



Financial Services

**2019/20 Regulations for the Payment of University Fees
and other related financial information**

Postgraduate Research Students

These Regulations have been equality impact assessed. The persons responsible for equality impact assessment for these regulations are the Student Billings Manager and the Credit Control Manager.

Links to external websites or advice organisations have been provided for further assistance, however the University is not responsible for any advice that they may provide.

Key Facts

- Students who **engage with the course for more than 2 weeks** following the course start date **will incur tuition fees (hereafter called fees see Section 4)**
- The University will **recalculate** fees, for example in the event of withdrawal, suspension, course transfer, or change in study mode, depending on student engagement with the course (see **Section 4**)
 - Please note non-submission and bench fees are not reduced in the event of a withdrawal or suspension
- Students **must** make sure they have the **means** to fund their education and living costs or have funding arranged before enrolling on the course. **Sanctions will apply** should students fail to pay fees in accordance with these Regulations (see **Section 7**)
- It is the responsibility of the student to keep in regular contact with all relevant areas of the University regarding any issues which may result in a period of non-engagement (such as medical or other personal reasons)
- All withdrawals and suspensions have to be approved in a timely manner within the academic year. Backdated requests will not be accepted. **Medical evidence will be required for all health related suspensions**
- Suspensions – Fees will be pro-rated and re-instated when a student returns to their studies
- All Tier 4 Overseas self-paying students with fees of £5,000 and over must pay an **initial payment of £3,000** before an instalment plan can be set up (see **Section 3**)
- Course fees are charged annually (based on the information held at the time of assessing the fee) and will be displayed during online enrolment (see **Section 2**)
- All course fees for the academic year are payable **before the start of the course** unless:
 - Third party funding has been arranged (including funding from the University)
 - An **instalment plan** has been agreed before the start of the course (see **Section 3**)
- If students have arranged **funding to pay fees**, evidence of this must be supplied. The University will make every effort to collect fees from a third party, however should no payment be made, **students will be liable to pay** (see **Section 3**)
- University accommodation fees are payable either **in full** or by agreed **instalments** in line with the accommodation contract (see **Section 6**)

- If any changes or errors in fees charged are identified, the University will notify students promptly as soon as possible (see [Section 2.c](#))
- Non-Submission fees will be charged in line with approved extensions (see [Section 2.f](#))
- Any student paying resubmission fees should contact the Finance Service Centre to discuss an instalment plan
- Extensions must be requested via Skills Forge and be approved at the Faculty Research Degrees Committee
- Students in receipt of a Post Graduate/Doctoral Loan will not receive loan payments for any additional years of studies if they do not submit in the normal timeframe. Please note students who reach the income threshold permitted may be required to start loan repayments whilst they are still studying.
- If your fees are either part funded or fully funded by a Northern Ireland or Scotland loan the University will attempt to collect as much of the fee as possible via the loan. Should there be a shortfall in the recalculated fees in the event of a student suspension or withdrawal it will be the student's responsibility to make up the difference in fees themselves and will receive an invoice for these fees from the University unless further funding information has been provided
- There may be additional costs associated with your programme of study that do not form part of your tuition fees. You will be provided with an indication of the likely costs during the application process
- Any equipment purchased by the University and provided to you to assist with your research studies is the property of the University and must be returned to the University when you have completed or ended your programme of Research

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1. General Information

a. Who these regulations are for

These regulations apply to all new and continuing **Postgraduate Research** students.

Regulations for **Postgraduate Taught, Undergraduate Degree, Foundation Year, Integrated Masters** and **PGCE** students can be found at following website www2.finance.mmu.ac.uk/students.

b. What these regulations are about

Manchester Metropolitan University (the University) is committed to a **fair and transparent policy** in respect of charges made to students.

These regulations set out the fundamental tuition fee charging principles of the University, including information about how tuition fees are charged, and how fees are recalculated should students' study or circumstances change. These regulations also describe how students can pay tuition fees and the consequences for non-payment.

c. University correspondence and holding financial information

The University generally sends all fee and finance related correspondence via **email**, to Manchester Met student email addresses and any external email held on the University student records system. The University may also contact students by text, by post or over the telephone.

