



In a nutshell

BUFDG helps universities deliver value, save money, enhance finance capabilities, and work together

Contents

What you'll find in this document

Page 1 – What is BUFDG?

Page 2 – Who can access BUFDG?

Page 2 – How does BUFDG membership benefit you?

Page 3 – How to apply for membership

Page 3 – What is PHES?

Our Aim

What is BUFDG?

The British Universities Finance Directors Group (BUFDG) is the representative body for higher education finance staff in the United Kingdom. We have been delivering professional services and support to our member universities for nearly two decades.

We **aim** to be the recognised channel for the provision, analysis, and dissemination of information, advice and support across the HE Finance sector, helping institutions deliver value, save money, enhance finance capabilities, and work together.

Our Objectives

BUFDG has the following **objectives**:

To inform, advise and support

- Be the pre-eminent source of information, comment, and support on finance matters
- Promote high standards and best practice across the HE finance sector

To facilitate networking and development

- Provide forums for networking, discussion, consultation and exchange
- Provide and signpost to appropriate opportunities for learning and development

To partner, coordinate and advocate

- Work in partnership with related organisations, regionally and nationally
- Advocate on behalf of all our members to government, policy makers, and external stakeholders

It's for Everyone

Who can access BUFDG?

Any member of staff at your university is welcome to sign up for a website account. This provides access to all BUFDG services including financial resources, information, reports, news, the discussion boards, our e-learning suite, and all other learning & development.

Over 7,500 staff at UK universities currently benefit from BUFDG access. These are mostly from within finance teams or other finance or procurement roles across the university, but also include staff from a wide variety of roles covering areas such as planning, facilities, HR, governance, and beyond.

If your institution is a member of BUFDG then you can sign up for a [website account here](#). If you're not sure if your institution is a member or not, [take a look at the list of members here](#).

If your institution is not yet a member but is interested in joining BUFDG, then read on to find out more about the benefits of BUFDG, and how to apply, below:

Our Value

How does BUFDG membership benefit you?

With your BUFDG membership and website account you can:

Team development	Access all the e-learning modules, training events, regional meetings, and BUFDG conferences, for you and your colleagues
Technical support	Get technical tax, employment taxes, and procurement support and guidance from our three in-house specialists
Instant knowledge	Access hundreds of useful resources and guides covering a wide range of subject areas, and use the busy discussion boards to ask questions of colleagues from across the sector. You'll also benefit from the knowledge, insight, and contacts of Karel and the rest of the BUFDG team.
Accounting insight	Benefit from the work of the Financial Reporting Group on issues such as the SORP and pensions accounting, including notes, discount rates, and deficit modellers
Special reports	Contribute to, and access special projects and reports including the annual institutional audit and FD responsibilities surveys, and special guides such as <i>Understanding University Finance</i> and <i>Understanding Pensions in HE</i>
Sector advocacy	Have a say on, and contribute to, our liaison and advocacy work with HMRC, the Office for Students, UUK, Purchasing Consortia, and other sector bodies

Partnership mindset

You can find out more about the work of BUFDG by [downloading the latest Annual Report](#), or by contacting our [Head of Membership, Matt Sisson](#).

Our Cost**Applying for Membership**

Fees for access to BUFDG are charged annually and are based on the turnover of the member institution.

The subscription year for BUFDG runs from 1st August to 31st July. If your institution is joining on or after the 1st February, then 60% of the subscription is due.

There are two levels of membership - a standard level, and BUFDG Pro, that includes our extensive and expanding [suite of e-learning modules](#). Membership is at an institution-level, which means that a single membership fee includes the above for any members of staff at the HEI, with no upper limit on numbers.

For 2020/21, our rates are:

Turnover band	Subscription rates for UK HEIs	Standard £ excl. VAT	BUFDG Pro £ excl. VAT
6	Turnover > £400 millions	4,411	5,661
5	Turnover > £200 millions	4,121	5,046
4	Turnover > £100 millions	3,838	4,713
3	Turnover > £20 millions	3,382	4,157
2	Turnover > £5 millions	2,217	2,712
1	Turnover < £5 millions	1,491	1,941

Apply here

If you'd like to subscribe, or if you have any questions about the process, contact Matt on 01509 22 88 52 or [by email](#).

Walking the talk**Lastly... What is PHES?**

Professional HE Services Ltd (PHES) is a limited company owned by UK universities. It provides an operating framework for membership organisations that support the HE sector, known as Special Interest Organisations (SIOs). PHES enables SIOs to share staff and other resources, and to operate effectively and efficiently.

There are currently five SIOs under the PHES 'umbrella', of which BUFDG is just one. The others are the Association of Universities Directors of Estates (AUDE), the Higher Education Strategic Planners Association (HESPA), Universities Human Resources (UHR), and the Council of Higher Education Internal Auditors (CHEIA).

Each organisation has its own structure and terms of reference and is run by its own executive. Please let us know in your application if you would like to also consider membership of other PHES organisations.