

OfS funding definitions

Session aims

In the sessions before lunch we are going to look at the basic definitions and concepts used in OfS funding data returns.

After the presentations you should know:

- What data is recorded on each table
- How to categorise students
- How to count student years
- How to make forecasts of non-completion and FTE
- Some table-specific definitions

We will also do some exercises to help cement our understanding of these definitions.



Where can we find more information?

Information	HESES Guidance
Mode of study	Annex H
Level of study	Annex I
Price group	Annex G
Long or standard-length year	Annex J
Fundability / residential status / domicile	Annex F
Standard or non-standard year	Annex C
Non-completion forecasts	Annex D
(Part-time only) FTE for completed years	Annex E
Number of new-entrant students	Annex C
Apprenticeships	Annex B
How to record students on nursing, midwifery and allied health profession courses	Annex L



Part 1 - Categorising your students

Mode (Annex H)

HESES18B	HESF
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mode can be full-time, sandwich year out or part-time• Each mode is separately recorded on tables 1, 2 or 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mode can be full-time or part-time• Full-time and part-time are recorded on the same table.

• **Full-time**

- Full-time fees are chargeable.
- Normally required to attend for at least **24 weeks in the year** of instance.
- Undertake study, tuition, learning in the workplace, work placement for at least **21 hours per week**.
- Here, this can include time spent on a sandwich work-placement, if the year doesn't meet the criteria to be a sandwich year out.

Mode (Annex H)

Sandwich year-out

- A reduced fee is chargeable
- The year of instance includes a period of work-based experience
- Meets the definition given in the student support regulations OR is an Erasmus+ year abroad spent working
- Meets the time-based criteria in Annex H

Part-time

- If a year doesn't meet the definitions for Full-time or Sandwich year out, it is considered part-time in HESES.

Note

- Mode can change between years. More detail in the Annex.

Notes on Apprenticeships



Some students may be taking their higher education qualification as part of an apprenticeship. For these years of instance:

- They should be registered with and reported by the lead provider (usually contracted by the ESFA).
- We would normally expect them to be part-time.
- We only fund activity related to the higher education course.
- They are not considered to be closed courses (more on this when we talk about fundability)
- For HESESB only – they are also identified separately on Table 5.

HESESB - Table 1 Full-time

The screenshot shows a spreadsheet with the following structure:

- Columns:**
 - Column 1: Years countable between 1 August 2016 and 1 December 2016 inclusive
 - Column 2: Forecast of years countable between 2 December 2016 and 31 July 2017 inclusive
 - Column 3: Forecast of years not completed (negative values)
 - Column 4: Estimated completed years academic year 2016-17 (Columns 1 + 2 + 3)
- Rows:**
 - Row 16: Price group
 - Row 17: Length
 - Row 18: Level
 - Row 19: PGT (UG fee)
 - Row 20: PGT (Masters loan)
 - Row 21: PGT (Other)
 - Row 22: PGR
 - Row 23: UG
 - Row 24: PGT (UG fee)
 - Row 25: PGT (Masters loan)
 - Row 26: PGT (Other)
 - Row 27: PGR
 - Row 28: UG
 - Row 29: PGT (UG fee)
 - Row 30: PGT (Masters loan)
 - Row 31: PGT (Other)
 - Row 32: PGR
 - Row 33: UG
 - Row 34: PGT (UG fee)
 - Row 35: PGT (Masters loan)
 - Row 36: PGT (Other)
 - Row 37: PGR
- Sub-headers for Columns 1-4:**
 - HEFCE-fundable (a)
 - Non-fundable (b)
 - Island & overseas (c)

Annotations and validation status:

- Price Group: Annex G
- Level: Annex I
- Length: Annex J
- Column 1 or Column 2: Annex C (Validation: OK, First stage credibility: OK)
- Column 3 Non-completions: Annex D (Validation: OK, First stage credibility: OK)
- Column 4 Automatically completed (Validation: OK, First stage credibility: OK)
- Fundability status: Annex F

