



# Performance Sport Policy

## Purpose of Policy

The Performance Sport Policy provides flexibility to students so that they may excel in both their chosen sport and their academic studies, and provides a context for the University to make decisions on flexibility requested due to participation in significant national or international sporting events.

## Overview

The policy sets out flexibilities on matters relating to attendance, assessment and progression for students who are performing at national and international level in their chosen sport.

## Scope: Mandatory Policy

The policy applies to all students, and to staff making decisions on requests stemming from performance sport matters. The policy is within the remit of the Curriculum and Student Progression Committee.

## Contact Officer

Academic Services

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## Document control

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Approved:</b> 28.4.11	<b>Starts:</b> 1.8.11	<b>Equality impact assessment</b> 10.12.14	<b>Amendments:</b> 22.8.12, 4.6.15, 09.06.23	<b>Next Review:</b> 2023/24
<b>Approving authority</b>	Curriculum and Student Progression Committee				
<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	Curriculum and Student Progression Committee, following a request from Quality Assurance Committee				
<b>Section responsible for policy maintenance &amp; review</b>	Academic Services				
<b>Related policies, procedures, guidelines &amp; regulations</b>	n/a				
n/a	UK Quality Code				
<b>Policies superseded by this policy</b>	n/a				
<b>Alternative format</b>	If you require this document in an alternative format please email <a href="mailto:Academic.Services@ed.ac.uk">Academic.Services@ed.ac.uk</a> or telephone 0131 650 2138.				
<b>Keywords</b>	Performance sport, sport event absences, elite athlete				



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- 1 The University is committed to providing flexibility to students so that they may excel in both their chosen sport and their academic studies.
- 2 Representation must be at international level, or at national championship level. If further clarification is needed on national championship level, the relevant College Office will decide, drawing on advice from the University's Director of Sport and Exercise.  
<http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/sport-exercise/performance>
- 3 Requests for absences or changes to assessment arrangements to allow representation at other levels will not usually be granted. Absences for training sessions are not usually considered "representative".
- 4 It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that they promptly report to their Student Adviser, Postgraduate Director or Research Supervisor any sporting commitment that might affect their attendance or assessment.
- 5 Where a student is representing their nation in their chosen sport, any impact that this might have on attendance and assessment will be dealt with initially at School level. Any agreed adjustments to attendance should not compromise the ability of the student to reach a satisfactory level of attendance on their programme of study. The usual expectation is that the single amount or cumulative total of absence from a full-time programme should not exceed two weeks in any one semester. For periods greater than this, change to part-time study or Authorised Interruption of Study may be applied for under the *Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study*. <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/>
- 6 Any agreed adjustments affecting assessment should be dealt with by the use of extension to deadlines and will be undertaken with reference to the relevant Assessment Regulations. Students who believe that extenuating circumstances exist which prevent them from sitting an examination in the scheduled time or venue should contact their Student Adviser, Postgraduate Director or Research Supervisor. Their case is considered by the relevant College Dean (or delegated authorizing officer) and Student Administration in consultation with the Convener of the Board of Examiners.
- 7 In addition to the flexibility described above, the following options may be available, depending on the nature of the programme and the status of the student:
  - a) Switching between full-time and part-time modes of study, e.g. to allow a student to achieve a balance between preparation for, and participation in, a major sporting event and progress on their programme of study; and
  - b) Taking leave of absence for a specified period, e.g. where a student is preparing for a major sporting event and this preparation cannot be undertaken whilst attending the University.
- 8 Where it is proposed that a student might switch between modes of study or take leave of absence, this must be agreed with the relevant College Undergraduate or Postgraduate Dean.

**4 June 2015**