



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

Guidance for Interim Outcome Agreements for Colleges and Universities AY 2020-21 Annex B

SFC Guidance

Issue Date: 1 December 2020

Guidance for Interim Outcome Agreements for Colleges and Universities AY 2020-21 Annex B: University Technical Guidance on SFC's measures of progress

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Summary: This guidance outlines the steps required to ensure an agreement is in place between SFC and each university, college or college region during this emergency period which captures, at a high level, contributions, impact and outcomes and provides assurance on use of allocated funding in AY 2020-21.

FAO: Principals and Chairs of Scotland's universities

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Guidance for Interim Outcome Agreements for Colleges and Universities AY 2020-21

Annex B: University Technical Guidance on SFC’s measures of progress

Introduction

1. This Technical Guidance provides the definitions for each of the measures listed in the main Guidance document.
2. This is an update to the previous Technical Guidance for 2020-21 issued in Summer 2019. This guidance reflects the priority measures of progress for the emergency COVID-19 pandemic period, restricting key measures for both the College and University sectors.
3. SFC clearly indicated that we will not require targets for this emergency year; however we do expect institutions to commit to maintain, wherever possible, the institutional/ sectoral baselines as appropriate. SFC will issue a national measures table to each institution reflecting the condensed Outcome and Impact Framework with 2018-19 being the baseline year, where data are available.
4. SFC will, as a matter of course, continue to monitor all performance measures we currently have in addition to those identified as priority and will be happy to discuss areas of concern with institutions.
5. For each measure the document provides:

Aim: The SFC's strategic aim under which this measure falls		
Measure: The number and description of the measure		
Table:	If the figure corresponding to this measure is available in a published table this gives the title of the relevant table.	
Numerator	If the measure is a proportion these specify the numerators and denominators to be used in the calculation.	
Denominator		
Data	This provides further information on the data source used to calculate the measure.	
Term	Definition/Description	Notes
A term used that requires further detail	A definition or description of the term.	Further information on the term e.g. HESA codes

Outcome Agreement measures of progress: REVISIONS for 2020-21				
2020-21 Outcome Agreement Measures		2020-21 Outcomes and Impact Framework measures		Revision made
Measure A	Total number of Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrants.			
Measure B	The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled learners articulating from college to degree level courses with advanced standing.			No change
Measure C	The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled full-time first degree entrants from the 20% most deprived postcodes.			No change
Measure D	The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrants that are care-experienced			No change
Measure E	The number and proportion of full-time first year Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrants returning to study in year two			No change
Measure F	The difference (+/-) from the individual institution benchmark figure for students satisfied with the overall quality of their course of study in the National Student Survey			No change
Measure G1	The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled graduates entering positive destinations			Previous DLHE-related measure updated to reflect Graduate Outcomes survey
Measure G2	The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled full-time first degree graduates entering professional occupations			
Measure H	The number of Scotland-domiciled qualifiers at undergraduate level			New measure

General Notes

HESA definitions

6. In this document where HESA fields have been used, the fields and descriptions have been taken from the Field List and details have been documented in the most current HESA Student data collection documentation available at the time of writing this guidance i.e. **Student Record 2019-20**
7. [Full details of the field list and HESA definitions](#) are available on the HESA website. Information on the [HESA derived fields used in this guidance](#) will be available on the above webpage under **Derived field specifications**.

Standard Population

8. The SFC dataset used to produce tables for Outcome Agreements previously used an SFC adjusted CORE files to exclude students not counted in our own standard population. This has now changed so that SFC reporting on Outcome Agreement measures uses the HESA standard population, defined as XPSR01 = 1.

Undergraduate level

9. For Measures A,B,D,E,G and H, Undergraduate is defined as a student undertaking a first degree or an HNC/HND/Diploma/Certificate of Higher Education, using the following codes:
 - **Undergraduate** - First degree (**XLEV501**=3) AND Selected Sub-degree: HNC/D or Certificate or Diploma of HE (**COURSEAIM** in 'C20','C30','J20','J26','J30').
 - This definition covers courses with **COURSEAIM** in:
C20, C30 H00, H11, H16, H18, H22, H23, H50,
I00, I11, I16 J20, J26, J30 M22, M26, M28.
 - **XLEV501** is a HESA derived field.

