

Tuition fee policy

Introduction

Cardiff University is committed to a fair and transparent policy in respect of the fees and charges it expects students to pay. The University has an obligation to safeguard public funds and ensure that it delivers value for money to its customers. The tuition fee policy forms part of the University's Terms and Conditions and should be read in conjunction with them, together they provide a framework for the setting, payment, collection, and reconciliation of tuition fees.

Tuition fee rates apply for a full academic session. Fee levels are determined based on fee status and mode of attendance following receipt of a formal application for admission to the University. Fees are subject to annual revision and are due in full at the start of each academic year.

The payment of fees is the responsibility of the student and, in the event of a student's sponsoring authority (if any) failing to make payment, the student will be held personally liable for payment.

Course fees include all compulsory elements needed for students to meet the minimum learning outcomes of the course. In some courses, optional additional costs may be incurred (e.g., field trips, materials, professional body membership).

Fee status classification

Cardiff University uses UKCISA (UK Council for International Student Affairs) guidelines to determine fee status.

For details of categories and classification please see the [UKCISA website](#).

Fee status assessment for applicants

The final decision as to a student's status for fees will be determined by Cardiff University based on individual information in accordance with The Education (Fees and Awards) (Wales) Regulations 2007 and The Higher Education (Qualifying Courses, Qualifying Persons and Supplementary Provision) (Wales) Regulations 2015, and any subsequent amendments.

Fee status is confirmed following receipt of a formal application for admission to the University which is successful (i.e., where an offer of a place to study is to be made) by the University's Admissions Team. Each applicant's fee status is considered on an individual basis by a member of the Admissions Team with relevant expertise.

Fee status is normally determined from information supplied in the application for admission. However, the University reserves the right to request the provision of additional information and original documentation where necessary. Failure to submit supporting documentation or information, when requested, will result in either the allocation of the higher rate of fee classification or a rejection decision. A minimum of 14 days will be allowed for documentation/information to be submitted. All relevant information/documentation known/available at the time of application must be disclosed. Confirmation of fee status is detailed in the formal offer of admission.

Applicants should allow a minimum of 10 working days for a decision on their assessment. Final assessment is normally made prior to enrolment, subject to the submission of appropriate documentation.

If an applicant achieves settled status or the relevant period of ordinary residence after the first day of the academic year (as outlined in the Education (Fees and Awards) (Wales) Regulations 2007) but before the start of the programme, the University will deem the first day of the programme to be the relevant date in the determination offer status.

Fee status assessments for students

Once an applicant starts the enrolment process to become a student, an adjustment to fee status will only be applied should it become evident that an error had been made in the initial classification, or if adjustment is required under the regulations.

Fee status appeals

All applicants have the right to appeal a fee status if they disagree with their fee status classification and have reasonable grounds for doing so. Reasonable grounds are:

1. Additional information or evidence demonstrating the fee classification is incorrect is available that was not available at the time of the initial assessment; **or**
2. The applicant feels their assessment has not been treated in a fair or consistent manner, or in line with official regulations.

All appeals should be made in writing to the Head of Admissions within 28 days of receipt of a formal offer to admissions-advice@cardiff.ac.uk. Your full name and University Application number or UCAS Personal ID must be provided along with any documentation or evidence relevant to the appeal. You should also state under which category you are appealing (1. New information or 2. Incorrect assessment). If appealing under category 2 you should also state which UKCISA fee category you feel you meet and why.

The University will provide an initial response within 28 working days of a fee status assessment being received.

Appeal panel

When a decision cannot be reached by Admissions or where a second appeal is submitted with reasonable grounds (as outlined above) a panel will review the case.

The appeal panel will consist of a minimum of three members of Cardiff University staff including a representative from Admissions, Finance and the Academic School or College. A minimum of two members of the panel will not have been involved in the original fee assessment.

Panel members will assess the fee status independently and will then meet to discuss their findings. All appeals will be held in a timely manner and a timeline for a decision will be communicated to the applicant or authorised party acting on the applicant's behalf when full evidence/information has been received from the applicant.

All decisions by the panel are final and there is no further right to appeal. The final decision will be communicated to the applicant in writing by the Head of Admissions (or member of staff acting on their behalf).

Annual revision of fees

Home undergraduate

Fees stated on the University website are for 2023/2024 entry. The University reserves the right to increase tuition fees in the second and subsequent years of a course as permitted by law or Welsh Government policy.

Home postgraduate taught

Fees stated on the University website are for 2023/2024 entry and are fixed for the duration of your Programme. Fees for entry in subsequent years are subject to increase and will be confirmed by the end of September in the year that proceeds the start date of your Programme.

