

Principal Fellow Criteria

PFHEA recognition requires you to demonstrate a sustained record of effective strategic leadership in academic practice and development. There is an expectation that you are highly experienced with wide-ranging strategic leadership responsibilities in connection with key aspects of teaching and supporting learning.

Your application will need to demonstrate that you successfully meet the following criteria

D4.I

Active commitment to and championing of all Dimensions of the Framework, through work with students and staff, and in institutional developments

Applicants should provide evidence of championing the Framework. This is the overarching element of the Descriptor and should be demonstrated throughout the examples and reflections incorporated into the other four sections (D4.2-D4.V).

D4.II

Successful, strategic leadership to enhance student learning, with a particular, but not necessarily exclusive, focus on enhancing teaching quality in institutional, and/or (inter) national settings

The applicant's focus should be on how their leadership has enhanced teaching quality in institutional, and/or (inter)national settings. They should ensure that where they were working with others to provide leadership, they make clear what was their specific contribution in that context.

D4.III

Establishing effective organisational policies and/or strategies for supporting and promoting others (e.g. through mentoring, coaching) in delivering high quality teaching and support for learning

The examples should be from the REI and draw on the Dimensions of the Framework to think about and explain how they contributed strategically to establishing these policies and strategies. They should ensure that where they were working with others, they make clear what their specific role was in that context.

D4.IV

Championing, within institutional and/or wider settings, an integrated approach to academic practice (incorporating, for example, teaching, learning, research, scholarship, administration)

Teaching in higher education takes place in a complex environment where applicants may have a multiplicity of roles in which they need to integrate teaching, management, leadership, mentoring, research, administration and various forms of service to the HE community. This is the basis of the integrated approach to academic practice that is expected of Principal Fellows. Applicants should give evidence of understanding this complexity and of adopting this integrated approach. They should ensure that where they were working with others, they make clear what their specific contribution was in that context.

D4.V

A sustained and successful commitment to, and engagement in, continuing professional development related to academic, institutional and/or other professional practices

Applicants should include their academic and professional qualifications in this section. The emphasis on 'a sustained and effective record of impact' means that it will not be acceptable for Principal Fellowship to be evidenced solely on the basis of completing a programme or course. However, completion of a relevant programme or course, (in leadership for example) can constitute part of their evidence.