

Academic Regulations

Staff Briefing Note

Changes to the Academic Regulations from 2021/22

Approved by Academic Board July 2021

1. Introduction

The review and development of the [Academic Regulations](#) was progressed through our University Regulatory Review Group, informed by stakeholder feedback including members of Academic Quality and Standards Committee (AQSC), Schools, Professional Services and the Students' Union. Proposals were approved by Academic Board at its meeting in July 2021. All proposals in section 2 of this document (below) will be introduced from **1 August 2021**.

2. Academic Regulations 2021/22: Summary of Changes

A summary of the main changes introduced to the Academic Regulations 2021/22 follows. It is important to refer to the relevant section of the Academic Regulations for full context:

Section 2: Admissions

Clarification that Recognition of Prior Learning may only be made against **whole modules**, not specific learning outcomes or assessments.

Section 6: Progression and Award Boards and Module Boards

Clarification of the purpose and membership of **Reconvened Boards**, which are separate to Progression and Award Boards or Reassessment Boards. Reconvened Boards should be held in accordance to the requirements in 6.3.11 and the associated guidance on the [Student Progression and Award webpage for staff](#) (see 'Process for Amending Exam Board Decisions').

Section 8: Extenuating Circumstances and Mitigation

Updated to reflect the **online submission of mitigation** applications.

Section 11: Research Awards

Updated to reflect the **online submission of a thesis** for research awards.

Section 19: Glossary

The addition of regulatory requirements for **apprenticeships**. Minor updates have also been to the below sections to reference apprenticeships:

- Section 2: Admissions
- Section 4: Progression and Award
- Section 5: Examinations
- Section 9: Appeals
- Section 13: Validation, Monitoring and Review
- Section 18: Definitions of University Awards

Other

Updating of terminology, for example changing 'Registrar's Office' to 'Quality Assurance Services' for activities that fall under the remit of the latter professional support area:

- Section 3: Education and Assessment
- Section 13: Validation, Monitoring and Review
- Section 14: External Examiners and Advisers.

3. Covid-19 Regulations: Limits of Application in 2021/22

During Semester two 2019/20 and the 2020/21 academic year, regulatory and procedural changes were introduced and applied to exam boards taking place during this period, in response to circumstances associated with Covid-19. These changes ensured that we maintained academic and professional standards, whilst being fair and reasonable to our students by considering the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on their academic experience.

Whilst some elements of the Covid-19 response have been retained in 2021/22, in most instances exam board processes will revert to the standard regulatory position.

Progression and Award Regulations

In 2021/22 Leeds Beckett University will return to **application of the standard regulations for progression, award eligibility and classification**, for students who commence their level/course in 2021/22. Please see [Academic Regulations Section 4: Progression and Award](#) for further information on the standard progression and award regulations.

There are some scenarios in 2021/22 that will require the continued application of the Covid-19 regulations for progression, award eligibility and classification. Please visit the staff [Exam Board Handbook](#) for more details. Further advice and guidance should be sought from [Quality Assurance Services](#) where there is any uncertainty about the application of the regulations.

Mitigation

In 2021/22 Leeds Beckett University will return to **application of the standard regulations for mitigation**, for students who commence their level/course in 2021/22. Please see [Academic Regulations Section 8: Extenuating Circumstances and Mitigation](#) for further information on the standard mitigation regulations.

4. Further Information for Staff

Please visit the [Quality Assurance Services website](#) for further information on the regulatory changes and consider how these relate to your course/role. Included on this web page is a full list of the changes in a detailed regulatory changes table.

If you would like further information about the content of this briefing or would like to engage in the regulatory review discussions throughout 2021/22, please contact QAS@leedsbeckett.ac.uk or ResearchStudentAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk (for research enquiries).