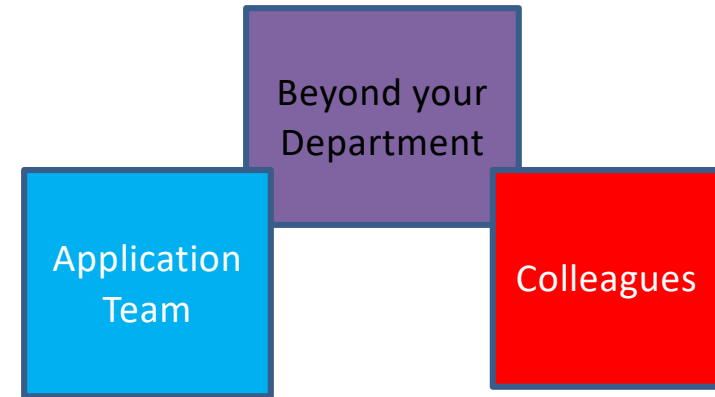
The Disciplinary Excellence in Learning, Teaching & Assessment (DELTA)

- Value x 2
- Experience
- Tips



MTU

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan
Munster Technological University



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Dr Helen McGuirk,
Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship Excellence
(Lead for MTU's DELTA 2021 award for **Entrepreneurship**)



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DELTA Award – overview of application process

- Intention to submit - identifying the team, providing some context and notifying the National Forum
- Describing the team, articulating an understanding of DELTA, recording the process of applying for the DELTA Award
- Taking stock – mapping against the five components using rubrics
- Prioritising what next – identifying enhancement priorities
- Planning for what next – agreeing an action plan
- Providing an overview of how the team meets the DELTA Award criteria

The process is largely the same for ‘new’ and ‘renew’ applications.
There will be a dedicated webinar about completing the application.



Section 1 – Description of the team – information pulled through from ‘Intention to Submit’

Revisiting the information provided in the ‘intention to submit’.

Checking the team listed accurately reflects the team make up. For renewing teams, checking that the text explains how the team has changed (if it has) from the original awarding of the DELTA, to this application.

Checking the text provided is still accurate for your application.

Ensuring you have completed the ‘Understanding DELTA’ section.

