

# Imperial Award – earned or won?

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Imperial Award Manager

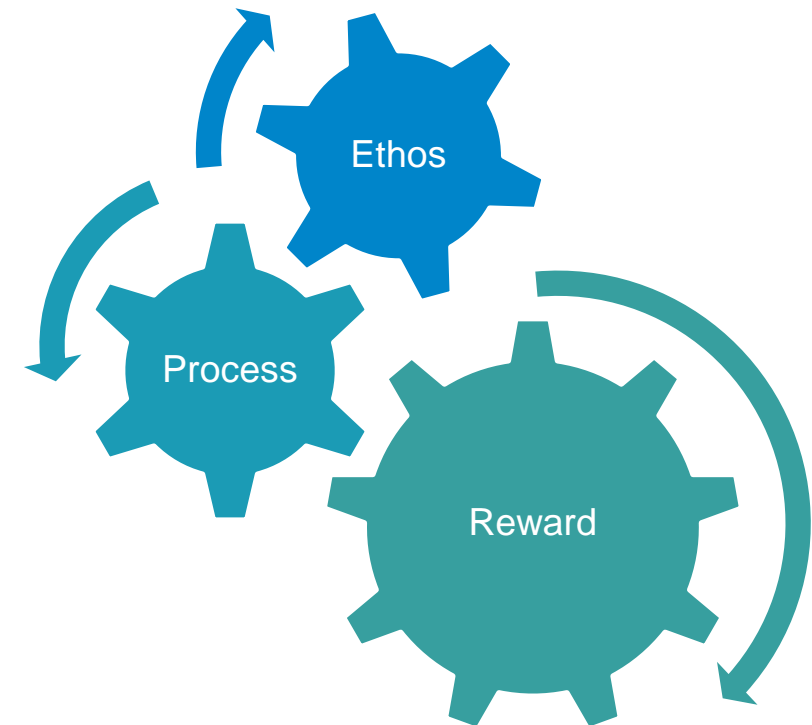
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## Imperial Award – earned or won?

- How the programme supports students to tackle the competitive culture at Imperial
- **Ethos - Process - Reward**
- How the Award achievers perceive their experience of participating in the programme.



# What is the Imperial Award?

- **College-wide** programme
- Helping develop practical **self-reflection** skills, and their ability to 'pitch themselves'
- Formally **recognised by the College**
- Over **800 students** engaged



# Ethos

- Encouraging **self-reflection** on own development
- All about **the journey** leading to increased self-awareness
  - **Broader** version of themselves
  - Value of **experiences**
- Imperial Award **attributes**



## Process

- Private portfolio for **capturing reflections**
- **Resources** online
- Cyclical **workshops**
- Flexible **Assessment**
- Peer-to-peer **mentoring** sessions



## Reward

- **Reflection**, not description
- **Ipsative progress**
- Transformation
- **Competing** against yourself
- Further engagement – **peer support**



## Imperial Award achievers

“No matter your grades, this is a clean slate because this assesses you on completely unrelated and disconnected parameters, and **everyone's path to success is unique**. For the IA, you are on your own journey undertaking your chosen experiences, which means you **aren't being measured against anyone else**. That's a radically different feeling for students. And it finally frees them to see the **value** of the experiences they undergo, and what lessons they have learnt. **Perceiving your own value** is always super important for a student and a young adult, and the IA helps you do this way more accurately than academics ever can”.

**Shil, PHD Mechanical Engineering**



## Imperial Award achievers

“(…) the competitive nature at Imperial forces students to complete projects in quick succession and then moving to the next without having an appropriate break to reflect or reevaluate their direction. The momentum driven by the competitive atmosphere is difficult to decelerate. The Imperial Award gave me that time and **mind space to reflect** and gave me the skills required to do so. As a result, I have saved a lot of my time by **being more mindful** by, for example not undertaking projects, as I managed to reflect prior and change my direction to **pursue something more meaningful**”.