Institutional Datasets

10. SFC can provide a dataset of your own institution's students included within the SFC Undergraduate Level population in order to allow institutions to easily match their students in the OA population. For further details please contact: Stephen Riddell, Senior Policy/Analysis Officer, sriddell@sfc.ac.uk

Metric for measures

11. HESA's Student Records use the term '**instance**' to describe a student's engagement within an institution. A student may enrol on more than one course and therefore have more than one instance. It is instances that are used

here. This approach is consistent with that of HESA. It is **instances** that are used in the count of the numerator and denominator population for **Measures A, B, C, D, E and H**.

12. The measures will therefore count all student instances: young, mature, full-time and part-time (unless explicitly stated, e.g. **Measure E**), providing the student instance fulfils the criteria as outlined in the definition for the numerator and denominator.

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

13. The [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation \(SIMD\)](#) is provided by the Scottish Government (SG). [Postcode files linking postcodes to SIMD rank](#) are available on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website via NRS Postcode Extracts in the Geography web page. Using the student postcode (HESA field: **POSTCODE**) a student is matched to a datazone and then to a SIMD rank. The ranks are divided into quintiles.
14. Aspirations set for 2020-21 will be based on **SIMD 2016** and will follow the Scottish Government standard method of calculating quintiles (rather than a separate SFC population weighted method as used previously). Whilst the Scottish Government have since released SIMD 2020, SFC will not be adopting this iteration of the SIMD until the 2021-22 academic year.
15. In this guidance MD20 = Quintile 1 and MD40 = Quintile 1 + Quintile 2.
16. Details on the SIMD 2016 ranks are detailed below.

SIMD 2016		
Quintiles split the datazones into 5 groups, each containing 20% of Scotland's population		
	SIMD2016 Rank	
	From	To
1 - 20% most deprived	1	1,395
2	1,396	2,790
3	2,791	4,185
4	4,186	5,580
5 - 20 % least deprived	5,581	6,976

Scottish Government strategic priority

To provide the best student experience, seamlessly connected for learners of all backgrounds

Measure A: The number of Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrants		
Denominator	The number of Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrants.	
Data	HESA Standard Population	
Term	Definition/Description	Notes
Denominator (for each protected characteristic)	All Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrant students in the HESA Standard Population.	HESA Standard Population: XPSR01 = 1
Numerator	All Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrant students in 2020-21	
Scotland-domiciled	Scotland-domiciled as recorded on HESA.	Scotland-domiciled - XDOMHM01 = 2 XDOMHM01 is a HESA derived field.
Undergraduate	Any student undertaking an undergraduate course.	See Undergraduate level in General Notes section
Entrant	An entrant is a student deemed to have started their instance in the academic year. A student may have previously attended the institution but is still considered an entrant if they are starting a new instance.	Entrant - START DATE OF INSTANCE (COMDATE) IS AFTER OR EQUAL TO '01AUGXXXX'

Measure B: The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled learners articulating from college to degree level courses with advanced standing	
Table	HN Scotland-domiciled student entry from Scotland's colleges to Scotland's HEIs: HEI summary table.
Numerator	The number of Scotland-domiciled HN entrants from Scottish colleges to undergraduate programmes with advanced standing .
Denominator	The number of Scotland-domiciled HN entrants from Scottish colleges to undergraduate programmes, irrespective of year of programme.
Data	National Articulation Database (compiled from data supplied via FES, HESA, SQA). Data definitions can be found in Annex 1 of the 'Articulation from Scottish Colleges to Scottish Universities 2017-18' report.
Term	Definition/Description
Advanced Standing	Articulation is defined as a student gaining entry into second year of a degree with a Higher National Certificate (HNC) gained at college, or into third year with a Higher National Diploma (HND) gained at college in the previous three academic years.