HESF - Table 1 Forecast

Table 1: Forecast of years of instance for 2019-20

Section 1: completed years of instance
Validation: OK

Section 2: FTE (part-time rows only)
Validation: OK

Price Group

			Section 1 Estimated completed years of instance for academic year 2019-20					Section 2 Estimated FTE for completed years of instance included in Section 1 for academic year 2019-20						
			Price group					Price group						
Mode	Length	Level	A	B	C1	C2	D	Total	A	B	C1	C2	D	Total
Full-time	Standard	UG	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		PGT (UG fee)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		PGT (Masters' loan)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Long	PGT (Other)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		UG	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		PGT (UG fee)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Part-time	Standard	PGT (Masters' loan)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		PGT (Other)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		UG	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Long	PGT (UG fee)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		PGT (Masters' loan)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		PGT (Other)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	UG		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PGT (UG fee)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PGT (Masters' loan)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PGT (Other)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Level of Study

UG – Undergraduate

- HESESB Table 5 only: sub-levels identify where these are taken as part of an apprenticeship

PGT – Postgraduate taught

- normal entry requirement is a degree level qualification.
- 3 sub-levels: PGT (UG fee), PGT (Masters loan), PGT (Other)
- HESESB Table 5 only: sub-levels identify where PGT (Masters loan) and PGT (Other) are taken as part of an apprenticeship

PGR – Postgraduate research

- qualification aim is a research based higher degree.

Price groups

- There are 5 price groups, which reflect the costs of teaching a particular subject
- Years of instance are assigned to price groups based on two criteria.
- First they may be one a number of **specific cases**
 - Sandwich years out
 - Clinical medical, dental and veterinary years
 - Pre-registration courses in nursing, midwifery and allied health professions
 - Social work
 - Initial teacher training courses
- Second, if none of the above apply, we use the **JACS, HECoS** or **LDCS** code(s) of the course subject. The type of code used depends on the type of provider.

Price groups – HESES18B

- Each course should have one or more **JACS** codes associated with it.
- Codes are up to 4 characters - each extra character is a sublevel of specialism.
- Unless indicated in the guidance, sub-levels have the same price group as the 'parent' level.

JACS code	Description	Price Group
B300	Complementary medicines, therapies & well-being	C2
B350	Hair & beauty science	C2
B351	Hair services	C1
B352	Beauty therapies	C2

Price groups – HESF19: Further education colleges

- Each course taught at your provider will have an associated learning aim
- The ESFA assigns up to three LDCS codes to each learning aim – these are used to determine price group.
- LDCS codes can be identified using the ESFA;s learning aims search.

- For each course you're aiming to deliver in 2019-20:
 - If it exists on the learning aims search, use those LDCS codes
 - If it doesn't, you will eventually need to request it, but for HESF, find a similar course on the learning aims search and use those LDCS codes

Price groups – HESF19: Other providers

- From 2019-20, HESA will replace JACS codes with HECoS codes.
- Providers completing HESF will need to assign HECoS codes to the courses they intend to teach in 2019-20.
- HECoS codes can be grouped together into broad subject categories using the Common Aggregation Hierarchy (CAH).
- CAH codes have been mapped to price groups in the HESF guidance. Mappings of specific HECoS codes to price groups are also available from the OfS website.
- For audit purposes, keep a record of how you assigned HECoS codes to courses.