A Manchester Met **finance account** will be created for all students. Finance accounts are held in the University's accounting system, and record all accounting entries relating to invoices, credit notes, payments, and adjustments. Students can request a full statement of account at any time by contacting the **Student Billings** team.

d. Refunds

These regulations will cover how fees are adjusted if a student transfers or leaves their course. If these changes result in an overpayment of fees these will be refunded to the original payer, generally by the most recent payment method.

All refund requests must be made **in writing by email** to refund@mmu.ac.uk. The University will **only** process a claim for a refund when **all other debts** owed by the recipient to the University **have been cleared**.

Due to administration costs, refunds will only be processed for amounts **over £15**.

For further information regarding Accommodation Application Fee refunds please refer to <http://www2.mmu.ac.uk/accommodation/contract-information/policies/>

For further information regarding refunds for initial course payments please refer to your offer pack.

Please note: Refund admin charges may apply to **overseas tuition fee deposits** (refer to www2.mmu.ac.uk/international/fees-and-funding/how-and-when-to-pay/).

Guidance Notes

(tuition, accommodation, met card & other associated fees)

Any **payment of a refund** approved by the University, **will be made** as follows, **in accordance with the original method of payment by the relevant payer:**

Credit/ Debit Card/Auto Card Payments including online payment – approved refunds will be made directly back to the card from which it was paid.

Bank Transfer – approved refunds will be sent to the bank from which the original payment was made. If this involves a payment to an international bank account, please be aware that this process can take significantly longer than a payment to a UK bank account due to the payment passing through an intermediary bank.

Flywire – approved refunds will be made back to the Flywire bank account, Flywire will refund directly to the originating payer's bank account and apply the same rate of exchange that the payer received when the payment was made. Flywire will apply a £9 charge for bank transfer refunds, card refunds are free.

Cheque – approved refunds will be made by BACS to a UK sterling bank account from which the original payment was made. Bank details should be supplied. If the cheque was drawn on an international bank please refer to the above guidance notes regarding bank transfer payments.

Cash – approved refunds will be made by BACS if it is to a UK sterling bank account or by bank transfer to overseas bank accounts. Bank details should be supplied.

Met card - approved refunds will be made by BACSs unless the payment was made via a debit/credit card. If the original payment was made from a debit/credit card approved refunds will be made directly back to the card from which it was paid.

Please note, all refund requests are subject to further investigation by the University and the recipient may be contacted to provide further documentation. We aim to process refund requests **within 14 days of receiving all relevant information**.

Further details about refunds can be found at www2.finance.mmu.ac.uk/students/.

e. Who to contact regarding these regulations

The **Student Billings team** is responsible for applying these regulations in respect of fees charged.

Please contact the Student Billings team in case of queries about the following:

- Fees charged.
- Course fee invoices and credit notes.
- Recalculation of fees.
- Direct Debit instalment plans.

Tuition Fees

0161 247 2937

studentbillings@mmu.ac.uk

Manchester Met Hall Fees

0161 247 2894

hallfeeeng@mmu.ac.uk

Student Billings Team
Manchester Metropolitan University
All Saints Building
Oxford Road
Manchester
M15 6BH

The **Finance Service Centre** is responsible for applying these regulations in respect of paying fees and the consequences of non-payment.

Please contact the Finance Service Centre in case of queries about the following:

- Paying fees.
- Payment methods.
- All (non-Direct Debit) instalment plans including Non Submission Plans.
- General financial queries and information.

Telephone: 0161 247 1852

Email : pay@mmu.ac.uk

Finance Service Centre
Manchester Metropolitan University
Righton Building, Room C.G.02
Cavendish Street
Manchester
M15 6BG

General information can also be found at the Manchester Met **Finance for Students** website: www2.finance.mmu.ac.uk/students/.

2. Tuition Fees

a. How fees are set

The Research Council UK is responsible for setting all Home/EU Postgraduate Research tuition and associated fees. These tuition fees are reviewed annually and may be subject to an annual increase as confirmed in further detail within the E-prospectus or your offer pack.

