



Regulations for the Payment of University Fees for **Global Online Students**

Academic Year 2023/24

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These Regulations have been equality impact assessed. The persons responsible for equality impact assessment for these Regulations are the Finance Billings Manager and the Head of Finance Service Centre.

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 their programme for more than 2 weeks following the programme start date will incur tuition fees (hereafter called **fees** see [section 4](#)).
- Once an applicant accepts their offer of a place on their Global Online Programme, fees for each year of the Programme become due and can be paid in full. However, the University also allows students to make payment on a unit-by-unit basis. With the exception of the Dissertation or Project, payment for each unit must be made in full at least two weeks prior to the release of teaching materials for the unit (see [section 3.1](#)).
- Fees for the Dissertation or Project can be paid in instalments. The first instalment must be made in full at least two weeks prior to the release of teaching materials. The number of instalments will depend on the size of the unit (see [section 3.1](#)).
- All payments must be made via the University's payment provider dedicated web link for Global Online Programmes as advised by your [Student Success Advisor](#) (with the exception of Northern Ireland Postgraduate Loan payments) (see [section 3.1](#)).
- Students enrolling on a Global Online Programme of more than one academic year's duration will remain on the same fee structure for the length of their programme provided there are no programme transfers or changes to the original study mode (see [section 4.2](#)), and they progress through the programme in the normal timeframe. Should students need to suspend studies, opt out of units or repeat any part of the programme, a higher fee structure may apply as set out within the University's [Terms and Conditions for Global Online Programmes](#) (see [section 4.1](#)).
- Students applying for loan funding from external providers will still need to make their initial payment and further payments in accordance with the payment terms where funding has not yet been received from their funding provider and/or for any amount of fees not covered by their loan (see [section 3.2](#)).
- The University will recalculate fees (with the exception of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and writing up fees) based on units commenced, for example in the event of withdrawal, suspension, opt out, programme transfer, or change in study mode, depending on student engagement with the programme (see [section 4](#)).
- Students must make sure they have the means to fund their education before accepting the programme offer. Sanctions may apply should students fail to pay fees in accordance with these Regulations (see [section 6](#)).
- It is the responsibility of the student to keep in regular contact with their [Student Success Advisor](#) regarding any issues which may result in a period of non-engagement (such as medical or other personal reasons) (see [section 4.1](#)).

- All withdrawals, suspensions and opting out of units have to be approved in a timely manner and must be requested through the correct University process. Backdated requests will not be accepted. Medical evidence will be required for all health-related suspensions (see [section 4.1](#)).
- Where students are returning from an approved suspension, if studies are recommenced at an earlier point or the student starts a different programme, further fees will apply (see [section 4](#)).
- After enrolment, invoices are generated for units commenced and can be sent on request via email by contacting your [Student Success Advisor](#). Any payments received will be allocated towards the balance.
- If any changes or errors in fees charged are identified, the University will notify students promptly as soon as possible (see [section 2.3](#)).
- Fees may apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) (see [section 2.6](#)).
- Writing Up fees will apply if you require an extension to complete your Independent Study Unit, such as a Dissertation or Project, and an extension is approved (see [section 2.5](#)).
- Students funded by a Postgraduate Loan with Student Finance Northern Ireland, Student Finance England or Wales will need to pay for the first unit in full by the payment deadline before any loan payments can be released. This also applies at the start of Year 2 and when returning from a period of suspension (see [section 3.2](#)).
- Students in receipt of a Postgraduate Loan will not receive loan payments if they need to repeat a year either with or without attendance or do not submit in the normal timeframe, including applying for an extension during writing up periods. Please note that students who reach the income threshold permitted may be required to start loan repayments whilst they are still studying (see [section 3.2](#)).
- If your fees are either part funded or fully funded by a Student Finance Northern Ireland 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 be charged for these fees (see [section 3.2](#)).
- If a student has previously studied at Manchester Met and still has fees unpaid from a prior academic period, then they will be unable to commence study on the Global Online Programme until all fees have been paid in addition to the initial first unit. Students in these instances should contact their [Student Success Advisor](#) (see [section 6](#)).
- If there is any conflict between these Regulations and the [Terms and Conditions for Global Online Programmes](#), these Regulations shall take precedence.

1 General Information

1.1 Who these regulations are for

These regulations apply to all new and continuing Global Online students.

1.2 What these regulations are about

Manchester Metropolitan University (the University) is committed to a fair and transparent policy in respect to 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.