‘Length’: Standard / long years

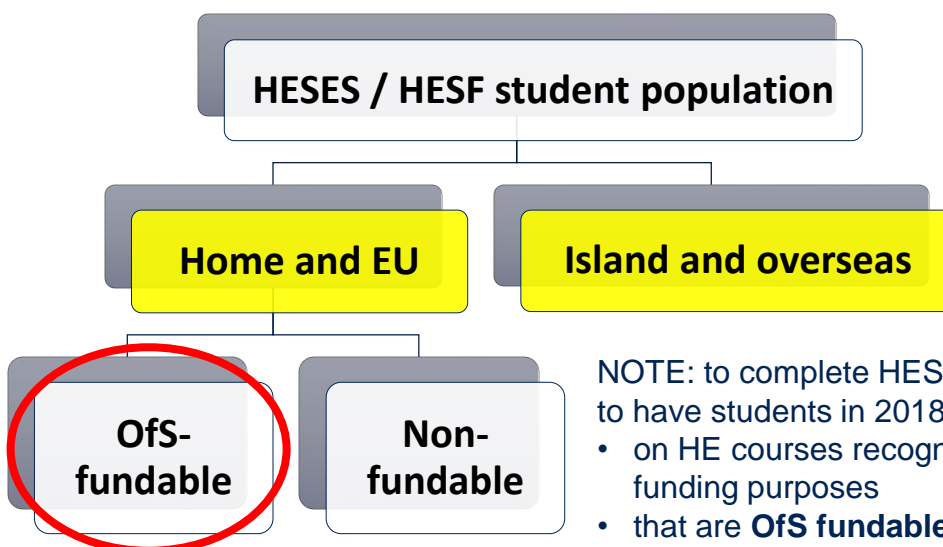
Full-time students:

- A long year is where a student is in attendance for 45 weeks or more in the year of instance.
- Some restrictions:
 - Periods of work experience don’t count
 - Sandwich years don’t count
 - (Usually) foundation degrees don’t count
- If not a long year, it’s a standard-length year

Part-time students:

- Depends on the length of the equivalent full-time course

Residential status (Annex F)



NOTE: to complete HESES18B, you need to have students in 2018-19:

- on HE courses recognised for OfS funding purposes
- that are **OfS fundable**.

Residential status (2)

Home and EU:

- Defined by the fee regulations.

Island and overseas:

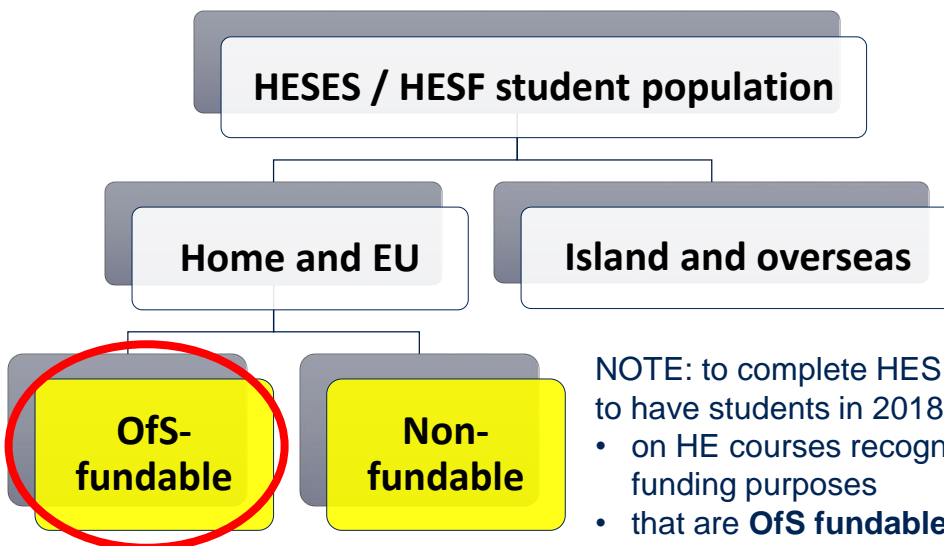
- Generally those from the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man or from outside the EU or specified territories
- Not included in funding allocations

NOTE:

- see HESES18 Annex F for further details
- the HESES guidance is NOT definitive – refer to the Fee regulations as well.



Fundability status (Annex F)



NOTE: to complete HESES18B, you need to have students in 2018-19:

- on HE courses recognised for OfS funding purposes
- that are **OfS fundable**.

Fundability status (2)

OfS-fundable

- Home and EU students UNLESS they're in one of the categories below.

non-fundable categories

- Postgraduate research (PGR) students.
- Initial Teacher Training and INSET students.
- Students on certain pre-registration courses for nursing, midwifery and allied health professions. (More on these later).
- Students on certain courses commissioned and funded by an NHS organisation.
- PGT students funded by another EU public source.
- Students on closed courses. (NOT students on apprenticeships).
- Students aiming for ELQs, unless exempt.