The University Fees Setting Committee is responsible for determining non-submission fees; these are reviewed on an annual basis.

The University Fees Setting Committee is responsible for setting Overseas and Channel Island tuition fees. These tuition fees will remain the same providing the student completes the course in the normal timeframe (see **Section 2.e**).

b. How fees are charged

The University charges tuition fees annually and fees will be payable each year for the duration of the course. Students will be required to pay the fees applicable to their programme of study and fee charging pattern. Fees are also determined based on fee status and mode of attendance.

Fees for new students are available on the Man Met Graduate School page and will be confirmed in offer letters <http://www2.mmu.ac.uk/graduate-school/fees-and-funding/>

Fees for continuing students are available from **Faculty Research Degree Administrators** <http://www2.mmu.ac.uk/graduate-school/frd-contact/> or by contacting the **Student Billings** team.

EU Research students commencing their course at Manchester Met in 2019/20 will be charged tuition fees in line with home students providing they complete their course in the normal timeframe i.e.no transfers, suspensions or repeat years. As an exception, home fees will also be charged during any approved non-submission or resubmission periods.

c. Fee changes

Course fees will be displayed during **online enrolment** and are based on the information held at the time of assessing the fee.

If additional fees unknown by Finance at the point of enrolment apply i.e. Bench fees, these will be applied at a later date. Any bench fees will have been discussed and agreed with Director of Studies prior to students accepting their offer.

For students **returning from an agreed period of an approved suspension** (see **Section 4.a**), the fee displayed during online enrolment will have been calculated based on the fees charged at the point of suspension.

The University makes every effort to ensure fee information provided is as accurate and up-to-date as possible. In the unlikely event that an error has been made, any changes have been approved, or any fee adjustments are required, the University will promptly contact all affected students via email.

d. Fee status – Home, EU, Channel Islands or Overseas

Tuition fee status is assessed by **Admissions** at the point of application, and is based on both residency and immigration status criteria.

More information and guidance about how the University assesses fee status is available at www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Fees-and-Money/England-fee-status or by emailing feeassessment@mmu.ac.uk.

e. Continuing Manchester Met student fees

Continuing **Home/EU status students** fees will increase annually in line with Research Council UK guidelines (see **Section 2.a**).

Continuing **Overseas/ Channel Island status students** will continue to pay the same annual fee for the duration of their course, providing there are no course transfers or changes to the original study mode (see **Section 4.b**), and students' progress through the course in the normal timeframe. **Should students need to suspend studies a higher fee in line with the fees list will then apply.**

f. Non-submission fees

If a student is unable to submit their thesis by their agreed submission date, but is very close to submission, they may be permitted an **additional 20 working days extension**. This must be discussed with the student's Director of Studies and agreed with the Head of Faculty Research Degrees, as it is **not** an automatic entitlement.

Please note that the **20 day grace period** only applies to the 20 working days immediately after the original submission due date. It does not apply at any other time (e.g. at the end of an agreed extension). Should you be granted the grace period but after the 20 working days you still require longer to submit your thesis, you will then need to apply for a formal extension at this point. The first period of the non-submission fees will be payable from your original thesis submission deadline date.

If an extension of a period **greater than the 20-day grace period** is required an RD4 form must be submitted. If approved, **non-submission** fees will be billed as follows:

Please note suspensions are not permitted during a student's non-submission period.

First Period: Up to a 12 month's extension to the original submission due date.

2019/20 Home/EU students (full time and part time) fees

£780 annual fee (£65 per month charged in line with approved extension period)

Overseas/Channel Island students (full time and part time)

£2,280 annual fee (£190 per month charged in line with approved extension period)

Please note: The above fees are not reduced if you submit your thesis earlier than expected or withdraw during the academic year.

Second Period: A further extension of up to 12-month extension.

2019/20 Home/EU students (full time and part time) fee

£3,000 (amended to £1,000 only if submission is within the first 6 months).

Overseas/Channel Island students (full time and part time) fee

£9,000 (amended to £3,000 only if submission is within the first 6 months).

Please note: The above fees are only reduced if you submit or withdraw within 6 months; fees are not reduced if you subsequently submit or withdraw after that point.