Measure C: The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled full-time first degree entrants from the 20% most deprived postcodes (COWA)		
Numerator	The number of Scotland-domiciled full-time first degree entrants from the 20% most deprived SIMD areas.	
Denominator	The total number of Scotland-domiciled full-time first degree entrants (excluding those with no known/matching postcode).	
Data	HESA Standard Population	
Term	Definition/Description	Notes
Denominator	All Scotland-domiciled full-time first degree entrant students in the HESA Standard Population.	HESA Standard Population: XPSR01 = 1
Numerator	All Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrant students (excluding those as above) with a valid postcode from an SIMD 20 area.	SIMD20 - The 20% most deprived areas See Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation in section General Notes .
Scotland-domiciled	Scotland-domiciled as recorded on HESA.	Scotland-domiciled - XDOMHM01 = 2 XDOMHM01 is a HESA derived field.
Full-time first degree	Any student undertaking a full-time first degree course.	Full-time: XMODE01 in (1,2) First degree: XLEV501 = 3 XMODE01 and XLEV501 are HESA derived fields.
Entrant	An entrant is a student deemed to have started their instance in the academic year. A student may have previously attended the institution but is still considered an entrant if they are starting a new instance.	Entrant - START DATE OF INSTANCE (COMDATE) IS AFTER OR EQUAL TO '01AUGXXXX'

Measure D: The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrants that are care-experienced		
Numerator	The number of Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrants that are care-experienced.	
Denominator	The number of Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrants.	
Data	HESA Standard Population	
Term	Definition/Description	Notes
Denominator (for each protected characteristic)	All Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrant students in the HESA Standard Population.	HESA Standard Population: XPSR01 = 1
Numerator	All Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrant students (excluding those as above) in each protected characteristic category.	
	Care-experienced students	From 2013-14: Care-experienced in Scotland - CARELEAVER = 02 Care-experienced in the rest of UK - CARELEAVER = 03 UCAS defined care leaver - CARELEAVER = 04
Scotland-domiciled	Scotland-domiciled as recorded on HESA.	Scotland-domiciled - XDOMHM01 = 2 XDOMHM01 is a HESA derived field.
Undergraduate	Any student undertaking an undergraduate course.	See Undergraduate level in General Notes section
Entrant	An entrant is a student deemed to have started their instance in the academic year. A student may have previously attended the institution but is still considered an entrant if they are starting a new instance.	Entrant - START DATE OF INSTANCE (COMDATE) IS AFTER OR EQUAL TO '01AUGXXXX'

Measure E: The number and proportion of full-time first year Scotland-domiciled undergraduate entrants returning to study in year two		
Numerator	The number of Scotland-domiciled full-time undergraduate entrants who are continuing in higher education or have qualified after their first year (in each group of interest).	
Denominator	The total number of Scotland-domiciled full-time undergraduate entrants in PIT3 population (with duplicates removed).	
Data	<p>The SFC dataset (PIT3) used to produce these tables comes from the HESA t3_underlyingdata_XX_XX dataset, used to create their PIs on non-continuation rates (Table T3). <i>This measure only reports on full-time students.</i></p> <p>Information on the HESA PIs is available on their website: Performance Indicators in Higher Education in the UK. Non-continuation rates (including projected outcomes) (tables T3, T4, T5).</p> <p>SFC links the PIT3 dataset to the AYCOR dataset to obtain information on gender, age, disability and ethnicity.</p>	
Denominator	Scotland-domiciled full-time undergraduate entrants in PIT3 population, with one record per student instance, i.e. duplicate records relating to the same student instance but relating to the different subject(s) of course aim are removed.	See section Population (applicable to T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6, T7) in: Definition of Terms
Numerator	The number of Scotland-domiciled full-time undergraduate entrants who are continuing or who qualified at the same HEI.	See section Non-continuation data (applicable to T3, T4, T5) in: Definition of Terms The field T3_MARKER is used to select: Continuing student - T3_MARKER = 1,2 Non-continuing student - T3_MARKER = 3
Full-time	The PIT3 dataset is restricted to full-time students.	See section Mode of study (applicable to tables T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6) in: Definition of Terms
Under- graduate	Any student undertaking an undergraduate course.	See Undergraduate level in General Notes section
Scotland-domiciled	Scotland-domiciled as recorded on HESA.	Scotland-domiciled - XDOMHM01 = 2 XDOMHM01 is a HESA derived field .
Entrant	An entrant is a student deemed to have started their instance in the academic year. A student may have previously attended the institution but is still considered an entrant if they are starting a new instance.	See section Entrants (applicable to T1, T2, T3a-T3d, T4) in: Definition of Terms