1.3 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 their [Student Success Advisor](#).

1.4 Who to contact regarding these regulations

The **Student Success Team** is responsible for administering these regulations in respect of the fees charged. Please contact the team in case of queries about the following:

- Fees charged
- Programme fee invoices and credit notes
- Payments
- Refunds

Email: globalonlinestudentsupport@mmu.ac.uk

Tel: +44(0)161 880 4722

2 Tuition Fees

2.1 How fees are set

Tuition fees for Global Online Programmes are reviewed annually and may be subject to an annual increase as confirmed in further detail within your offer pack. However, students enrolling on programmes of more than one academic year's duration will retain the same fee for the duration of their programme providing it is completed in the normal timeframe (see [section 2.5](#)).

2.2 How fees are charged

The University charges tuition fees annually, and fees will be payable each year for the duration of the programme. Students will be required to pay the fees applicable to their programme of study and fee charging pattern set out within their offer and the [Terms and Conditions for Global Online Programmes](#).

2.3 Fee changes

For students returning from an approved period of suspension (see [section 4.1](#)), fees charged will have been calculated based on the assumption that students will be returning to the same programme at the point that study was originally suspended. If studies are recommenced at an earlier point or the student starts a different programme, further fees will apply.

Fees may be due again for the unit you were undertaking at the time of suspension unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Academic Collaboration Manager for Global Online (after consultation with the Finance Billings Manager). Fees will also be charged for any new units commenced.

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.

2.4 Continuing Manchester Met student fees

Students enrolling on a Global Online programme of more than one academic year's duration will remain on the same fee structure for the length of their programme, providing there are no programme transfers or changes to the original study mode (see [section 4.3](#)), and students' progress through the programme in the normal timeframe. Should students need to suspend studies, opt out of units or repeat any part of their programme, a higher fee may apply as set out within the [Terms and Conditions for Global Online Programmes](#).

2.5 Writing up period/one year extension

The University expects all students to complete their programme in the normal timeframe. However, if a student requires an extension to complete their Independent Study Unit, such as a Dissertation or Project element of their taught Masters, owing to circumstances beyond their control, they may be permitted an extension to the original submission date by the Assessment Board.

Students with an approved extension can enrol for an additional period of up to one year as a 'writing up' student and will be charged the University writing up fee (£195 in academic year 2023/24). This fee is payable immediately upon enrolment. Nil fees will apply if an evidenced extension has been approved.

The writing up fee will permit access to the general facilities of the University, including library and Moodle access, and a tutorial session with the project/dissertation supervisor. Any additional supervisory support or access to specialist facilities (such as laboratories and workshops) will be at the discretion of the teaching department.

The writing up fee only applies to project/dissertation extensions. It does not apply for taught units, for which standard fees will apply.

Students are only permitted one year as a writing up student, either evidenced extension nil fee or writing up fee. After this period, students who fail to submit would be classed as 'repeating without attendance'. In very exceptional circumstances should further extensions be required beyond the above, each case will be dealt with on an individual basis, and if approved full annual fees will apply.

Extension requests must be approved by the Assessment Board. If an extension request is declined, the student will not be classed as writing up, and will be charged the full fee for the project/dissertation again. Please contact your [Student Success Advisor](#) if you need to discuss an extension.

Students in receipt of a Postgraduate Loan will not receive any loan payments during their writing up period (see [section 3.3](#)). Students who reach the income threshold permitted may be required to start loan repayments whilst they are still studying.

2.6 Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) claims for non-Manchester Met credit transfers are subject to a reduced tuition fee based on the number of credits claimed. The RPL fee is reviewed annually and published prior to the commencement of each academic year. All RPL fees are non-refundable and are not reduced if a student withdraws, suspends or opts out of units.

The fee is a charge applied to cover the cost of a credit approval/assessment and assigning a Manchester Met value to it.

Fees will be charged as follows:

Home/Channel Island students: £12 per credit

EU and Non-EU international students: £15 per credit

No fee will be charged for Manchester Met RPL credits or Advanced Standing credits due to Articulation agreements.

Please refer to the full [RPL policy](#) on our website which includes RPL definitions and instructions on how to claim for RPL credits.

If you have or intend applying for a Postgraduate loan this may have an impact on your eligibility for the loan. Please check with your loan provider prior to applying for any RPL credits as your loan may be rejected as per the Government regulations dependant on your type of programme and domicile.

3 Paying Fees

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. Please contact your [Student Success Advisor](#) if you need to discuss.