Third Period and continued non-submission: further extension following the second period extension.

If any student has not submitted their thesis by the end of the second non-submission period the full annual tuition fees will once again be due until the thesis is submitted. Once the thesis has been approved by the Graduate School, fees may be reduced depending on the date of submission. Fee will be adjusted on a weekly pro-rata, based on a 45-week calendar year.

Paying non-submission fees:

When a non-submission invoice is received, please contact the **Finance Service Centre** to arrange payment.

Students in receipt of a Post Graduate/Doctoral Loan will not receive loan payments during non-submission periods. Please note students who reach the income threshold permitted may be required to start loan repayments whilst they are still studying.

g. Resubmission fees

Research students who commenced studies at Manchester Met in academic year 2013/14 onwards may be charged **resubmission tuition** and **bench fees** (if applicable) during any resubmission period.

Students will be notified by the Graduate School if a resubmission fee applies to them. Full annual fees will be charged until the resubmission of the thesis to the Graduate School. Any queries should be directed to the Graduate School.

If resubmission takes place within this period, fees may be adjusted on a pro-rata weekly basis (based on a 45-week calendar year) once Student Billings have been notified by the Graduate School of the successful resubmission.

This change will not affect students who commenced studies prior to academic year 2013/14 and have currently been referred or have been given a resubmission.

Students in receipt of a Post Graduate/Doctoral Loan will not receive loan payments during resubmission periods. Please note students who reach the income threshold permitted may be required to start loan repayments whilst they are still studying.

Paying resubmission fees:

When a resubmission invoice is received, please contact the **Finance Service Centre** to arrange a resubmission payment plan.

h. Personal Learning Plan (PLP)

Students should contact their Faculty Research Degrees Administrator for confirmation of submission due dates and resulting tuition fees if there is a PLP in place.

3. Paying Fees

The University offers a range of methods to pay fees. Information about payment methods will be displayed during online enrolment, and the most up-to-date information (including available instalment options) will always be available at www2.finance.mmu.ac.uk/students/.

The University wants our students' experience at Manchester Met to be as beneficial as possible. It is therefore extremely important that students make sure all fees are paid on time - either in full, or in line with any agreed payment plan.

Students experiencing any problems in either setting up a payment option, or making a payment at any time whilst studying at Manchester Met, should contact the **Finance Service Centre**.

a. Self-paying students

All course fees for the academic year are payable in full before the start of the course unless students sign up to an agreed instalment plan.

i. Course deposits

If a course deposit payment is required, students will be notified during the application stage, these must be paid according to the timeline specified.

Tier 4 Overseas students, accepting an offer of a place on a course, must make a payment of **£3,000** before a Confirmation of Attendance for Studies (CAS) letter is processed, this will **not** be issued until the payment is made.

Payments will normally be allocated towards your course fees. **However, should students have any outstanding debts owing to the University, the University reserves the right to use the payment received against any unpaid amounts owing.**

ii. Paying in instalments

All Tier 4 Overseas students (with fees £5,000 and above) will be required to make an initial payment of £3,000 each year, before an instalment plan can be accepted.

Students commencing their course in September must pay their fees in three instalments in line with the dates below, unless they opt to pay in full. The fees can be paid by either **Direct Debit** or **Auto Card Payment** and these plans will be confirmed at online enrolment. Non September start students can opt to pay fees by instalments during their online enrolment by selecting the Manual Instalment plan option, further information will be displayed during enrolment.

Please note any payments received will be allocated towards your first instalment.

More information about paying by instalments can be found at www2.finance.mmu.ac.uk/students/.

For 2019/20, the standard University instalment dates for September-starting courses are as follows:

Tuition Fees

25th October 2019
17th January 2020
30th April 2020

Manchester Met Hall Fees

11th October 2019
13th January 2020
1st May 2020

For courses that do not start in September, students are advised to contact the **Finance Service Centre** to discuss available instalment options.

b. Employer/Sponsor funding

A sponsor is an employer or other third-party organisation who has taken responsibility to pay fees on behalf of a student.

