

Academic Regulations 2026-27

Summary of changes

General changes arising from the outcomes of the governance review:

- Education Quality and Standards Board becomes Academic Quality and Standards Board.
- Taught Programmes Board becomes Education Programmes Board.
- Vice-Principals and Deputy Vice-Principals become Vice-Presidents and Deputy Vice-Presidents.
- Minor references to the Ordinances have been updated (and where appropriate removed) to reflect previously approved changes to the Ordinances).

1.7 License in Dental Surgery (LDS)

The LDS - which will begin teaching in 2027-28 - will be a PGT rather than (as previously proposed) a UG award. Specific approval is sought from Senate to approve this change. Full LDS progression and award regulations will be added to the Academic Regulations for the 2027-28 edition.

1.13 Relative authority of regulations

A new final sentence has been added, clarifying that the Academic Regulations have primacy over other published material. The first two sentences were pre-existing and have not been amended.

“Programme and module regulations provide a greater level of detail and amplify the Academic Regulations. Where programme or module regulations are silent in any regard, default to the Academic Regulations will occur. In the unlikely event that other materials or advice do not align with these Academic Regulations, these Regulations will be used to determine the correct position.”

2.61 Deregistration as a result of non-engagement

The essential nature of this regulation has not changed, but the Directorate of Student Experience has updated the text to reflect current terminology including job titles and department names, and to further increase signposting to site of support.

“Where a student does not meet published engagement requirements, the Head of School/Institute (or nominee) will issue the student with a written formal warning and allow a specified period in which to improve one or more of attendance, participation, and submission of assessments. If the student does not satisfactorily improve their engagement then they will be deregistered. Before deregistering a student with a declared mental health condition, the School/Institute must consult the Mental Health Manager (or nominee within the Advice and Counselling Service) and the Disability and Dyslexia Service and hold a meeting with the student under Queen Mary's [Enhancing Support for Students' Fitness to Study](#) guidance with a suitable member of Student Wellbeing present. Where a student holds a Student visa (formerly called Tier 4 immigration permission), Queen Mary is obliged to report non-engagement to UK Visas and Immigration and may deregister a student without this formal warning process.”

2.129 Graduation and academic dress

A new regulation, but one that does not introduce any changes to current practice. The conventions for academic dress previously formed part of the Ordinances. They will in future be part of the Academic Regulations. The actual conventions for academic dress have not changed, though they are presented in a new format, here. Regulations for “official” dress, for Officers and Fellows of the University are held separately in the Regulations for Official Dress (which are not part of the Academic Regulations, but are cross-referenced with a link).

“A student who successfully completes their programme of study and achieves their award will be invited to attend a graduation ceremony, as a graduand. Graduands, staff, and officers of the University shall wear academic dress as outlined below.” [the full details of academic dress then follow].

Section 3: Assessment

Section 3 previously contained extensive information on the conduct and delivery of invigilated examinations, including (for example) the specified ratio of invigilators to students, materials permitted in an examination, and actions to take in the event of the emergency evacuation of an examination.

Much of this information is operational, and nearly all of it is policy rather than regulation, and should be applied on an annual basis rather than following a student through their studies. Much of the former content was duplicated in the Assessment Handbook, and relevant sections have been retained there. The new document [Examination Regulations for Students](#) contains the student-facing details and rules that remain essential – this is published annually, and the Academic Regulations have been updated to include several direct references to that document, noting that students must follow them in full.

In consequence, several pages of the Academic Regulations have been removed. Ongoing work on the Assessment Handbook will consider how best to integrate different policies to avoid duplication while not losing essential detail, but the removal of these sections from the Academic Regulations (which solely comprised duplication) is an important first step. A very small number of key clauses have been retained.

4.68-104: MBBS progression and award regulations

The MBBS regulations have been reviewed and streamlined to remove operational detail and update terminology. This work was led by the Institute of Health Sciences Education in discussion with the Directorate of Governance and Legal Services. The essentials of the regulations are unchanged, but they are now clearer and refer more explicitly to changes in the external environment including the GMC’s recently introduced national qualifying assessments.

5.5-6: Progression requirements for PGT programmes with integrated foundation years

A new section that broadly mirrors the existing equivalent section for undergraduate programmes. It specifies that – to progress from the foundation year to the masters programme – a student must (a) take 120 credits including a minimum 90 at level 6, (b) pass a minimum 105 of those (equivalent to the requirements for a Graduate Diploma), and (c) meet any programme specific requirements including a specified minimum average mark.

Section 6: Special Regulations

Programme-specific special regulations have been updated to reflect decisions approved by the Taught Programmes Board in 2025-26:

- BSc Oral Health replaced with 'BSc Dental Therapy and Hygiene' following programme redesign and reapproval, though its pre-existing special regulations are unchanged.
- MSc Biomedical Science (Medical Microbiology) (new programme) will have non-standard exit award titles for reasons of professional accreditation.
- MSc Physician Associate Studies special regulations removed, as this programme will not run in 2026-27.
- MSc Astrophysics special regulations on condoned failure removed, following a programme amendment – it will now follow standard regulations.
- BSc Accountancy (Flying Start) special regulations amended to reflect a change to the programme structure (years two, three, and four will each now comprise 90 credits of taught modules and a 30 credit placement, rather than the previous 80/40 split).

Section 6: Special Regulations for Collaborative Programmes

- MSc Entrepreneurship and Smart Technology (with BUPT): A new set of regulations for postgraduate programmes delivered as part of the collaborative arrangement with BUPT have been added. The MSc Entrepreneurship and Smart Technology is a single award made in Queen Mary's name, with collaborative input and delivery from the partner. As such, the award and classification rules mirror those of a standard Queen Mary MSc, but there are additional contextual factors to include, largely mirroring the existing regulations for collaborative undergraduate programmes delivered with BUPT. For the next iteration of the Academic Regulations, work will be undertaken to review the UG and PGT regulations side by side and, if possible, to bring them together so as to avoid duplication of the elements that are common to both.
- BEng in Artificial Intelligence and BEng in Intelligent Interaction Design (with NPU, at QMES): These two new programmes have been added to the existing regulations. Additionally, all references to postgraduate provision have been removed from these regulations as there are presently no active PGT programmes.
- A new set of regulations for programmes delivered through the new partnership with the University of International Business and Economics (UIBE) had been added.
- For all programmes delivered with partners in China, the detail of the harmonised penalties for academic misconduct has been removed in favour of a direct reference and link to the Queen Mary Academic Integrity and Misconduct Policy, where those jointly agreed provisions are housed.