Scottish Government strategic priority

To provide high quality learning in a system where institutions work in partnership and demonstrate the highest standards of governance and financial accountability

Measure F: The difference (+/-) from the individual institution's benchmark figure for students satisfied with the overall quality of their course of study in the National Student Survey		
Table	'Q27 institutions (benchmarked)'.	
Data	Table available in ' 2020 National Student Survey summary data ' in the National Student Survey section of the OfS website: https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/student-information-and-data/national-student-survey-nss/get-the-nss-data/	
Term	Definition/Description	Notes
The difference (+/-) between the actual and benchmarked figure	The difference (+/-) between the actual and benchmarked figure for taught students.	Question 27 in the NSS asks 'Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of the course'. Percentage scores are for respondents who 'definitely' or 'mostly' agreed with this question in the NSS. The full NSS results for 2020 , and previous years' surveys, are available on the OfS website.
	<p>OfS has produced benchmarks for each UK institution for this question that take into account each HEI's mix of students making for a more reliable and robust comparison between institutions.</p> <p>Taught figures show satisfaction for students against the institution at which they spent the majority of their first year, as opposed to the 'Registered' figures which show students against the institution that they are registered with and may differ from the institution providing the teaching.</p> <p>There is no separate data for the Open University Scotland, as all UK OU students were included in a single return.</p>	

Measure G1: The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled undergraduates entering positive destinations		
Numerator	The number of Scotland-domiciled full-time first degree respondents who are working in a professional occupation	
Denominator	The total number of Scotland-domiciled respondents to the DLHE survey that are economically active (including those who are due to start work and unemployed)	
Data	The SFC dataset used to produce this table is derived Graduate Outcomes survey data provided by HESA.	
Term	Definition/Description	Notes
Target Population	All Scotland-domiciled undergraduate students, counted within the Graduate Outcomes Target population	HESA Graduate Outcomes Target Population: XACTIVITY in (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12). XACTIVITY is a HESA derived field which provides the Graduate Outcomes activity of the respondent.
Scotland-domiciled	Scotland-domiciled as recorded on HESA.	Scotland-domiciled - XDOMHM01 = 2 XDOMHM01 is a HESA derived field.
Undergraduate	Any student obtaining an undergraduate qualification	Undergraduate is defined as a student achieving a first degree or an HNC/HND/Diploma/Certificate of Higher Education, using the following codes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate - First degree (XQLEV501=3) AND Selected Sub-degree: HNC/D or Certificate or Diploma of HE (XQOBTN01 in 'C20','C30','J20','J26','J30'). • This definition covers qualifications obtained with XQOBTN01 in: C20, C30 H00, H11, H16, H18, H22, H23, H50, I00, I11, I16 J20, J26, J30M22, M26, M28. XQLEV501 is a HESA derived field.
Denominator	From target population those with Graduate Outcomes activity coded as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full-time employment 2. Part-time employment 3. Unknown pattern of employment 4. Voluntary or unpaid work 5. Employment and further study 6. Full-time further study 7. Part-time further study 8. Unknown pattern of further study. 	Graduate Outcomes Activity – XACTIVITY. XACTIVITY is a HESA derived field.