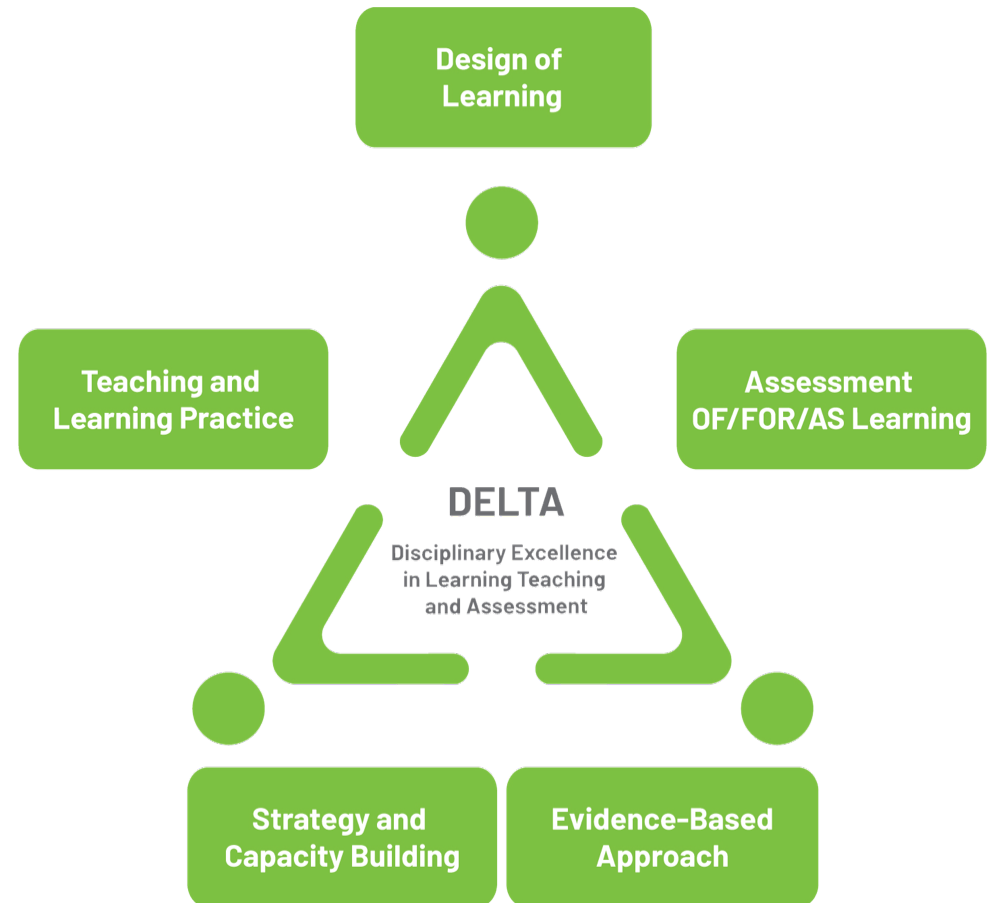


Section 2 – Taking Stock

Using the rubrics and the ‘Taking Stock’ interface

Two aspects

1. Recording the process involved with ‘Taking Stock’
2. Recording the findings of ‘Taking Stock’ (based on the team’s work using the rubrics)



Section 2 – Taking Stock – using the rubrics in the handbook

Element 3.3		
<p>T&LE requires consideration of the important connections and collaborations that support student learning. These can include the enhancement of interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary learning, intra-institutional collaborations and the internationalisation of the curriculum. In addition, T&LE can include the development of connections with industry, the workplace, employers and other relevant stakeholders in partnership and collaboration with students.</p>		
Developing	Consolidating	Leading
<p>We are aware of the sorts of connections and collaborations that support student learning.</p> <p>Individually we draw on a variety of connections and collaborations that support student learning.</p> <p>We can identify ways to make connections and collaborations that support student learning.</p>	<p>We can document our current connections and collaborations that support student learning.</p> <p>We liaise with students and other stakeholders to understand and effectively work with our connections and collaborations that support student learning.</p> <p>We have a departmental plan for maintaining existing and developing new connections and collaborations that support student learning.</p>	<p>We identify and integrate the connections and collaborations that support student learning into our curriculum planning.</p> <p>We partner with students and other stakeholders to periodically review, evaluate and plan our connections and collaborations in order to work most effectively in this space.</p> <p>We work in partnership with students and alumni to nurture our current connections and collaborations and to systematically and strategically seek out new connections and collaborations that support student learning.</p> <p>We are disciplinary national/international leaders in specific important connections and collaborations that support student learning.</p>
<p>Evidence of self-evaluation. Recording what we do well. Identifying areas for development.</p>		
<p> </p>		



Section 2 – Taking Stock – using the interface (9 point scale)

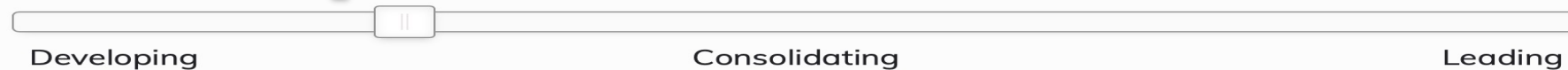
T&LE is situated within and informed by policies, priorities and drivers at international, national and institutional levels. Additionally, priorities of the academic unit must be considered, including, for example, reviews and professional body or other regulatory requirements.



Successful T&LE requires senior leadership and a committed team representing all key stakeholders, including active student engagement, to drive enhancement and evaluate progress.



T&LE requires clear identification of enhancement priorities, resourcing and how any organisational system opportunities/challenges that might impact on the success of enhancement efforts will be incorporated/addressed. T&LE may include development of specific policy initiatives.



Section 3 – Looking to the Future – using the interface

Drawing on the aspects you have identified for development in Section 2 select and record the enhancement priorities for the three-year Award development phase.

Write maximum 150 words under any component (with 150 words as a limit not a target).

Component 1. Strategy and Capacity Building. Leadership, Policy Development, and Professional Development of Staff. *

Enhancement priorities



Section 4 – Planning for the future

Drawing on Section 3, where you recorded the enhancement priorities for the three-year Award development phase, the team completes and uploads the Action Plan.

The Action Plan is organized under components; enhancement priorities should be listed under the relevant component and the elements that they relate to ‘ticked’.

