

Summary of Changes to University Regulations 2024-25

The material changes made to the suite of University Regulations for application in 2024-25 are set out below for ease of reference.

The Regulations are a fundamental framework, setting out the various rules and procedures relating to assessment, progression, fees, enrolment status and various student complaint, appeal and further consideration processes.

The Regulations can be accessed via the [Legal and Compliance Services website](#). We recommend colleagues refresh their knowledge of the University's Policy Documents and Regulations on a regular basis and refer to these if unsure of answer to any queries. Guidance can also be sought via policies@lincoln.ac.uk.

University General Regulations

Part L: Academic Offences

- Investigator can now undertake both a 'summary procedure' conversation and progress the matter to 'full investigation' within same meeting if deemed appropriate (Section 4).
- Investigator empowered to apply penalties under 'summary procedure' without the need to refer back to the Head of School (Section 4).
- Colleges will operate their own Academic Offences Committees instead of there being one University committee, offering better oversight of trends/hotspots in Colleges (Section 5).
- Minor amendment to post-panel outcome timescales (an increase from three to five working days) (Section 5).
- Penalties section simplified (Section 6).
- Removed potential conflict in Appeal element of procedure (Section 7).

Part M: Mitigating Circumstances

- Refresh of the regulations, not materially changing process or intent but providing clarity on what constitutes a mitigating circumstance (Sections 1 and 2) and the evidence expectations (Section 4), with an appendix setting out examples of acceptable evidence.

Part P: Student Misconduct

- Refresh of language in relation to definitions of misconduct, and move of examples of offences and penalties which may apply to main body of regulation (Section 2);
- Updated potential penalties list (Section 2 – at 2.4).
- Formalised 'No Contact/Protection Orders' to sit alongside reasonable instructions (Section 3);

Undergraduate Regulations

The Regulations have benefitted from a more comprehensive review to enhance clarity and remove ambiguity where required.

In addition, the opportunity has also been taken to implement four key changes for 2024/25:

1. Making **progression/award requirements consistent at all levels**. To progress students must achieve a weighted mean of at least 40% in each of the modules, totalling 90 credits and a module mark of at least 35% in each of the modules totalling the remaining 30 credits.
2. **Removing the credit volume cap on resit allowances**, as successfully adopted for Postgraduate Taught students in 2023/24 thus simplifying management of students and Board processes.
3. In removing the credit volume cap, there is **no requirement for ‘Pass Proceed Ordinary’ route** progression and this has therefore been removed.
4. **Enhancement of Proceed with Resit**, formally adopting ‘fail and trail’ for students with approved mitigating circumstances comprising less than 30 Credits (and where pre-requisite requirements would not be corrupted) – see A.4.2.F.

Other

Throughout the course of 2023/24 and immediately in advance of 2024/25, the Colleges raised a number of requests for variations to regulations for specific programmes. Copies of the **variation to regulation schedules** for both Undergraduate and Postgraduate Taught programmes can be located on the [Legal and Compliance Services website](#).

No material changes have otherwise been made to the University’s other sets of Regulations.

We shall be launching a **regular newsletter** in 2024/25 regularly updating a wider range of colleagues on updates to the regulations, policy document revisions, additions, ongoing review work, and more. If you would like to receive these updates, please e-mail us via policies@lincoln.ac.uk.

Lastly, we’ve been pleased to launch **Newton, the new AI policy tool** developed in collaboration with Digital Services. Newton, in this early beta stage, can help you find relevant and up-to-date information about the University’s policies and regulations, as well as provide support on common digital issues through ‘How to...’ guides.

Currently only available to university staff, Newton is here to quickly answer your questions in a single location without the need to search through multiple sources or contact other departments. You can start asking Newton questions today by visiting ai.lincoln.ac.uk. Sign in using your university login credentials to access to both public and internal policies, ensuring that the answers Newton gives are specific to you.

Newton is new and evolving every day and is ready to answer your questions on the policies listed [here](#). We are working to increase this list and with your [feedback](#), we can make sure important policies are available through Newton.

When interacting with Newton, if you find a response unsatisfactory or feel that valuable information is missing, please provide feedback using the thumbs-up and thumbs-down buttons at the bottom of each response.

To find out more about Newton, visit the Digital Services [webpage](#).