Family members, friends, or other individuals cannot be classed as sponsors.

Students must provide evidence of sponsorship before the course commences. A letter or email from the sponsor accepting responsibility for the payment of fees should be sent via email to the **Student Billings** team.

A template of an acceptable sponsor letter can be downloaded from www2.finance.mmu.ac.uk/students/. A new sponsor letter will be required for every year of study, unless the initial sponsor documentation specifies it can be used for the duration of the course.

A Manchester Met student ID number must be quoted on all correspondence.

It is the student's responsibility to provide evidence of sponsorship to the University. If students do not provide this evidence, they will be considered self-paying students and will be expected to pay the fees themselves.

As soon as a sponsor letter is received, the University will undertake a **credit risk assessment** for new sponsors (if applicable). Depending on the outcome of the credit risk assessment check, the University may agree non-standard terms or, on rare occasions, reject the sponsor. If this should occur the University will contact the student/sponsor to discuss alternative payment options.

Although the University reserves the right to reject any sponsor or documentation that is deemed unsatisfactory (e.g. those with a bad credit rating), the University endeavours to act reasonably in determining whether evidence submitted is satisfactory.

Approved sponsors will receive a course fee invoice directly, which should be paid within 30 days of the invoice date.

The University will make every effort to collect fee payment from a sponsor. However, the student remains liable for payment of tuition fees even if a Sponsor has agreed to pay on your behalf. If the Sponsor does not pay within a reasonable period, the student will become liable and the University will raise an invoice to the student for immediate payment.

c. Postgraduate Loans

Students applying for a loan must apply directly to their funding authority.

For further details along with the full list of eligibility criteria and repayment information please refer to:

<https://www.gov.uk/doctoral-loan>

<https://www.gov.uk/funding-for-postgraduate-study>

The University will notify Student Finance of any withdrawals, suspensions or course transfers.

Students in receipt of a Post Graduate/Doctoral Loan will not receive loan payments if they do not submit in the normal timeframe. Please note students who reach the income threshold permitted may be required to start loan repayments whilst they are still studying.

4. Recalculating Tuition Fees

The University raises invoices for the full academic year after enrolment, based on the fee displayed during online enrolment.

The University may recalculate fees charged in the case of **withdrawal**, **suspension**, **course transfer**, or **change in study mode**.

Recalculations will be based on the date of last engagement with the course. Fees will be adjusted, dependant on engagement, on a weekly pro-rata, based on a 45-week calendar year with the exception of non-submission fee. Please refer to **Section 2f** for recalculations regarding non-submission fees.

In general, recalculations will be based on the course start and end date and the **date of last engagement**. For the purpose of these regulations, the following definitions apply:

Commencement of study is defined as the start date of the course but in certain circumstances (at the University's discretion) may be when a student **engages** with their course of study e.g. students returning from suspension.

Engagement with the course includes (but is not limited to) activities such as:

- Attending meetings with the Director of Studies or Supervisors that relate to academic study, and other forms of contact with academic and professional services staff that relate to academic study
- Attending examinations, tests and other assessment activities.
- Submitting a thesis.
- Accessing University facilities, including the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle), the University Library, and course materials.
- Participating in field trips and other compulsory activities.

In exceptional cases whereby back dated suspensions/withdrawals have been received Met card usage may also be checked for engagement.

Withdrawal is defined as exiting the course before the end of the academic year, with no intention to return to the course at a later date.

Suspension is defined as taking an **approved** break in study. The maximum period of suspension allowed over the entire length of the research programme is 24 months.

A **course transfer** is a change from one programme of study to another. Transfers may be **internal** (from one course at Manchester Met to a different course at Manchester Met) or **external** (where a student transfers from Manchester Met to another university or vice versa).

A **change in study mode** is defined as a transfer from full-time attendance to part-time attendance (or vice versa). A change in mode of attendance whether switching from a full-time course to a part-time course or vice versa will change the submission date for a thesis and how fees are charged for the course.

The University will notify Student Finance if a student in receipt of a Postgraduate Loan transfer courses or changes study mode.