	<p>10. Unemployed and due to start work. 11. Unemployed and due to start further study. 12. Unemployment.</p> <p>Students coded below are excluded: 9. Other, including travel, caring for someone or retired. 99. Not in publication population If XACTIVITY is blank then – missing/no response.</p>	
<p>Numerator</p>	<p>From target population those with Graduate Outcomes activity coded as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full-time employment 2. Part-time employment 3. Unknown pattern of employment 4. Voluntary or unpaid work 5. Employment and further study 6. Full-time further study 7. Part-time further study 8. Unknown pattern of further study. 10. Unemployed and due to start work. 11. Unemployed and due to start further study. 	<p>Graduate Outcomes Activity – XACTIVITY. XACTIVITY is a HESA derived field.</p>

Measure G2: The number and proportion of Scotland-domiciled undergraduates entering positive destinations		
Numerator	The number of Scotland-domiciled full-time first degree respondents who are working in a professional occupation	
Denominator	The total number of Scotland-domiciled respondents to the Graduate Outcomes survey that are economically active (including those who are due to start work and unemployed)	
Data	The SFC dataset used to produce this table is derived from the Graduate Outcomes survey data provided by HESA.	
Term	Definition/Description	Notes
Target Population	All Scotland-domiciled undergraduate qualifiers in the Graduate Outcomes target population	HESA Graduate Outcomes Target Population: XACTIVITY in (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12). XACTIVITY is a HESA derived field which provides the Graduate Outcomes activity of the respondent.
Scotland-domiciled	Scotland-domiciled as recorded on HESA.	Scotland-domiciled - XDOMHM01 = 2 XDOMHM01 is a HESA derived field.
Full-time first degree	Any student undertaking a full-time first degree course.	Full-time: XMODE01 in (1,2) First degree: XLEV501 = 3 XMODE01 and XLEV501 are HESA derived fields.
Denominator	From target population those with Graduate Outcomes activity coded as: 1. Full-time employment 2. Part-time employment 3. Unknown pattern of employment 4. Voluntary or unpaid work 5. Employment and further study 10. Unemployed and due to start work Students coded below are excluded: 6. Full-time further study 7. Part-time further study 8. Unknown pattern of further study 9. Other, including travel, caring for someone or retired 11. Unemployed and due to start further study. 12. Unemployed 99. Not in publication population If XACTIVITY is blank then – missing/no response	Graduate Outcomes Activity – XACTIVITY. XACTIVITY is a HESA derived field.

Numerator	<p>From Target population those with Standard Occupational Classification coded as:</p> <p>1 - Managers, directors and senior officials 2 - Professional occupations 3 - Associate professional and technical occupations</p>	<p>Standard Occupational Classification – XEMP2010SOC1. This is a HESA derived field.</p>
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Measure H: The number of Scotland-domiciled undergraduate qualifiers		
Denominator	The number of Scotland-domiciled undergraduate qualifiers.	
Data	HESA Standard Qualifier Population	
Term	Definition/Description	Notes
Denominator (for each protected characteristic)	All Scotland-domiciled students in the HESA Standard Population achieving a qualification at undergraduate level.	HESA Standard Qualifier Population: XPQUAL01 = 1
Scotland-domiciled	Scotland-domiciled as recorded on HESA.	Scotland-domiciled - XDOMHM01 = 2 XDOMHM01 is a HESA derived field.
Undergraduate	Any student achieving an undergraduate qualification.	Undergraduate is defined as a student achieving a first degree or an HNC/HND/Diploma/Certificate of Higher Education, using the following codes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate - First degree (XQLEV501=3) AND Selected Sub-degree: HNC/D or Certificate or Diploma of HE (XQOBTN01 in 'C20','C30','J20','J26','J30'). • This definition covers qualifications obtained with XQOBTN01 in: C20, C30 H00, H11, H16, H18, H22, H23, H50, I00, I11, I16 J20, J26, J30 M22, M26, M28. • XQLEV501 is a HESA derived field.

Annex: SFC University Sector National Measures Template

1. We ask that institutions share their ambitions towards the above priorities over the 2020-21 academic session and provide milestones and aspirations for each of the national measures. A data template, populated with available data up to academic year 2018-19, will be sent to institutions on release of this guidance.
2. This table will be re-issued to institutions in January, updated to include available data for AY 2019-20. This will allow institutions to revise aspirations, if needs be. At this point, SFC will also issue a 'summary' version showing the sector's progress against the national measures.
3. SFC require institutions to submit both versions of their data with the final OA: the former for analysis of individual projections and for aggregation at sector level; and the latter which will be published as part of their final Outcome Agreements.