Home postgraduate research

Fees stated on the University website are for 2023/2024 entry. Fees for future years are subject to increase in line with United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI) recommendations.

Overseas/EU undergraduate

Fees stated on the University website are for 2023/2024 and are fixed for the duration of your Programme, excluding Medicine and Dentistry programmes. For Medicine and Dentistry, the fee is fixed for pre-clinical years, after which the clinical fee rate will be applied. **If you are an EU/EEA/Swiss national please be aware that, unless you qualify for Home fee status, tuition fee increases from September 2021 entry will be in line with the fees charged for students outside of the EU. From September 2022 all Channel Island status students will be charged in line with the Home fee.**

Overseas/EU postgraduate taught

Fees stated on the University website are for 2023/2024 entry and are fixed for the duration of your Programme. **If you are an EU/EEA/Swiss national please be aware that, unless you qualify for Home fee status, tuition fee increases from September 2021 entry will be in line with the fees charged for students outside of the EU.**

Overseas/EU postgraduate research

Fees stated on the University website are for 2023/2024 entry and are fixed for the duration of your Programme. **If you are an EU/EEA/Swiss national please be aware that, unless you qualify for Home fee status, tuition fee increases from September 2021 entry will be in line with the fees charged for students outside of the EU.**

Payment of tuition fees

How to pay tuition fees

The preferred method of tuition fee payment is through the student's University SIMS online account. Alternatively, payment can be made by direct debit or, in certain circumstances, direct bank transfer into the correct University tuition fee account, details can be found on the [withdrawal and tuition fees page](#).

Please note that cash payments are never accepted by the University. Any cash payments will be returned to the payee and will not be allocated to the student record.

Any tuition fees of £500 or less must be paid in one instalment and are therefore not eligible to be paid by direct debit.

All tuition fees must be paid within the academic year that they relate to.

Students are permitted to pay their fees as follows:

Home undergraduate (including Student Finance funding)

- Payment in full before or on enrolment.
- Payment by direct debit from a UK bank account, in three instalments, on the appropriate due dates notified in SIMS as follows.
 - 1st 25%
 - 2nd 25%
 - 3rd 50%
- By payment of 25% of the total fee at the start of the academic session followed by one subsequent payment of 25% and a final payment of 50% on the due dates notified in SIMS.

Please note: Students whose application for Student Finance funding is rejected for any reason will be changed to self-payer status and become directly responsible for the payment of their tuition fees. In the event a Student Finance application is subsequently approved a refund will be made where applicable.

All overseas / EU undergraduate

- Payment in full before or on enrolment.
- Payment by direct debit from a UK bank account, in three instalments on the appropriate due dates notified in SIMS as follows.

- 1st 33%
- 2nd 33%
- 3rd 34%
- By payment of one-third of the fee before or on enrolment, followed by payment of one-third of the fee on appropriate due dates as notified in SIMS.

All postgraduate students

- Payment in full before or on enrolment.
- Payment by direct debit from a UK bank account, in three instalments on the appropriate due dates notified in SIMS as follows.
 - 1st 33%
 - 2nd 33%
 - 3rd 34%
- By payment of one-third of the fee before or on enrolment, followed by payment of one-third of the fee on appropriate due dates as notified in SIMS.

Sponsored students (not Student Finance funded)

Students must provide proof of sponsorship to the Income Section (Finance Department). It is the responsibility of the student to inform their sponsor that **tuition fees are to be paid 30 days from the date of invoice. All invoices can be viewed on the student University SIMS online account.** In the event of sponsors not paying fees when due, the student becomes personally responsible for paying the full fee.

Where a student receives part-sponsorship for tuition fees, (unless the sponsor decrees otherwise), the sponsored part of the fee will be deducted from the total fee, and the student made liable for the balance. **Payment of the balance is to be made in line with the information noted above in 'How to pay tuition fees.'**

Late or non-payment of tuition fees and other monies

At enrolment, students will receive confirmation of tuition fee payment dates, in accordance with the method of payment they chose. Students will also be advised of the importance of notifying the Income Section (Finance Department) if they have any individual circumstances that may be causing difficulty in making tuition fee payment by the required deadline. Students who wish to make an adjustment to their existing tuition fee payment dates should complete the online form found on the [paying your tuition fees page](#).

The Income Section (Tuition Fee Team) will contact students via their University email address, after the deadline for payment of either a tuition fee or any other monies owed has passed.

