

Regulations for Research Awards 2025-26

Schedule of Changes

The University regularly reviews the Regulations for Research Awards to ensure they remain up to date.

In 2025, the University reviewed how its regulations were presented and updated the document to ensure terminology was up-to-date (as required) and agreed several revisions to the document; the table below sets out the nature of the main changes, and the reasons for making them. The University made the changes for one or more of the following reasons:

- (a) Changes had occurred to some of the University terminology, role titles, and responsibilities.
- (b) A relevant external or governmental body had introduced changes that needed to be reflected.
- (c) The University had made a change in how its regulations work.
- (d) Some paragraphs no longer applied, or the statement / process was specified in another (appropriate) University document.
- (e) The University wished to include a further explanation to help students understand a particular regulation or requirement more clearly. The table below explains the nature of the main changes to each section and why these were made.

Changes made throughout the document		
Section	Nature of change	Reason for change
All	Document sections reordered and revised. Moved to University template.	To reflect the removal of a separate document for General Regulations and to improve document flow.
0 – who needs to know	List of who needs to know.	To reflect University template requirements.
1 – scope 2 – key responsibilities	Scope and responsibilities disaggregated, re-worded and expanded.	Improve document flow; provide greater clarity about key responsibilities.
3 – alignment with external requirements 4 – principles for changes	New sections added.	Clarifying the alignment with external requirements; clarifying principles for changing the regulations.
5 – award of a research degree	Moved earlier in the document	To provide relevant information together and improve document flow.
6 – awards at Level 8	List of awards at each level imported from General Regulations.	To provide relevant information in one place and use clearer language.
8 – entry requirements 9 – alternative awards	Section imported from General Regulations and wording updated to align with Regulations for Taught Awards.	To provide relevant information in one place and use clearer language.

10 – period and level of study	Maximum and minimum registration period table reviewed and reformatted.	For clarity. To ensure that the registration periods reflect sector expectations and a consistent approach.
11 – interruption to study	Section imported from General Regulations and wording updated to align with Regulations for Taught Awards.	To provide relevant information in one place and use clearer language.
12 – assessment and examination arrangements	Section retitled from ‘assessment overview’. Relevant content imported from General Regulations, including examiners, examinations and language of assessment and wording updated to align with Regulations for Taught Awards, with relevant cross-referencing added. General section on submission moved to this section.	To provide relevant information in one place and use clearer language.
13 – Research degrees board	Slight rewording of paragraph 13.1 and removal of section heading ‘award of a qualification’.	To use clearer language.
14 – Appointment of examiners	To replace ‘Education and Student Experience committee’ with ‘Research Degrees Sub-committee’ to reflect governance arrangements.	To reflect agreed changes to the University’s governance structure.
15 – Programme of researcher training	Minor updates to language and removal of exclusion of students registered for the PhD by Publication.	To reflect changes and use clearer language.
17 – Supervision 18 – Transfer 19 – Academic Integrity	To move these sections earlier in the document and provide clearer section headings for each.	To improve document flow and clarity.
20 – Submission 21 – Viva Voce	To provide clearer section headings for each.	To improve document flow and clarity.
22 – 26 – Award outcomes (for each award type)	To provide clearer section headings for each. To change language from ‘be awarded’ to ‘is awarded’ throughout.	To use clearer language.
23 – PhD by Publication	Minor amendments to the wording of this section to clarify the difference between the agreement to submit decision and the submission for assessment.	To use clearer language and prevent confusion.

27 – Aegrotat and posthumous awards	Section imported from General Regulations and wording updated to align with Regulations for Taught Awards, where relevant. Definitions added for aegrotat and posthumous	To improve clarity of wording and terminology.
28 – Use of discretion notwithstanding the regulations	Section imported from General Regulations and wording updated to align with Regulations for Taught Awards, where relevant.	To improve clarity of wording and consistency.
29 – Academic Appeals	Section imported from General Regulations and wording updated to align with Regulations for Taught Awards	To improve clarity of wording and consistency.
30 – Doctorate in Clinical Psychology	Change to terminology from ‘default’ exit award to ‘alternative’ exit award.	To align with an agreed University terminology change.
Document information	Updated to reflect version control and document ownership information.	To reflect staffing and role title changes; to ensure accurate dates.