Course/study mode transfers may effect eligibility for Postgraduate Loans.

a. Withdrawal and suspension

Students should make sure they have fully discussed the financial implications of withdrawing or suspending before they leave the course.

Students considering leaving their course should contact their Faculty Research Degrees Administrator initially. For further assistance students should contact the **Student Hub** www.mmu.ac.uk/students/hubs for help and advice. The Hub may direct students to other sources of guidance as appropriate.

The date of withdrawal or suspension must be agreed with the Director of Studies prior to leaving the University.

All withdrawals and suspensions have to be approved in a timely manner within the academic year. Backdated requests will not be accepted. **Medical evidence will be required for all health related suspensions.**

No fee recalculation (if applicable) will be undertaken **until a student has completed the formal withdrawal or suspension process**, and the student records system has been updated with the approved last date of engagement.

Please note: There are no reductions in bench fees and non-submission fees charged after the 14-day period.

Within 2 weeks (14 days) of course start date: **No tuition fees due**

After 2 weeks (14 days) from course start date:
Fees will be adjusted, dependant on engagement, on a weekly pro-rata, based on a 45-week calendar year.

Suspension of studies

Please note **it is the responsibility of the student** to keep in regular contact with their Director of Studies regarding any issues which may result in a period of non-engagement (**such as medical or other personal reasons**).

Depending on how tuition fees were funded (and paid for during the academic year of your suspension), further tuition fees may be due upon return from a period of suspension. Suspended students will not have access to any University services including meetings with Supervisors/Director of Studies, Library and Moodle access. If the student is not returning to the same course/programme of research at the agreed point/date of return additional fees may apply. Contact a member of the Student Billings team to discuss tuition fees prior to returning to the University for further information.

Prior to returning from a period of suspension, students should contact their Faculty Research Degrees Administrator to ensure fees displayed during your online enrolment are correct. If any fee adjustments are required, the student will be contacted, and advised of the correction, by a member of the Student Billings team as soon as possible after enrolment.

b. Course transfers / Changes in study mode

Students should contact the Student Billings team for help and advice before proceeding with a course transfer or change in study mode.

Students wishing to transfer to Manchester Met from another higher education institution (or vice versa) are advised to discuss the financial implications with both institutions before proceeding with the transfer.

For internal transfers, course transfer dates will be aligned to students' points of engagement on both courses, fees will be adjusted and charged for the weeks engaged on both courses.

Students who **change study mode** will be charged for the weeks engaged on the full time rate and part time rate of fees that is undertaken.

Students who **change study mode or transfer courses** must be aware that this may effect eligibility for Manchester Met awards, discounts and scholarships.

Course/study mode transfers may effect eligibility for Postgraduate Loans.

Overseas students may experience issues with their VISA if there is a change in their mode of study. Please check with the University International Office before any change in study mode are made.

5. Awards, Discounts and Scholarships

The University reviews all Manchester Met awards, discounts, and scholarships annually, and may withdraw future provision at the end of an academic year or make changes to the terms and conditions of offer.

Details of current awards can be found at the following links:

Postgraduate students:

<http://www2.mmu.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/>

International students:

www2.mmu.ac.uk/international/fees-and-funding/

If a student **withdraws** from the course or **suspends** studies (which results in a fee reduction), the value of any award will be **pro-rated in proportion to the tuition fees charged** (see **Section 4.a**).

If a student **transfers courses or changes study mode**, this may affect eligibility for Manchester Met awards, and **students may be required to repay the award in full**.

If a student **fails to pay fees** in accordance with University regulations and/or any agreed instalment plan, students may lose eligibility for any Manchester Met award, and students **may be required to repay the amount in full** (see **Section 7**).

If a student is in receipt of more than one form of fee reduction (including discounts, awards or scholarship) they will only receive one fee reduction and will be awarded the greater amount.

6. Accommodation Fees

University accommodation fees, including details about payment methods and instalment information, can be found at www2.mmu.ac.uk/accommodation/. Students will not receive an invoice for their accommodation fees, they should refer to the website for amounts and dates due. However, if applicable, additional invoices will be processed for any charges incurred during their stay.