Students will be advised:

- the due date for payment has passed
- when payment is required to avoid any further email contact or, in the case of tuition fee arrears, that they may be at risk of de-registration
- prior to de-registration students will receive an email giving 7 days advance notice, which is sent to both their University and home email addresses

Students must urgently contact the Income Section through the Student Connect portal if they are experiencing any difficulty in making tuition fee or rental accommodation payments, or Income@cardiff.ac.uk for any other debt. The Income Section can review any individual circumstances provided and adjust payments where relevant. If a student breaches any special arrangements for payment that have been approved by the Income Section, they may be at risk of de-registration.

In the event a student is de-registered due to non-payment of tuition fees this information will be passed to Registry who will inform the relevant parties i.e., academic schools, libraries, and other administrative departments.

Interruption of Study (IoS)

All students who are granted permission to take an interruption of study by their school, will be charged tuition fees confirming their financial liability in the event they do not return to continue their studies as follows:

- **Undergraduate and Postgraduate self-paying students**
From the date the IoS starts charged pro-rata fees based on the number of weeks registered to study, as recorded by Registry on the student SIMS record.
- **Undergraduate Student Finance Funded students**
From the date the IoS starts charged fees based on the date of the interruption of study as recorded by Registry on the student SIMS record, and the Student Finance liability pay points for that academic year. Details of liability pay point dates can be found on the [Withdrawal and tuition fees page](#).

Returning from Interruption of Study (IoS)

All undergraduate and postgraduate students returning to study after an IoS must pay the balance of tuition fees owed for the academic course they were studying when their IoS began. For example, if the full course fee was £9000 and payment had been made of £4500 prior to the IoS starting, then a balance of £4500 must be paid on returning to study.

Please note, this only applies to students who return to study within two years of starting their IoS. For those students who wish to return to study later than two years from starting their IoS, payment of the full tuition fees due for the new academic year must be made.

Graduation

If an undergraduate student still owes tuition fees or other monies at the point of graduation, they will be allowed to attend the ceremony but will not receive their full certification until all due payments are received. Postgraduate students will not be invited to their graduation ceremony until their award is confirmed by the Awards and Progress Committee, and this requires all fees to have been paid.

Refund of tuition fees

Please note, refunds will only be made to the original payee and bank account.

Withdrawal

Each student is granted a two-week grace period at the start of a course when no tuition fees are charged. After this period if a student withdraws, they will be charged fees on the following basis:

Home undergraduate - Student Finance funded

All undergraduate Home students who are funded by Student Finance will be charged the following minimum amounts:

- Term 1: No fees are payable if withdrawn on or prior to the 15th October 2023. If withdrawn between the 16th October 2023 to 21st January 2024, 25% of the full fee is payable.
- Term 2: If withdrawn on or prior to the 21st January 2024, 25% of the full fee is payable. If withdrawn between the 22nd January 2024 to 14th April 2024, 50% of the full fee is payable.
- Term 3: If withdrawn on or prior to the 14th April 2024, 50% of the full fee is payable. If withdrawn between the 15th April 2024 to 14th June 2024 then 100% of the full fee is payable.

Please note: the above cut off dates apply to when the student record is updated on SIMS not when a request for withdrawal is made.

For more detail see the [Finance web page](#).

Home/overseas/EU - not funded by Student Finance

All other students not funded by Student Finance will be charged (less any non-refundable deposit), on a pro-rata basis on the number of weeks in attendance from the start of the course **32** weeks academic year, or **52** weeks for postgraduate students. An appropriate refund will be made if necessary.

Academic failure

In the event you are unsuccessful in completing all elements of your academic studies and exit with a lesser award, you will not be eligible for a refund of tuition fees for the element of your course that you did not complete.

Bursaries, scholarships, and other awards under

Where a student is eligible for an award towards their tuition fees it is their responsibility to ensure that the Income Team (Finance Department) are made aware of this award in the event it is not automatically applied to their student record. Notification of an award being applied is visible as part of the student online enrolment task. Where the award is not showing as applied the student should, in the first instance, contact the awarding body.

Document Name	Tuition Fee Policy
Author/Lead Contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Alan James, Head of Income, Finance.Ruth Williams-Sharp Admissions Support Manager, Admissions
Equality Impact Outcome and Form Submission Date	
Approval date	
Approved by	Delegated by UEB to CFO
Date of commencement	15 Feb 2022
Date of last review	18 Jan 2024
Date for next review	1 July 2024
Related University policy documents	N/A
For office use - keywords for search function	

Academic session	Period of registration	Duration of enforcement	Document owner
2023/2024	1 Aug 2021 – 31 July 2022	2023/2024 Academic Session	Finance Department