The information provided should include:

- SMART goals and timeframe
- Milestones and review points
- Partners and team member responsible
- Indicators of achievement and success



Section 4 – Planning for the future – using the Action Plan

Component 1. Strategy and Capacity Building.

Leadership, Policy Development, and Professional Development of Staff						
Teaching and learning enhancement (T&LE) is concerned with the unit’s alignment with the institutional and external strategies and its support for building staff capacity driven by a committed senior leadership.						
Enhancement priority relates to the following elements of this component (tick relevant elements)						
1.1		1.2		1.3		1.4
Enhancement Priority						
SMART Goal(s)				Time frame	Milestones & review points	Partners
Indicators of achievement and success						

Section 4 – Planning for the future – using the interface

Section 4 Planning for the future: How will you get there?

In this section (Section 4 – Planning to the future: how will you get there?), using the processes and outcomes from 'Section 2 – Taking Stock' and 'Section 3 – Looking to the future', you should complete and submit the **action plan** which your team will use in the achievement of identified future teaching and learning enhancement for the period of the Award. You should submit a considered, well-resourced plan which shares responsibility across the team, incorporates and prioritises specific components of the DELTA Framework and which includes how your identified foci and priorities will be evaluated, with key indicators of success. The plan should include milestones and review points to assist you in managing and fulfilling the enhancement goals. The evaluation of priorities should be mindful of sustainability, collaboration/community, and the institutional and disciplinary context.

Please upload your action plan

Please note: This file upload is not stored as part of the 'Save and Continue Later' feature and should be uploaded immediately prior to final submission.

no file selected



Section 4 – Planning for the future – completing the Action Plan

- Include an introduction (keeping to the word count)
- Record milestones/time frame in quarters
- Include Gantt Chart
- The Action Plan should not exceed a maximum of 20 pages, 12 size font (where 20 pages is a limit and not a target)
- Submit as a pdf please
- Be sure that you are using the 'May 2021' Action Plan template (check footer)



Section 5 – Thinking about the review criteria

Section 5 Thinking about the review criteria

Please upload your video

Please submit a video (7-10 mins max) that clearly captures how the teaching and learning approach taken by the team meets the criteria for the DELTA award. Please note: This file upload is not stored as part of the 'Save and Continue Later' feature and should be uploaded immediately prior to final submission.

no file selected



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Section 5 – Thinking about the review criteria

The video should clearly capture how the teaching and learning approach taken by the team meets the criteria for the DELTA Award.

The video is an opportunity for teams to showcase how they have achieved the Award.

The most important thing about the video is the content; the production values should be the best you can manage.

The video is not for sharing beyond the international panel.

While we would encourage it where possible, there is no need for all the team members to contribute to the video.



Section 6 – Institutional Support

Section 6 Institutional Support

Please upload letter of support from your Institution

Please download the template below, have it completed and upload it here to confirm that your application has the support of your institution. [Download Template](#) Required file format: .PDF | Max file size: 10MB

Please note: This file upload is not stored as part of the 'Save and Continue Later' feature and should be uploaded immediately prior to final submission.

Choose File no file selected



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Final confirmation and submission

Introduction

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Sections 4 to 6

Final Confirmation

Final Confirmation and Submission

- Please tick if you are happy for us to draw on information from this application to inform our ongoing work, including our work on impact. Any information included in reporting/communications will have all identifiers removed in order to ensure anonymity.

*

- By ticking this box, I declare the information provided to be true. I agree to abide by all terms and conditions outlined in the DELTA handbook.

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Review criteria – ref DELTA Handbook (updated May 2021)

- overall clarity and quality of each application
- excellence
- exceptionality
- impact and evidence
- communication
- authentic to the discipline
- situated
- collaborative
- community
- sustainable

Remember to use plain English.

Remember you are writing for a HE savvy reader but not necessarily someone from your discipline or from Ireland.

Remember that not all the readers of your application will have English as a first language.



What next?

Team lead to set up account and prepare to lodge intention to submit in DELTA interface

National Forum website DELTA pages

Future webinars (pre-submission and pre-conversation)

Handbook and FAQs

Contact us at deltaaward@teachingandlearning.ie

Remember the deadline: 1 December 2021 for intentions to submit.





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