



## **ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION STATEMENT**

*Date: May 2026*

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## 1 Institutional Commitment

The London Institute of Actuarial Studies (LIAS) - a trading name of London School for Actuarial Studies Ltd. (Company No. 16537214, registered address: 51 Lime Street, London, EC3M 7DQ, United Kingdom) - is a new specialist provider, launching in 2026 with the goal of making actuarial education accessible, rigorous, and professionally relevant. We deliver undergraduate and postgraduate degrees that are awarded solely by our partner, EuroAmerican Institute - an EU-based institution accredited by the Maltese Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA). LIAS acts as the delivery partner, combining academic excellence with practical, real-world application to prepare students for actuarial careers globally.

LIAS intends to develop an inclusive and globally aware student community. As we establish our provision, we recognise the importance of addressing structural inequalities in access, student success, and progression - particularly for those from backgrounds historically underrepresented in higher education and financial services, both in the UK and internationally.

### 1.1 OfS Registration Status

LIAS intends to apply for registration with the Office for Students (OfS) and, in due course, for degree awarding powers. This statement is a pre-registration document setting out our commitments and approach. It aligns with the OfS's Equality of Opportunity Risk Register (EORR) as a benchmark, but the primary regulatory framework for our degree is that of the MFHEA (Malta). We will develop a full OfS Access and Participation Plan once registration is confirmed.

## 2 Understanding Our Future Student Community

As a new provider with a global, online-first model, LIAS will initially rely on external datasets, market intelligence, and insights from our partner EuroAmerican Institute to model the profile of our future student population. Based on analysis of publicly available UK sector data (UCAS, HESA, OfS) and demand signals from our outreach work, we anticipate that our future cohorts may include:

- Students from low-participation neighbourhoods (POLAR4 Quintiles 1 and 2) – predominantly UK residents
- First-generation university students (globally)
- Students from ethnic minority backgrounds, including Black, Asian, and other under-represented groups (using relevant local terminology)
- Mature learners and career changers
- International students from regions where actuarial education is underdeveloped (e.g. South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia)

These projections inform our early planning. As enrolment progresses, we will develop a deeper understanding of our students' needs through our own application and enrolment data, student surveys, focus groups, and engagement with EuroAmerican Institute's access initiatives.

## 3 Planned Approach to Access, Success and Progression

In our formative years, LIAS will take a strategic approach to embedding access and participation in all aspects of our provision. Our early priorities include:

### 3.1 Access

We plan to proactively increase awareness of the actuarial profession and improve access to our programmes among underrepresented and under-informed groups, both in the UK and globally. Activities include:

- Delivering targeted outreach and awareness-raising activity in schools, colleges, and online communities in underrepresented UK regions and selected international locations.
- Offering digital engagement opportunities (webinars, taster sessions, mentoring) for prospective students who may not otherwise encounter the actuarial profession.
- Ensuring inclusive and contextualised admissions processes that recognise potential alongside prior achievement, including consideration of socioeconomic and educational disadvantage.
- **Live, weekend delivery model:** All taught sessions are delivered live online, predominantly on weekends to accommodate students across multiple time zones (UK, Europe, India, Africa, and Asia). Students are required to have a stable internet connection capable of streaming video, and to attend with their video enabled for all lessons to support engagement and identity verification. Published minimum technical specifications and bandwidth requirements are provided to applicants before enrolment.
- **Reasonable adjustments for video requirement:** Students who are unable to attend with video on due to a disability or other protected characteristic may apply for a reasonable adjustment. No student will be penalised for an approved exemption.
- **Digital inclusion fund:** We maintain a dedicated fund to assist eligible students who lack adequate devices or connectivity to meet our published technical requirements. This may include grants or loans for internet upgrades or equipment.

### 3.2 Success

To support student success, LIAS will implement an inclusive academic environment underpinned by strong student support mechanisms. Our educational model is informed by industry practice, with structured pastoral and academic interventions to ensure all students have the opportunity to succeed.

- Providing academic and wellbeing support from the outset, including mentoring by qualified actuaries and structured learning support.
- Designing curriculum and teaching practices that are inclusive, industry-informed, and oriented toward applied learning, with accessibility built into all digital materials.
- Offering scholarships and bursaries to address financial barriers to engagement and progression. **Full eligibility criteria and application processes are published on our website.**

- **English language requirements:** All applicants must meet published minimum English language proficiency requirements prior to enrolment. LIAS does not offer in-session academic English support; students are expected to have the necessary language competence to engage fully with live, instructor-led sessions and written assessments.

### 3.3 Progression

We aim to ensure that all students are well-prepared to transition into meaningful actuarial careers. Progression support is embedded into our teaching model through employer engagement, career development, and hands-on consulting experience.

- Embedding professional development and industry exposure throughout the curriculum.
- Providing students with opportunities to engage in real-world actuarial work through our in-house consulting division.
- Establishing links with employers and professional bodies (e.g., IFoA) to enhance students' transition into the workforce.

We recognise that access and participation is a long-term commitment. Our strategies will be piloted, evaluated, and refined as our student base grows.

## 4 Monitoring and Evaluation

LIAS will put in place a structured framework for monitoring progress on access and participation. We will:

- Use enrolment and continuation data (including demographic breakdowns, nationality, and self-declared indicators of disadvantage) to identify gaps and emerging risks. Data will be disaggregated by region (UK, Europe, India, Africa, Asia) to identify region-specific access gaps.
- Collect student feedback through surveys, focus groups, and individual case tracking.
- Review graduate outcomes in collaboration with employer partners, professional bodies, and EuroAmerican Institute.

This statement will be reviewed by 30 June 2027 and annually thereafter.

Oversight will be provided by the Director, supported by the Advisory Team and experienced academic leads, with input from a specific sub-group focused on student experience and equity.

## 5 Governing and Accountability

The Director (founder and main shareholder) of London School for Actuarial Studies Ltd. has overall responsibility for approving and resourcing this access and participation strategy. Day-to-day oversight is delegated to the Advisory Team and experienced academic leads, supported by a designated senior leader.

We plan to appoint a **Director of Access and Participation** in the lead-up to our first student intake. This role will coordinate monitoring, evaluation, and reporting, and will support engagement with regulators including the Office for Students (once registered) and the MFHEA.

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Our goal is to ensure that equality of opportunity is not an isolated policy area, but an organising principle embedded in LIAS's academic mission and its operations.

## 6 Future Development and Registration

This statement sets out LIAS's current commitments as we prepare for launch. We recognise that, upon seeking OfS registration and degree awarding powers, a full Access and Participation Plan (APP) will be required. We will develop that plan in accordance with OfS guidance and in consultation with our student community, EuroAmerican Institute, and the MFHEA.

This statement is supported by our **Student Protection Plan** and **Tuition Fee Refund and Compensation Policy**, which set out the measures we will take to protect students from financial or academic disruption.

Material amendments to this statement will be emailed to all current students at least 14 days before taking effect, except in emergencies.

## 7 Contact Information

For questions about this Access and Participation Statement, please contact:

- **Email:** [info@lias.org.uk](mailto:info@lias.org.uk)
- **Postal address:** London School for Actuarial Studies Ltd., 51 Lime Street, London, EC3M 7DQ, United Kingdom