



Rep numbers 2025-26

This is a document for Students' Unions in membership of NUS UK. The purpose is to provide the number of reps you will receive for NUS-USI conference in 2025-26.

This document now represents final numbers and has been updated based on the most up to date student numbers.

Principles

The two key principles for our democratic design work are:

Honesty

We're honest about how students and students' unions can meaningfully shape NUS' work. That honesty also means we're upfront about when things aren't working.

A student movement that wins

It is essential that there's a clear link between our democracy and our campaigns, creating real change for students. Our democracy should reflect students' needs and translate into wins. This means working much more closely with SUs to understand students and deliver campaigns that will have the most impact.

Basis for proposing rep numbers

The overwhelming feedback we are receiving from students' unions is that you want to have less of a burden of participation and therefore want smaller rep entitlements. A key principle of NUS' reforms to democracy was that reps are there to represent members throughout the year and not just at a single national conference. So lower numbers can mean more meaningful engagement. We're also receiving feedback that you'd still like these to be tied to student numbers but with a minimum number for smaller unions. We've already committed to ensuring FE members have a minimum of two reps.

We are no longer requiring gender balancing of your reps. The clear steer from reform was that SUs should be entrusted with choosing their own representatives who will benefit and contribute most to national work.

However, our recommendation, particularly for students' unions with larger rep numbers would be ensure that disabled, LGBT+, trans, racialised and women students are represented through your rep selections, with NUS-UK's campaign priorities in mind.



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Calculation

Rep numbers are linked to full time equivalent student numbers.

We are keeping the same division of reps, but adding an upper cap to ensure the size difference between larger and smaller unions is not too great.

Rep numbers will be calculated by dividing FTE student numbers by 3,000 and rounding to the nearest decimal place.

There will be a minimum rep number of two, ensuring the principle passed in reform that smaller unions (particularly FE) will receive a minimum of two reps.

There will be a maximum rep number of eight. All data is either taken from HESA student numbers 23/24 or the results of the NUS Charity Big Su Survey. FTE calculation is based on HESA's standard weighting i.e. a part time student counts for 0.6 FTE.



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Name	Nation	Student numbers FTE	Reps
Belfast Metropolitan College Students' Union	NUS-USI	3075	2
College of Agriculture, Food & Rural Enterprise SU	NUS-USI	935	2
North West Regional College	NUS-USI	12437	4
Northern Regional College	NUS-USI	14405	5
Queen's University Belfast Students' Union	NUS-USI	21815	7
South Eastern Regional College SU	NUS-USI	13862.8	5
South West College	NUS-USI	6884	2
Southern Regional College Students' Union	NUS-USI	8716	3
St Mary's University College Belfast Students' Union	NUS-USI	900	2
Ulster University Students' Union	NUS-USI	25435	8