Students Eligible for Funding 2019-20

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Summary: To inform stakeholders of the enrolments of students eligible for funding at Scottish Higher Education institutions in 2019-20

FAO: Principals of Scotland’s universities

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Executive Summary

- The total full-time equivalent (FTE) number of students eligible for funding (definition provided in paragraph 2) in 2019-20 was 149,655, an increase of 425 (0.3%) from the previous year.

- Between 2015-16 and 2019-20 there was an increase of 7,325 (5.1%) FTE students eligible for funding.

- Of the total FTE students eligible for funding in 2019-20, 86.4% were undergraduates, 8.6% taught postgraduates and 5.0% research postgraduates.

- Between 2018-19 and 2019-20 the FTE number of undergraduate students eligible for funding increased by 0.9%; taught postgraduates decreased by -4.5%; and research postgraduates decreased by -1.6%.

- Between 2015-16 and 2019-20 the FTE number of undergraduate students eligible for funding increased by 4.2%; taught postgraduates increased by 16.2%; and research postgraduates increased by 5.1%.

- For each of the past five years the FTE number of students eligible for funding has exceeded the number of funded places by at least 8.5%, see the graph below. Please see paragraph 23 for further details.
Students Eligible for Funding 2019–20

149,655
FTE* eligible for funding

5.1% increase since 2015-16

12,825
FTE* number of taught postgrads

16.2% increase since 2015-16

15.0%
the increase in the number of part-time students since 2015-16

10.2%
the percentage of eligible FTEs*, over funded places in 2019-20

*Full-time equivalent (FTE), definition provided in paragraph 2.