3.1 Self-paying students

With the exception of the Dissertation or Project, fees for each unit must be paid and cleared in full a minimum of two weeks prior to the release of teaching materials for the unit.

For the Dissertation or Project, fees can be paid in instalments. The first instalment must be paid and cleared in full a minimum of two weeks to prior the release of teaching materials. The number of instalments will depend on the credit rating of the Dissertation or Project unit as follows:

60-credit Dissertation – four instalments

30-credit Project – two instalments

Please contact your [Student Success Advisor](#) for details of the payment deadlines that apply to you. No extensions to the payment deadlines are permitted, unless expressly agreed and confirmed in writing by the Academic Collaboration Manager for Global Online in agreement with the Collection and Recoveries Manager.

All fees must be paid using the University's payment provider Flywire.

If an employer (or other third party) wishes to sponsor and pay fees on behalf of a student, payment must be made through the University's payment provider's dedicated web link for Global Online Programmes. The above payment deadlines will still apply, and the student is responsible for arranging payment by their employer (or other third party).

Where cleared funds for a unit are not received by the above payment deadlines, the student will not be granted access to the associated teaching materials and will not be permitted to commence the unit.

3.2 Postgraduate Loans

Students applying for a postgraduate loan must apply directly to the following agencies. Information about applying for a tuition fee loan/grant is available at the following links:

Student Finance England <http://www.gov.uk/studentfinance>

Student Finance Wales <http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/>

Student Finance Northern Ireland <http://www.studentfinancenir.co.uk/>

3.2.1 Loan payments

Student Finance will pay loans as follows:

England and Wales loans are paid directly to students (these students will be treated as self-paying students for the full annual fee).

Northern Ireland tuition fee loans are paid directly to the University. Students will be treated as self-paying students for the value of fees not covered by the loan. Loan payments will be paid directly to the University in line with the following:

Term 1: 25% paid

Term 2: 25% paid

Term 3: Final 50% paid

3.2.2 Important information about postgraduate loans

Students funded by a Postgraduate Loan with Student Finance Northern Ireland, Student Finance England or Wales will need to pay for the first unit in full by the payment deadline before any loan

payments can be released. This also applies at the start of Year 2 and when returning from a period of suspension.

Any shortfall in fees relating to Student Finance Northern Ireland funding in relation to withdrawals, suspensions or additional credits will be charged to the student. It will be the student's responsibility to make up the difference in fees themselves.

Should either of the above funding authorities determine that a student is not eligible or is no longer eligible for funding, students will be considered full self-paying students and will be required to arrange to pay the fees themselves.

Students in receipt of a Postgraduate Loan will not receive loan payments if they need to repeat a year either with or without attendance or do not submit in the normal timeframe including applying for an extension during writing up periods. Please note that 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 may recalculate fees charged (with the exception of RPL and writing up fees) in the case of withdrawal, suspension, opt out, programme transfer, change in study mode or exits awards.

In general, recalculations will be based on the programme start and end date and the date of last engagement and the number of credits commenced.

For the purpose of these regulations, the following definitions apply:

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

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

- Timetabled teaching or online sessions, which include lectures, seminars, academic and personal tutorials, and other forms of contact with academic and Professional Services staff that relate to academic study.
- Attending or undertaking examinations, tests, and other assessment activities.
- Submitting work for assessment.
- Accessing University facilities, including the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle), the University Library, and programme materials.
- Participating in residentials and other compulsory activities.

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

Suspension is defined as taking an approved break in study of 12 months. Unless you have to suspend your studies due to circumstances approved in accordance with the University's Assessment Mitigation Procedure, all suspensions must commence from the end of the unit you are currently undertaking. Where a suspension is approved and you suspend engagement with the Programme during a unit, upon return to your studies fees may be due again for the unit you were undertaking at the time of suspension. Exceptionally the Finance Billings Manager may agree otherwise, following consultation with the Academic Collaboration Manager for Global Online. Fees are charged for all units commenced.

An **Opt Out** is an approved break in study for the duration of a single unit only (i.e. a student 'skips' one unit). Opt Outs take effect prior to the start of a unit and students are expected to resume studies with the next scheduled unit. Students may not opt out partway through a unit. The 'opted out' unit is studied at a later date. As opting out of a unit usually extends the normal duration of the programme, a higher fee structure may apply.

