



## Students Eligible for Funding 2021-22



Scottish Funding Council  
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

**SFC Statistics**  
Issue Date: 22 June 2022  
Reference: SFC/ST/04/2022

## Students Eligible for Funding 2021-22: Executive Summary

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Summary: To inform stakeholders of the enrolments of students eligible for funding at Scottish Higher Education institutions in 2021-22

FAO: Principals and directors of Scottish universities, and the general public

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## Executive Summary

- The total full-time equivalent (FTE) number of students eligible for funding (definition provided in paragraph 2) in 2021-22 was 153,235. Of this number, 134,885 FTE (88.0%) were undergraduates; 11,155 FTE (7.3%) were taught postgraduates; and 7,200 FTE (4.7%) were research postgraduates. Part-time students accounted for 19,425 FTE (12.7%).
- SFC provides an allocation of funded places annually to each institution for taught postgraduate and undergraduate students eligible for funding. The enrolments in 2021-22 exceeded funded places by 5.1%. Where an institution exceeds the number of funded places allocated, it receives only the tuition fee income and does not receive any teaching grant.
- The total FTE number of undergraduate students eligible for funding has increased by 8,655 FTE (+6.9%) between 2017-18 and 2021-22.
- However, between 2020-21 and 2021-22 the total FTE number of students eligible for funding has decreased by -4,450 FTE (-2.8%), which will be partly due to new EU students no longer being eligible for funding following the UK's departure from the EU but has increased by 6,415 FTE (+4.4%) from 2017-18. During this period the number of funded places increased by 11,515 FTE (+9.0%).
- The number of students eligible for funding in the controlled subjects (definition provided in paragraph 18) has increased by 4,915 FTE (+27.2%) between 2017-18 and 2021-22. This includes increases for Nursing and Midwifery Pre-registration of 2,890 FTE (+31.7%), Medicine of 855 FTE (+30.6%) and Initial Teacher Education of 595 FTE (+10.5%).
- Of the undergraduate students eligible for funding in the non-controlled subject areas (definition provided in paragraph 18) in 2021-22 46,405 FTE (40.4%) were studying Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) subjects.