

Frequently Asked Questions – Revised Aegrotat & Fees-Free course or extensions provisions

Revised Aegrotat Provision – increase of one grade step

Will the provision for grades to be increased one grade step apply to full year (A/B) courses e.g. LAW 201 - Criminal Law etc.

Where there is very little assessment or course work handed in during the "A" component of the course, the grade step provision will be applied on a pro rata basis to any work due in Semester One, 2020. Students enrolled in courses where it will apply will be advised directly.

Does the aegrotat provision apply for pass/fail courses?

Yes – it can be applied to the total marks which lie behind the decision to pass or fail. Where the pass/fail grading is used to ensure that students satisfy patient requirements the provision will not apply. These courses almost always include provisions for students to retake critical assessment exercises.

If a student achieves an A+, will their grade be upscaled?

No. If a student with an A+ grade applied for aegrotat consideration under normal circumstances their grade would not be adjusted upwards. The reason for this is that there is no evidence that any impairment has had an adverse impact on performance as measured by the recorded grade; they have already received the highest possible grade that can be recorded or used for GPA purposes.

Failed course fees-free & fees-free extension offers

If a course is not offered again in 2021, is there an option of enrolling in a different course in the same subject “fees-free”, to avoid delays in progression?

The fees free repeat offer applies to students repeating the same course in the following three semesters (up to and including Semester Two, 2021). If the failed course is the last course needed in order for a student to complete their programme then they should contact their faculty for advice as a special exception may be made.

Does the offer to repeat a failed course “fees-free” apply to all courses?

The fees free repeat offer applies to undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses. It does not apply to research exercises of 30 points or more which are already covered through fees-free extension arrangements.

Are students eligible for a fees-free extension for a research course if they have already received an extension (and are enrolled in that extension course)?

Yes, however students would need to show, with the support of their supervisor, that work during the period of extension was disrupted significantly by COVID-19.

Does the fees free repeat offer apply to students enrolled in A/B courses?

The provision will only apply to a small number of A/B courses that have a significant amount of assessment in Semester One. Students enrolled in courses where it will apply will be advised directly.

For which semesters do the fees-free extensions for research courses apply?

Full extensions apply up until the end of semester 2 for full time students; if students' programmes would normally extend into 2021 the fees-free extension will be pro-rated against the portion of the programme that falls in 2020 and is therefore deemed to be subject to COVID-19 related disruption.

A number of postgraduate programmes have regulations that restrict progression if a student fails too many courses or does not meet a specific GPA. Will these regulations be "relaxed" for students who fail courses in Semester One?

The intention is that students shouldn't be disadvantaged by Covid-19. A flexible approach will be taken to applying the regulations if students fail courses in Semester One. If a student is concerned about the impact of failing courses or concerned about their progression in their programme they should contact their faculty.