A **programme transfer** is a change from one programme of study to another. Transfers may be internal (from one programme at Manchester Met to a different programme 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). Where a student remains enrolled on a full-time programme but is exceptionally permitted to take fewer than the normal number of credits (for example, because of a requirement to repeat certain units), this is not usually classed as a change in study mode.

4.1 Withdrawal, Suspension and Opt Outs

Students should make sure they have fully discussed the financial implications of withdrawing, suspending or opting out of a unit with their [Student Success Advisor](#) (who will be able to offer help and advice) before they leave the programme.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the student to keep in regular contact with their [Student Success Advisor](#) regarding any issues which may result in a period of non-engagement (such as medical or other personal reasons).

No fee recalculation (if applicable) will be undertaken until a student has completed the formal withdrawal, suspension or opt out process, and the student records system has been updated with the approved last date of engagement. The University will notify Student Finance of any withdrawal or suspension once approved.

In the event of withdrawal, suspension or opt out, fees for all Global Online Programmes will be recalculated based on the number of units commenced in accordance with the [Terms and Conditions for Global Online Programmes](#).

All withdrawals, suspensions and opt outs 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.

4.2 Programme transfers/changes in study mode

Students should contact their [Student Success Advisor](#) for advice before proceeding with a programme 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.

A change in programme or study mode may result in the following:

- Higher fees may be charged over the programme duration (due to how fees are calculated);
- Eligibility for Manchester Met discounts, awards or bursaries may be affected;
- Eligibility for Postgraduate Loans may be affected.

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

For internal transfers, programme transfer dates will be aligned to students' points of engagement on both programmes. The University will notify Student Finance of any change in programme and fees.

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.

Students on Global Online Programmes are not eligible for the University's awards, scholarships or other discounts unless specifically set out within the scheme Terms and Conditions.

New and continuing Manchester Met Alumni students commencing a Global Online programme from September 2022 will however be eligible for a 20% Alumni Loyalty Discount.

Full terms and conditions for the Alumni Loyalty Discount are available via the following link:

<https://www.mmu.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/how-to-apply/funding/alumni-loyalty-discount>

If a student is eligible for 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.

If a student leaves the programme with fewer units which results in a fee reduction, the value of any award will be pro-rated in proportion to the tuition fees charged (see [section 4.1](#)).

If a student transfers programmes or changes study mode, this may affect eligibility for any Manchester Met award, and students may be required to repay the amount awarded in full (depending on the change). If the change results in a fee adjustment, the value of any award will be pro-rated in proportion to the tuition fees charged on the eligible programme in line with the terms and conditions.

If a student fails to pay fees in accordance with University Regulations, students may lose eligibility for any Manchester Met discount and students may be required to repay the amount in full.

6 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 or the [Terms and Conditions for Global Online Programmes](#).

Undertaking a University programme is a significant financial commitment. Students must only accept an offer for a programme if they will have the financial means to pay fees.

6.1 Consequences for non-payment of fees

Failure to make payment of University fees in accordance with these Regulations or the applicable [Terms and Conditions](#) will lead to consequences, which may include:

- Prevention from re-enrolling at the University with a programme fee debt (whether on current programme or for any future education)
- Restriction of access to a unit and/or University systems and/or privileges (e.g. systems/library facilities/services) at any point in the year.
- The University may suspend your enrolment during an academic year for non-payment of programme fees.
- Prevention from booking graduation ceremony tickets for non-payment of programme fees (due to network restrictions).
- Withholding of certificates at any point in the year for non-payment of programme 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 to contact you to discuss your debt. In exceptional circumstances we may attempt to contact you using private messaging via social networking.
- Engaging external tracing agents, solicitors or third party debt recovery agencies, 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 (programme or hall fees and/or any other associated fees)
- Without notice, offsetting any debt from payments received, credit notes raised on student account (including any programme deposits/initial payments received towards current or new academic session).

6.2 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%) will be charged and will increase the debt payable by the student.

7 Refunds

7.1 Tuition fee refunds

These regulations cover how fees are adjusted if a student transfers or leaves their programme. If these changes result in an overpayment of fees these will be refunded to the original payer.

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.

Any payment of a refund approved by the University will be made to the original payer by the original payment method where possible.

For payments made via Flywire, Flywire will refund directly to the originating payer's bank account or credit/debit card. Flywire refunds may be subject to additional fees in accordance with the [Flywire Terms of Use](#).

7.2 Administration charges

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

7.3 How to request a refund

Students who are entitled to a refund under these Regulations can request a refund by emailing their [Student Success Advisor](#).