

FEE ANOMALIES GRANT FOR UNIVERSITIES 2022-23



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ISSUE DATE:	5 August 2022
REFERENCE:	SFC/AN/18/2022
SUMMARY:	This announcement describes how SFC's fee anomalies grant will operate in AY 2022-23.
FAO:	Principals / Finance Directors of Scotland's universities, and the general public.
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FEE ANOMALIES GRANT FOR UNIVERSITIES IN AY 2022-23

BACKGROUND

1. SFC recognises that anomalies in tuition fee income may arise, where tuition fees received by universities do not match the assumptions in our Main Teaching Grant. Although our teaching funding method assumes a certain tuition fee income per full-time equivalent (FTE) undergraduate funded place, there are some full-time undergraduate courses where this fee assumption will not match up to what is actually received by the university. We will therefore consider claims from universities for fee anomaly compensation in the following cases:
 - Full-time undergraduate courses, where universities' receipt of tuition fees is less than the fee rate assumed by SFC in our teaching funding model.
 - Accelerated courses that do not attract appropriate tuition fee support.
 - Under the SFC associate student scheme, where universities' receipt of tuition fees for students enrolled in a college is less than the £1,820 fee rate assumed by the SFC articulation scheme model.
 - Outgoing rest of UK (rUK) students undertaking their ERASMUS+ programme or Turing Scheme year abroad.
 - Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery students eligible for funding who have begun a course in the expectation that it would be fully funded but are subsequently unable to access tuition fee support through Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS).
 - Continuing European Union (EU) students on Honours Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery courses where universities previously claimed the tuition fee from the Scottish Government.
 - Students who are undertaking Dentistry as a second undergraduate degree and are unable to access funding through SAAS.
2. All claims related to AY 2022-23 should be submitted to SFC by **2 June 2023**.
3. The fee anomalies budget for AY 2022-23 has been set at £1.8 million. This amount is unchanged from AY 2021-22 and is similar to previous years' funding. We believe this budget will be sufficient to meet AY 2022-23 demands.

ACCELERATED COURSES

4. Accelerated courses are designed to allow students to complete their studies quicker than a traditional degree. This can result in a mismatch between the tuition fee assumption and actual funding received by universities (e.g. a 4 year degree delivered in 3 years only receives 3 years' worth of funding). SFC will provide fee compensation for this difference in funding.

ADDITIONAL ARTICULATION PLACES ('ASSOCIATE STUDENT') SCHEME FOR PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

5. SFC is funding 4,449 FTEs for associate students in AY 2022-23. The scheme has been designed so that students enrol on a degree programme, but will spend one or two years at college in the first instance. As degree students, the assumed tuition fee is £1,820. If a lower tuition fee than anticipated has been received as a result of the student being classified as being on an HNC/D programme rather than a degree, then we will compensate the universities for the shortfall in fees at a maximum of £535 per FTE.

ERASMUS+ PROGRAMMES AND TURING SCHEME FEE COMPENSATION/FUNDING

6. As a result of the UK leaving the EU and the understanding that the UK could no longer fully participate in future ERASMUS+ programmes, the new Turing Scheme was introduced for AY 2021-22 as the UK Government's programme to provide funding for international opportunities in education and training across the world. The [Turing Scheme](#) website provides more information on this programme.
7. Further funding for the Turing Scheme has been committed in AY 2022-23. SFC will therefore continue to include this within the scope of the current fee compensation/funding arrangement for outgoing rUK students who take part in the scheme during this coming AY.
8. Pre-committed funding will support exchanges under the ERASMUS+ programmes until May 2023, after which the UK will no longer be able to participate. Therefore, Scottish universities can continue to claim compensation for outgoing rUK students who take part in the ERASMUS+ programmes during AY 2022-23. This means that both ERASMUS+ programmes and the Turing Scheme will continue to operate in the UK in AY 2022-23.
9. Under the ERASMUS+ programmes and Turing Scheme fee compensation/ funding system, Scottish universities can receive a maximum rate of £1,820 per FTE from SFC for outgoing rUK students. Additionally, Scottish universities can charge these outgoing rUK students 15% of the cost of the maximum full-time tuition fee rate

(currently £9,250 per year). This funding compensation is in recognition for the loss of fees experienced by Scottish universities for outgoing rUK students who participate in the ERASMUS+ programmes and Turing Scheme.

