

# Foundation Degrees

## Assisting with Foundation Degree Design and Development

Foundation Degrees are vocational qualifications designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills and attributes required in the workplace. They are unique because they are developed by Universities, Higher Education providers and employers all working in collaborative partnership. Employers are engaged in the delivery of Foundation Degrees in a number of ways, through the provision of work placements, student mentoring and module assessment. However you also have the opportunity to get involved early on and to influence what students are taught and how they are trained by helping to design and develop the content of Foundation Degrees.

### Why get involved?

By working with Foundation Degree providers in the design and development of Foundation Degrees, you will help to decide how the programme will equip participants with the knowledge and transferable skills needed in your workplace.

This will have many benefits for you, and will enable you to:

- Ensure students are trained in the skills your industry or business needs, thereby reducing skills shortages and boosting the supply of future recruits
- Develop and up-skill your existing employees, by ensuring the course meets their requirements
- Strengthen links with Higher Education and Further Education providers
- Raise the profile of your organisation and encourage new people into your industry
- Influence the delivery of Higher Education in your area and ensure the quality of the workforce of the future

### How do I get started?

- Talk to your employees about their professional development needs and what they require
- Attend Employer Forums to put your views across
- Ensure Sector Skills Councils and Regional Skills Partnerships are aware of your needs
- Work with other employers in your sector to identify skills gaps
- Approach Higher Education and Further Education establishments directly; they can help you to develop a degree tailored directly to your organisation or may even already offer a Foundation Degree which meets your needs

**There are also many other ways you can be involved with Foundation Degrees. You could support our programmes by:**

Offering student work placement opportunities

Mentoring students on work placements

Allowing students to visit your workplace to see how your industry or business functions at first hand

Providing students with live projects

Giving lectures or presentations about the industry in which you work

To contact us about getting involved with the design and development of Foundation Degrees or to learn more about getting involved with Foundation Degrees in other ways, please call 01225 386513, email [learningpartnerships@bath.ac.uk](mailto:learningpartnerships@bath.ac.uk) or visit [www.bath.ac.uk/learning-partnerships](http://www.bath.ac.uk/learning-partnerships)