

Introduction to Aston Regulations

2023-2024

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Chair
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# Programme for the session

Credit and Qualifications Framework.

General Regulations for Programmes.

Programme Regulations.

Regulations on Examination and Assessment.

Apprenticeships & EPA.

Exemptions to and Waivers of Regulations.

Overview of Boards of Examiners Processes.

Updates to Regulations 2023-2024.



### Credit and Qualifications Framework

Applies to all taught programmes.

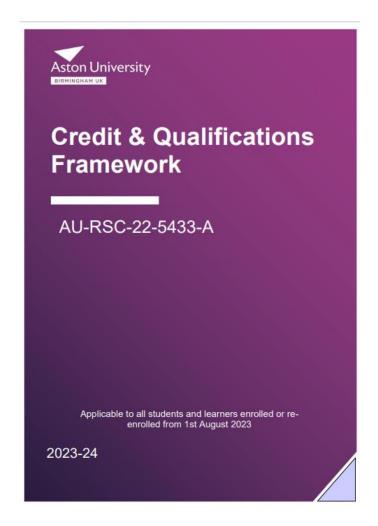
#### Contains information on:

- the required number of credits, and
- the Level of any credit,

for a qualification to be recommended for award.

Contains a number of Definitions of Key Terms.

Works in tandem with the relevant General Regulations.



# General Regulations for Programmes

Divided into a number of separate Regulations:

- Undergraduate Programmes (including Integrated Master's).
- MBChB & Physician Associate.
- Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
- Apprenticeships & Work-Based Programmes
- Foundation Degrees.
- Graduate Diplomas.

Key information on progression and options in the case of failure.

Additional information on award classification and exceptional circumstances.



## Programme Regulations

Contained within the relevant Programme Specification.

#### Contains information on:

- Approved Exemptions from General Regulations.
- Additional programme-specific regulations.

Unless detailed, apply to all students/Stages of the programme.

Should not duplicate any General Regulation.

Updated annually.



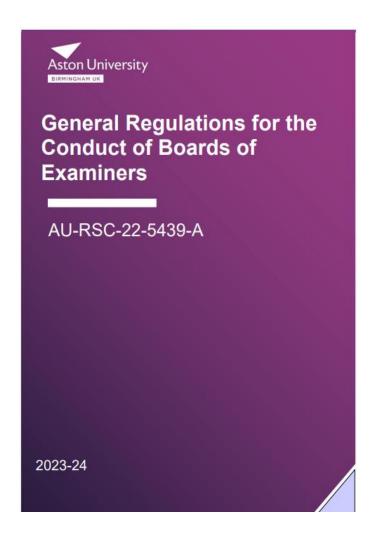
# Regulations on Examination & Assessment (1)

General Regulations for the Conduct of Boards of Examiners.

Chapter 2 on External Examiners which includes:

- the purpose and function of the External Examiner system,
- participation at Boards,
- evidence available to External Examiners, and
- reporting.

Contains other information on Module Board, Programme Boards, etc.

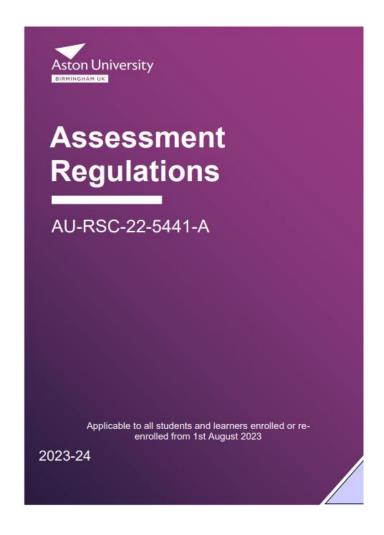


## Regulations on Examination & Assessment (2)

Assessment Regulations.

### Contains the following section:

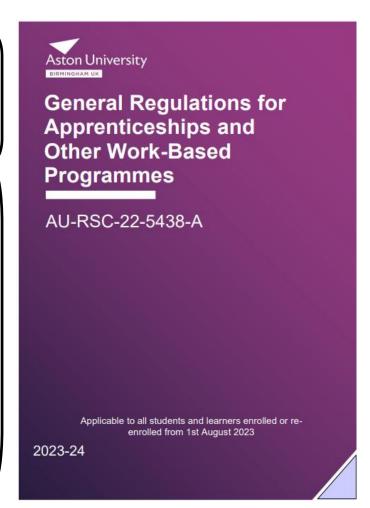
- Marking Policies.
- Word Counts and Limits.
- Moderation & Pre-scrutiny Policies
- Generic Marking Scales UG & PG.
- Policy on the Late Submission of Work and Subsequent Penalties.
- Recycling of Assessment Content.
- Use of Text-Matching Software.



## Apprenticeships & End Point Assessment

There are additional external oversight requirements on apprenticeship programmes, regarding integrated End Point Assessment (EPA).

- That EPA is conducted in line with the relevant standard.
- That the EPA Assessor's knowledge is up to date.
- Consistency across EPA Assessors
- That apprentice readiness for EPA is checked at gateway with the involvement of the employer.



## Exemptions and Waivers (1)

### **Exemptions:**

- Exemptions excuse a named programme or programmes from an individual Regulation, either for a fixed time or indefinitely.
- Usually apply to all students on the programme concerned.
- Are approved by RSC.

Normally approved to ensure that a programme meets PSRB requirements.

Details of Exemptions are available in the Programme Specification.



# Exemptions and Waivers (2)

#### Waivers:

• a one-time only suspension of a specific Regulation for an individual student, normally because of some form of exceptional circumstances.

Waivers are usually requested by Boards of Examiners.

All Waivers (from Boards of Examiners as well as from other Committees and programmes) have to be approved by an independent University Committee.

The Chair and Secretary to your Board will be able to provide further advice and guidance on Waivers.



## Overview of Boards of Examiners Processes (1)

### Module Boards

- Pre-Module Board activity pre-scrutiny.
- Review of module assessment.
- Review of candidate marks.

### Programme Boards

- Pre-Programme Board activity.
- Confirmation of recommendations from Module Board(s).
- Review of candidate performance.
- Progression or recommendation for award.
- Defer/Refer/Repeat/Withdrawal decisions.
- Role of the External Examiners

## Overview of Boards of Examiners Processes (2)

### Exceptional Circumstances and Absences Panels (ECAPs)

- (Usually) College-level.
- Review EC submissions.
- Make recommendations to the relevant Programme Boards.
- Representations Boards
- Appeals
  - Handled centrally within the University.
  - Stages:
    - Stage 1 Assessment of grounds for appeal.
    - Stage 2 Informal resolution (discussion with the Chair).
    - Stage 3 Academic Appeals Committee.
  - Appeal Outcome Review.



## Updates to Regulations 2023-2024

### Annual updates to Regulations.

- Training for all Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Secretaries, along with any other relevant staff (including Programme Directors, etc.).
- Compulsory for Chairs of all Board of Examiners.
- Online briefing sessions, which all External Examiners are invited to attend.





# Summary

All General Regulations are available on-line.

### A-Z of Regulations and Policies:

https://www.aston.ac.uk/education/quality/a-z

### General Regulations for Programmes:

https://www.aston.ac.uk/education/quality/a-z/general-regulations

### **Examination and Assessment:**

• <a href="https://www.aston.ac.uk/education/quality/a-z/examinations-and-assessment-regulations">https://www.aston.ac.uk/education/quality/a-z/examinations-and-assessment-regulations</a>





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