

Updates to University Legislation for the 2025-26 cohort.

This note includes information regarding updates to academic and student University Legislation (i.e. Regulations, Codes of Practice, Policies and Guidance), which were approved by the relevant University Committee.

It shows updates that were made prior to the publication of the 2025-26 cohort legislation, and, retrospective updates that were made following the publication of the 2025-26 cohort legislation. *[NB: in line with CMA guidance, all 2025-26 cohort legislation documents were published on 9th December 2024].*

If a piece of University Legislation is not listed then please assume it was rolled forward between years (i.e. no updates were made).

Updates made prior to publication:

(the version number of all documents noted below is 2025.1.0)

1. University Regulations

a. Regulation 7 – Assessment, Progression and Award

- Sections 7.4.1 (g) and 7.4.2 (d) have been updated. These updates were made to provide further clarity / correct erroneous text.

b. Regulation 8 – Student Conduct

- Section 8.3.7 has been inserted. Sections 8.1.2, 8.2.1, 8.3.2, 8.3.5, and 8.10.5 have been updated. The insertion and updates were made to: add further clarity to points / reflect current practices (8.2.1, 8.3.2, 8.3.5); make more transparent how this Regulation interacts with the Code of Practice on Student Concerns and Complaints (8.1.2, 8.10.5); and set out what students can expect in relation to reasonable adjustments (8.3.2, 8.3.7).

2. Codes of Practice

a. Code of Practice on Academic Appeals

- Sections 1.6 and 1.9 have been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 2.5 and 2.7 have been updated. The insertions and updates have been made to add further clarity to the process, with particular reference to: appropriate forms of evidence (1.6, 2.5); assessing eligibility (2.7); and available support (1.9).

b. Code of Practice on Admission of Students

- Numerous sections have been updated, with all updates being made / approved before the CMA (Competition and Markets Authority) guidance / deadline for publication of the 2025-26 cohort legislation. The updates can be summarised as follows:
 - Index of points has been updated with additional numerical references added to aid ease of use.
 - Addition of new section 8 (“Expectations of Applicants”), which consolidates existing expectations / responsibilities of applicants (moved from other sections), and adds

Expectations of Applicant Behaviour (approval received from Legal for wording and underlying process).

- Addition of personal statement of research proposal generated by artificial intelligence to fraud policy in section 8.4.
- Section 5.3 updated to provide information / links for general Undergraduate requirements and English Language requirements.
- Section 7.12 updated to remove outdated Pathways to Birmingham requirements and hyperlink to current information.
- Section 6.18 updated to reflect changes to Fee Status rules.
- Accreditation of Prior Learning separated from previous section (6) and created as new section 10.
- Various sections renumbered to accommodate above updates.
- URLs (the addresses of webpages) replaced with hyperlinks to improve accessibility.

c. Code of Practice on Extenuating Circumstances

- Section 3.4.3 has been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 4.8.9 and 4.14 have been deleted. Sections 1.1 4.3, 4.8.5 and 4.11 have been updated. The insertion was made to reflect what should be happening in practice / provide further clarity, the deletion was made to provide further clarity (4.8.9) and to remove outdated text (re: COVID-19) (4.14), and the updates were made to provide further clarity (1.1), remove outdated text (re: COVID-19) (4.8.5), and for a general 'tidy up' of text (4.3, 4.11).

d. Code of Practice on Leave of Absence Procedure

- Sections 9.2 and 10.1 have been updated. These updates were made to reflect current practice / provide further clarity.

e. Code of Practice on Misconduct and Fitness to Practise Committee

- Sections 6.7 and 6.8 have been deleted (as they are no longer accurate / relevant). Sections 1.9, 1.10, 2.4, 2.9, 3.5, 3.15, 4.6, 6.2, 7.3, and 7.4 have been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 1.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.6, 3.9, 3.10, 3.12, 3.13, 3.14, 4.1, 4.3, 4.5, 4.7, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 6.1, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 7.2, 7.6, 8.1, 8.2, A.1, A.7.1, A.7.5, A.8.4, A.9.2, B.1, and D.3 have been updated. The majority of these updates were made to provide further clarity to points / confirm existing practices (1.1, 1.9, 1.10, 2.4, 2.9, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.9, 3.10, 3.12, 3.13, 4.1, 4.3, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.6, 8.1, 8.2, A.1, A.7.1, A.7.5, A.9.1, A.9.2, B.1). Other updates were made, following consultation with Committee Members, Chairs, and Legal Services, around the constitution and process followed during committees. These updates were made to make committees smoother and quicker and thereby to speed up outcomes for students (3.6, 3.12, 3.13, 4.6, 4.7, 6.2, 6.6, 7.3, 7.4, A.8.4, B.1, D.3). In addition, updates were made to allow legal representation at committees to reflect external legal advice and Universities UK and OIA (Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education) guidance (3.14, 3.15).

f. Code of Practice on Student Immigration Duties

- Appendix 1.1 (g) has been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 1.1, 1.3, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2.4 (b), 4.3.1, 4.4, 6, 7, Appendix 1.1 (a) and 1.2 have been

updated. The insertions and updates were made to provide further clarity, correct grammatical errors, and reflect current / provide up to date Home Office rules and / or requirements.

g. Code of Practice on Supervision and Monitoring Progress of Postgraduate Researchers

- Sections 2.16, 2.27, 4.4 and Appendix A (9.3) have been updated. These updates were made to provide further clarity (2.27), convert a URL to a hyperlink (2.16), and reflect the new name of University Graduate / Doctoral School (4.4 & AA [9.3]).

3. Policy Documents

- a. No updates were made to any 2025-26 Policy documents prior to publication.

4. Stand-Alone Guidance Documents

- a. No updates were made to any 2025-26 Guidance documents prior to publication.

Updates made following publication:

(the version number and date of publication are noted after the update is described)

5. University Regulations

a. Regulation 5 – Admission and Registration

- Sections 5.1.2 (e) & (f) have been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 5.1.2 (b), (c)(i), and (d) have been updated. These updates have been made to allow for the stacking of smaller courses / Microcredentials towards a larger award, and to outline the agreed processes for doing so.
[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 15/01/2025]

6. Codes of Practice

a. Code of Practice on Misconduct and Fitness to Practise Committee

- Sections 2.8, 2.9, 3.14 and 6.6 have been updated. These updates made to reflect current practice (re: times always being working days).
[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 24/01/2025]

b. Code of Practice on Student Concerns and Complaints

- Sections 3.6, 3.7, 3.9, 4.3, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.12, and A1.4 - A1.13 have been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). The numbering found in section 2 numbering has been updated. Sections 1.4, 1.5, 1.8, 1.11, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5, 3.8, 3.11, 3.12, 4.1, 4.4, A1.1, and A1.3 have been updated. All of these updates have been made to provide further clarity (1.4,

1.5, 1.11, 3.3, 3.5, 3.12, 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 4.12, A1.1, A1.4 - A1.13), to reflect current practices (1.8, 2.2, 3.3, 3.6, 3.7, 3.11, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.12), and to make clearer how this Code of Practice interacts with other Legislation documents (3.2, 3.8, 3.9).

[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 24/01/2025]

7. Policy Documents

- a. No updates have been made to any 2025-26 Policy documents since their publication.

8. Stand-Alone Guidance Documents

a. Guidance on the Use of Transcription and Translation Tools by Students

- This document has been created / introduced due to various queries being raised during the first months of the 2024-25 academic session around student use of translation tools / students recording teaching sessions.

[Version: 2025.1.0, Published: 28/01/2025]

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