

Key Changes to Taught Assessment Regulations 2026/27

Links within the regulations to other information have been updated as necessary.

Regulation Updated	What has changed
19 Reasonable adjustments	19.1 has been amended to clarify that adjustments will <i>in most cases</i> be determined in advance by the Disability and Learning Support Service (DLSS). The new 19.2 explains that there may be urgent or serious situations where there is a need to apply adjustments for a student with an imminent assessment, before a student can meet DLSS. A link is provided to guidance on the DLSS web pages about Implementing Adjustments in Urgent Cases. This amendment has arisen from work in response to the Bristol (Abrahart) case, and is designed to ensure that the University meets its anticipatory duty to provide reasonable adjustments to students with disabilities. 19.7 previously suggested that students were required to provide medical evidence to receive support from DLSS with temporary injuries or impairment. This has been removed, as it is not generally required by DLSS. This should be of benefit to students, as it removes a barrier to seeking support from DLSS in these circumstances.
21 Language of assessment: Gaelic	Amended to reflect new Scottish Languages Act 2025. Legal Services have confirmed that the new legislation does not affect the University's position regarding assessment of work submitted in Gaelic.
25 Examination timetable	Amended to clarify expectations relating to adjustments to assessment where a student requests this due to religious observance. The regulation retains the existing position that decisions relating to adjustments to timetabled examinations for religious observance or performance sport are made by the relevant College Dean and Convener of the Board of Examiners. Additional guidance is provided about cases involving religious observance, stating that: “Colleges and Schools are encouraged to take steps to avoid a significant delay in assessment, i.e. to the next diet, or the resit diet, for example by the use of an

	alternative exam paper, or an alternative form of assessment.” Such a delay in assessment may be unavoidable in some cases, and it is understood that providing an alternative exam paper or an alternative form of an assessment has resource implications for staff. However, taking steps where possible to avoid significantly delaying assessment supports the University’s obligations under the Equality Act 2010, and mitigates the risk of perceived discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief.
27 Resit assessment	Amendment to clarify that visa-holding students on Ordinary and General degree programmes are also subject to restrictions regarding the permitted number of assessment attempts.
27.4	Amended to state that students may be offered the opportunity to resit a course or components of a course that they have passed, where a specific mark (above the normal pass mark) is required for progression. Some programmes require higher marks in specific courses for progression than the usual pass mark of 40. Allowing students to resit where they have achieved a mark of 40, but not achieved the required level, will benefit those students who may be able to demonstrate the required level to progress at a further attempt.
27.6	Amended to clarify that the requirement that all assessment attempts for a given course must take place across no more than two academic sessions (unless the relevant College has applied a concession), even where one or more attempts have resulted from null sits granted due to Exceptional Circumstances.
27.9	Amended to clarify that null sits count towards the maximum permitted number of attempts for PGT dissertations or research projects, in line with Regulation 58.
27.12	Amended to simplify the position regarding visa-holding students’ access to a fourth assessment attempt. It remains the case that visa-holding students cannot have a fourth attempt at assessment, where there have been no Exceptional Circumstances (ECs) affecting their previous attempts. The UKVI position is that all assessment attempts – including any

	undertaken following null sits due to ECs – count towards the permitted three attempts. However, it remains the case that additional attempts may be permitted where ECs have been accepted, as is the case for non-visa-holding students under Regulation 27.9. The previous wording, which allowed for additional attempts where ECs had been accepted, but no null sit had been awarded, has proven redundant and confusing for Schools, given that a null sit would always be the appropriate outcome where additional assessment was required and ECs had been accepted. The removal of this wording simplifies the position and provides greater clarity for Schools. The Student Immigration Service have confirmed that the amendment to the wording creates no additional risks in terms of the University's compliance with requirements as a visa sponsor.
30 Academic misconduct	Amended to clarify that allegations of academic misconduct will be handled in line with the University's Academic Misconduct Investigation Procedure. This reflects the existing approach.
37.2 Final marks	Amended to add reference to the requirement for Boards of Examiners to apply penalties determined under the Code of Student Conduct, where these are relevant to the decisions of the Board. This reflects the existing provisions under the Code, whereby Student Discipline Officers or the Student Discipline Committee may apply an academic penalty in cases relating to academic misconduct.
47 Publication of results	47.4 has been deleted, with relevant content incorporated into 47.2, for clarity. Moved content has been amended to clarify that students' results may not be released via email. The previous wording stated that results may not be released "informally via email", which led to confusion as to whether formal email communication of results was acceptable. The amendment mitigates the risk of results being communicated using informal channels, which could be more likely to lead to errors.
58 Resubmission of postgraduate dissertations or research projects	