**Fatima, UG Medicine**





## Imperial Award achievers

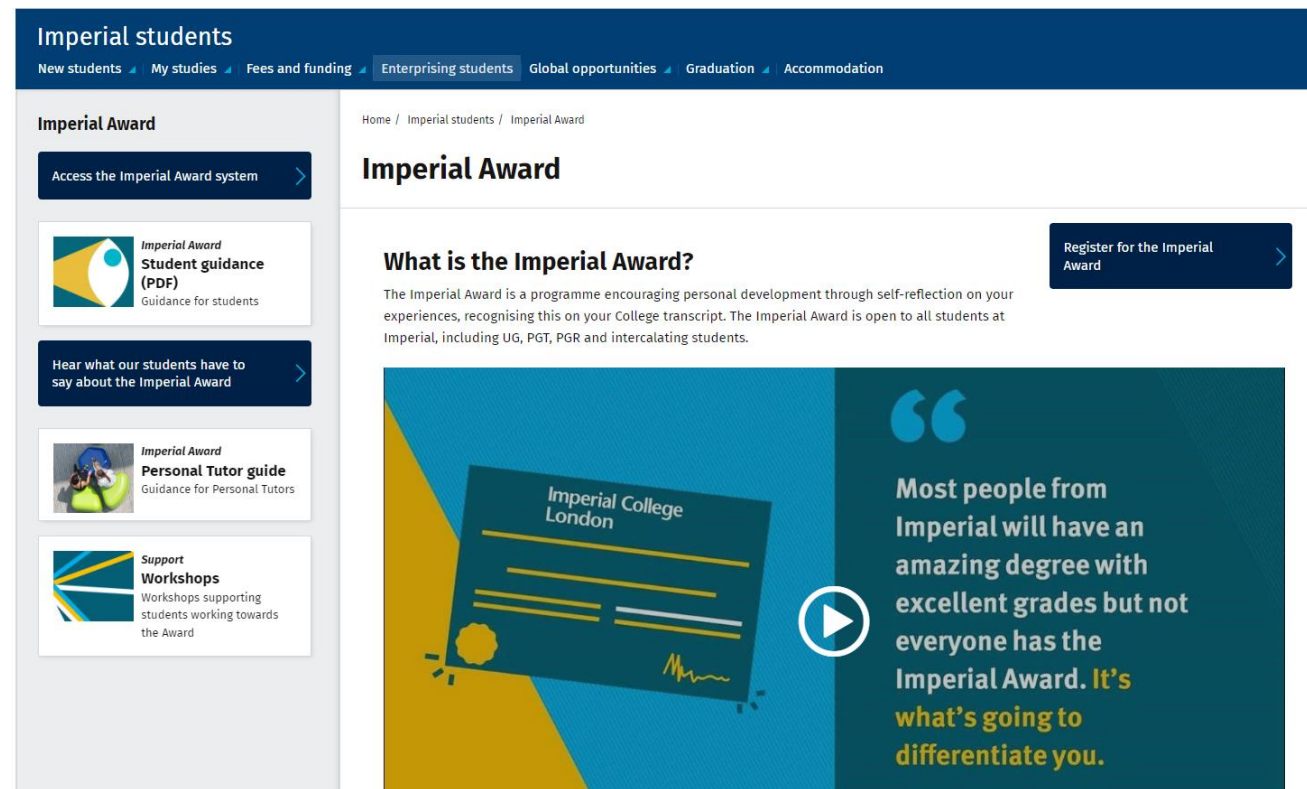
“The Imperial Award process, as much as the end result, has impacted me more than I expected. I am **more self-aware** and I’ve noticed that I can handle difficult situations better than in the past. I am happy I did the Imperial Award. It really is **earned and not won**”.

**Sam, PGT Business School**



More info:  
[Imperial.ac.uk/imperial-award](https://imperial.ac.uk/imperial-award)

Contact:  
[imperialaward@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:imperialaward@imperial.ac.uk)



The screenshot shows the Imperial Award website interface. At the top, there is a dark blue navigation bar with the text "Imperial students" and a menu of links: "New students", "My studies", "Fees and funding", "Enterprising students", "Global opportunities", "Graduation", and "Accommodation". Below this, the main content area is titled "Imperial Award" and includes a breadcrumb trail: "Home / Imperial students / Imperial Award". A prominent dark blue button with a white right-pointing arrow says "Access the Imperial Award system". Below this are three white boxes with icons and text: "Imperial Award Student guidance (PDF) Guidance for students", "Hear what our students have to say about the Imperial Award" (with a right-pointing arrow), "Imperial Award Personal Tutor guide Guidance for Personal Tutors", and "Support Workshops Workshops supporting students working towards the Award". On the right side of the main content, there is a section titled "What is the Imperial Award?" with a "Register for the Imperial Award" button. Below this is a large graphic featuring a stylized Imperial College London award certificate and a quote: "Most people from Imperial will have an amazing degree with excellent grades but not everyone has the Imperial Award. It's what's going to differentiate you." A play button icon is overlaid on the graphic.