10. Compensation will only be provided for students spending a full year abroad under the ERASMUS+ programmes or Turing Scheme. SFC does not provide fee compensation for students taking part in other exchange programmes.
11. Future programme and funding arrangements will depend on negotiations and agreements reached within the Scottish and UK Governments. SFC will provide additional information on future arrangements once it becomes available.

PRE-REGISTRATION NURSING AND MIDWIFERY FEE ANOMALY CONSIDERATION

12. In response to the change in fee policy for Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery students from AY 2021-22, universities may continue to claim a fee anomaly where continuing students eligible for funding are unable to receive tuition fee support from SAAS. From AY 2021-22 Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery students apply to SAAS for tuition fee support (a tuition fee element was previously included in SFC's teaching grant for Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery). However, some continuing students may not be eligible for SAAS fee support due to their individual circumstances, e.g. previous study.
13. Students who commenced their Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery studies with no expectation of having to pay tuition fees should not be disadvantaged by this change in policy. Universities should continue to claim fee anomalies funding for continuing students eligible for funding who are unable to access fee support through SAAS, and these students should not be charged for this anomaly in funding.
14. This fee anomaly consideration is being extended to continuing EU students who commenced study on Honours Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery courses prior to AY 2021-22. The fee anomaly for these students should be noted on a separate line of the claim form to other claims for Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery students.

DENTISTRY – SECOND UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FEE COMPENSATION

15. Where students are undertaking Dentistry as a second undergraduate degree and are unable to access funding through SAAS, universities currently invoice Scottish Government to cover fee funding.
16. From AY 2022-23, instead of invoicing Scottish Government to cover these costs, universities should now submit a claim through the fee anomalies process.

CLAIM FORMS (SFC FUNDED PORTION)

17. Please use the claim form in [Annex A](#) to make your accelerated courses, additional articulation places, ERASMUS+ Programmes/Turing Scheme, Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery, Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery- continuing EU students only and Dentistry- second undergraduate degree claims for consideration (selected through a drop-down menu in column J).

CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

18. The following conditions of grant apply:
 - All claims for fee anomalies grant must be signed by the university's Registrar/Director of Planning, or equivalent, to confirm they are content with the validity of claims. The submission of a claim will be taken as an acceptance of these conditions of grant.
 - Payment to universities will be made based on claims having been signed, as detailed above. SFC will retrospectively verify the validity of these claims against HESA data. Following discussions with the university, any unverified claims may result in payments being adjusted retrospectively.
 - SFC reserves the right to scrutinise the documentation relied upon to complete claims in order to verify their integrity.
 - Universities are required to use all grant paid for the purpose(s) for which it is provided.
 - SFC provides funding to Scottish universities based on the numbers of outgoing rUK students on their ERASMUS+ programme and Turing Scheme year abroad at the maximum rate of £1,820 per FTE.
 - Scottish universities can only charge outgoing rUK students spending a full year abroad under the ERASMUS+ programmes and Turing Scheme 15% of the cost of the maximum full-time tuition fee rate (currently £9,250 per year).

COMPLETION AND TIMESCALE OF CLAIMS

19. Completed claims for AY 2022-23 should be sent, **by 2 June 2023**, to Duncan Condie, Senior Funding Policy Officer, email: dcondie@sfc.ac.uk.

FURTHER INFORMATION

20. For further information please contact Duncan Condie, Senior Funding Policy Officer, tel: 0131 313 6671, email: dcondie@sfc.ac.uk.



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