Fundability status: ELQs

Equivalent or Lower Qualifications

- When students are aiming for a qualification that is at the same level (or lower) than one they have already achieved.
- Generally these are non-fundable, but there are some exemptions. See HESES18 Annex F for the full list, but examples are:
 - Foundation degrees
 - PGCE
 - Students in receipt of the Disabled Students Allowance
 - A number of health related courses
- If we don't know a student's prior qualifications, treat them as aiming for an ELQ. (So would be non-fundable, unless exempt).

Fundability status: ELQs

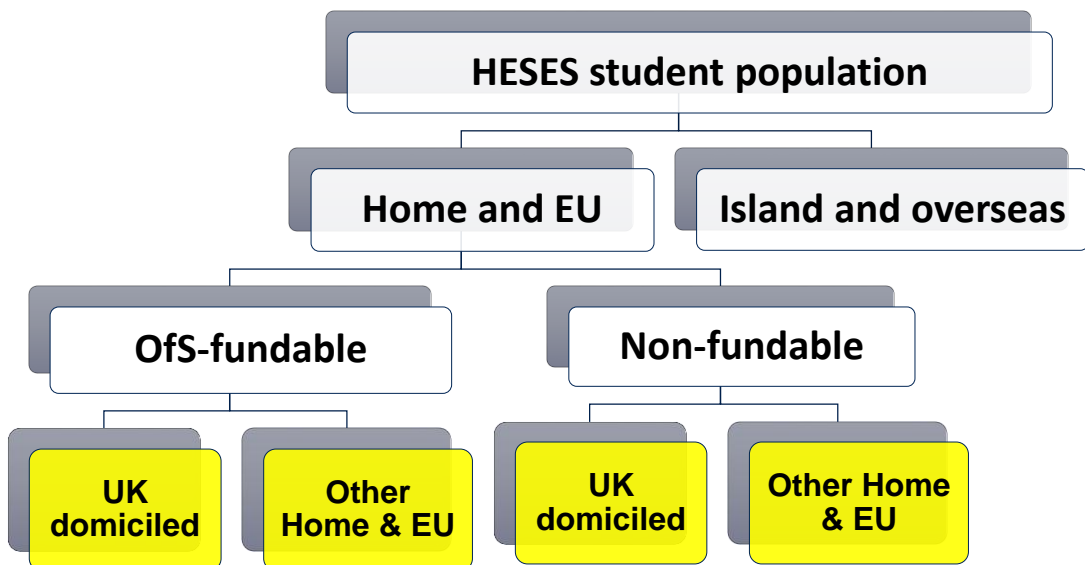
Typical HE qualification	FHEQ level
Master's degrees (MA, MSc)	7
Integrated master's degrees (MEng)	
Postgraduate diplomas	
Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)	
Bachelor's degrees with honours	6
Bachelor's degrees	
Graduate diplomas	
Foundation degrees	5
Diplomas of Higher Education (DipHE)	
Higher National Diplomas (HND)	
Higher National Certificates (HNC)	4
Certificates of HE (CertHE)	

CAUTION:

This is not meant to be a complete list of HE qualification levels.

See HESES18 guidance for further information.

Domicile (Annex F)



Domicile

Needed for HESES18B table 5. (Not used in HESF)

Shares a definition with the **HESA DOMICILE** field:

“the country code of the student's permanent home address prior to entry to the course. It is not necessarily the correspondence address of the student.”

UK-domiciled:

- entitled to pay Home & EU fees and
- country of domicile = England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, UK not otherwise specified

Definitions quiz part 1

- In small groups on your tables, look through the questions that make up part 1 of the table definitions quiz. These relate to the topics we've just covered.
- You have 15 minutes to answer these questions.
- We encourage you to talk them through and (if necessary) look at the relevant annex in your HESES / HESF guidance.
- We'll go through the answers, then break for coffee.



Coffee break....

After the break, if your provider is completing:

- HES18B – stay in this room
- HESF19 – go to the breakout room

We'll be back together after lunch.



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