



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Student Finance Wales Information Notice

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Part-time students – restriction on support for graduates

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Part-time students – restriction on support for graduates

Regulation 25 of the Education (Student Support) (Wales) Regulations 2018 (SI 2018/191) ('the Regulations') provides, for courses beginning on or after 1 August 2018, for a part-time student to be eligible for support where he/she may not otherwise be. In particular, a part-time student will be eligible for support despite having attained a first degree from a UK institution if he/she is studying one of the courses listed in regulation 25(2) case 3.

The exempt subjects are defined using the Higher Education Classification of Subjects ('HECoS')¹. The Higher Education Statistics Agency revises the classification from time-to-time and has recently updated from version 1.2 to 1.3.3. Version 1.2 is due to be deprecated on 31 July 2021. This Information Notice describes how the changes will affect the exempt subjects.

The Regulations provide an exemption for courses with a Common Aggregation Hierarchy ('CAH') code of 'CAH07 Physical Sciences', among others. The change from CAH version 1.2 to CAH version 1.3.3 will affect this category, as some subjects will move from 'CAH07 Physical Sciences' (CAH version 1.2) to 'CAH26 Geography, Earth and Environmental Studies' (CAH version 1.3.3). However one subject (100225 – materials science) will move from 'CAH07 Physical Sciences' (CAH Version 1.2) via 'CAH26 Geography, Earth and Environmental Studies' (CAH Version 1.3.1) to 'CAH10 Engineering and Technology' (CAH Version 1.3.3).

The Welsh Ministers' policy in this area is unchanged. In order to preserve policy, the mappings in table 1 will be used by Student Finance Wales to ensure that those courses exempt under regulation 25(2) in the 2019/20 and previous academic years remain exempt in the 2020/21 academic year.

Readers will wish to note that a small number of courses will map into CAH07 in version 1.3.3 from CAH08 in version 1.2 (table 2). These are not exempt subjects.

Regulation 81(28) of the Education (Student Support) (Wales) Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/47) makes the same provision for courses beginning before 1 August 2018. The same treatment applies.

¹ <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/innovation/hecos>

Table 1 Exempt subject mappings

HECoS	CAH 1.3.3	CAH 1.2
(101104) applied geology	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101351) atmosphere-ocean interactions	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100379) climate science	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100394) earth sciences	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101106) engineering geology	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100380) environmental geoscience	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101093) exploration geology	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101084) exploration geophysics	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101083) geochemistry	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101082) geological hazards	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101086) geological oceanography	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100395) geology	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100396) geophysics	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101089) hydrogeology	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101073) hydrography	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100418) marine sciences	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100382) meteorology	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100421) ocean sciences	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100398) palaeontology	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101105) petroleum geology	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(101081) volcanology	(CAH26) geography, earth and environmental studies	(CAH07) physical sciences
(100225) materials science	(CAH10) engineering and technology	(CAH07) physical sciences

Table 2 CAH07 non-exempt subject mappings

HECoS	CAH 1.3.3	CAH 1.2
(100392) applied science	(CAH07) physical sciences	(CAH08) general and others in sciences
(100390) general science	(CAH07) physical sciences	(CAH08) general and others in sciences
(100391) natural sciences	(CAH07) physical sciences	(CAH08) general and others in sciences