University accommodation fees will be charged annually to cover residence for the period specified in the accommodation contract. Unless specified in the contract, the University will not reduce, rebate, or refund any accommodation fees paid during periods away from the University (e.g. on field trips or placements), or where compulsory course attendance ceases before the expiry of the contract.

If you are in accommodation for one term then full fees are due.

If you are in accommodation for two terms, your instalments will be 50% in both terms.

If you are in accommodation for three terms, your instalments will be 35%, 35% and 30%. If you transfer rooms after your first payment has been collected which results in a fee change, your next instalments will be split 50% and 50%

Students are required to pay accommodation fees in line with their terms and conditions of residence. Failure to pay in line with the contract may result in access to Wi-Fi facilities being restricted and any unpaid debt will be referred for recovery to the Legal Recoveries team.

A £10 charge will apply where it becomes necessary to apply or remove access to Wi-Fi facilities at Halls of Residence, resulting from non-payment of hall fees in line with published payment dates. This charge is to cover the administration charge applied by the external broadband service provider, the University reserves the right to increase the charge in line with any increase applied by the broadband service provider.

7. Non-Payment of Fees

It is every student's responsibility to ensure fees are paid in full in line with published terms outlined in these regulations and payment options (whether paying their own fees, or whether fees are paid via a sponsor/employer, organisation, Student Finance or government agency).

Attending university is a significant financial commitment. The University offers a range of payment methods and options to help students manage the financial commitment they have entered into with the University. However, students must only come to university if they have the financial means to pay fees and fund living expenses (including university hall fees where applicable).

If students are experiencing any difficulties with paying fees to Manchester Met (including actively resolving a query with Student Finance), it is crucial that the Finance Service Centre are kept informed of this, so that the team can provide support.

Students experiencing financial difficulties may wish to contact the Manchester Met **Student Financial Support team** www.mmu.ac.uk/studentfinance/ or obtain impartial advice and guidance from the **Union Advice Centre** www.theunionmmu.org/your-advice-centre/.

a. Consequences for non-payment of fees

Failure to make payment of University fees in accordance with these regulations will lead to consequences, which may include:

- Thesis will not be forwarded to the Graduate School for examination
- Prevention from re-enrolling at the University with a course fee debt (whether on current course or for any future education)
- Restriction of access to University privileges (e.g. systems/library facilities) at any point in the year

- Suspension of studies during an academic year for non-payment of course fees
- Prevention from booking graduation ceremony tickets for non-payment of course fees (due to network restrictions)
- Withholding of certificates at any point in the year for non-payment of course fees.
- Transferring of any overdue debts to our Legal Recoveries team for court proceedings to be implemented where appropriate. We will in the first instance use the contact information we hold on our records system to attempt contact with you to discuss your debt, in exceptional circumstances, we may attempt to contact you using private messaging via social networking
- Engaging the use of an external tracing agent, a solicitor or 3rd party debt recovery agency, to support recovery of the unpaid debt on behalf of the University
- Deducting unpaid fees from any sums due or becoming due from the University to the student (course or hall fees and/or any other associated fees)
- Withholding of visa extension and CAS letters
- Without notice, offsetting any debt from payments received, credit notes raised or Manchester Met Student Support Package credits on student account (including any course deposits/initial payments received towards current or new academic session)

For the purposes of these regulations, **non-submission** and **resubmission** are classed as course fees.

i. Failing to return University equipment

Should students borrow (this also includes equipment provided to students to assist with research studies) any University equipment for use as part of their academic course, but do not return the equipment (or it is returned in an unacceptable condition) within the agreed timeframe, the University reserves the right to raise an invoice to charge for the full replacement cost of the equipment. Should students not pay or return the equipment in the same condition and in working order within 30 days from invoice date, the University reserves the right to proceed to recover the debt via all normal recovery remedies, including instigation of appropriate court proceedings which will increase the debt owing due to the addition of court cost and statutory interest which will be payable by the student.

b. Charges incurred for non-payment of fees

Should the University have to implement court proceedings to recover unpaid debts, court costs and statutory interest (currently 8% above bank of England base rate) will be charged and will increase the debt payable by the student.

