



Regulations and Procedures for the Award of Aegrotat Qualifications (including Posthumous Awards)

2023-24

Issued by the Standards and Enhancement Office

Approved by Senate June 2023

Technical updates of this document are undertaken on an annual basis to reflect changes to the

Scope

These regulations and procedures apply to all undergraduate and postgraduate taught qualifications awarded by the University of Bolton. Postgraduate research degrees are subject to their own regulations and procedures; (see the *Research Degree Regulations*).

Definitions

The following definitions are used throughout the regulation.

Assessment Board: A committee to agree final student marks, determine progression and award of an Intermediate Award or End Qualification as outlined in the *University Regulations and Procedures for the Organisation and Conduct of Assessment Boards*.

End Qualification: The qualification aim for which the student is registered.

Intermediate Award: The highest level of award which a student achieves who has not successfully completed the End Qualification.

Programme of Study: The modules pursued by a student in respect of their programme.

PSRB: A Professional, Statutory or Regulatory body. This includes, but is not limited to, accrediting bodies and statutory bodies that deal with legal requirements and immigration.

Senate: Any reference to Senate in these regulations shall be deemed to include a reference to any committee of Senate to which Senate has delegated the relevant authority.

Any reference in these regulations to the Academic Registrar, Head of School, or, or other named officer of the University shall be deemed to include a reference to any current or subsequent holder of a comparable post and to any person designated by that officer for the purpose.

Any reference in these regulations to a School shall be deemed to include a reference to the Off-Campus Division and to any current or subsequent comparable organisational structures of the University.

1. Aegrotat (including posthumous) qualifications

- 1.1 An Aegrotat qualification is a qualification that may be conferred upon a candidate on the presumption that the candidate, who is unable to continue their studies due to a diagnosis of terminal or debilitating illness, would have satisfied the standard required for the End Qualification, or Intermediate Award, had they been able to continue. An aegrotat qualification may also be awarded posthumously in the event of the death of a candidate prior to completion of their programme.
- 1.2 The award of an Aegrotat qualification may be made in accordance with the regulations outlined in sections 2 and 3 below.
- 1.3 The Aegrotat qualification awarded will normally correspond to the level of study which is interrupted, except in the case of a posthumous award where the qualification will normally be the End Qualification. An aegrotat award is contingent on there being sufficient evidence, in the view of the Assessment Board, that had study not been interrupted the candidate would have completed the level in question. In the absence of such evidence, the Aegrotat qualification will be the relevant Intermediate Award for the body of study already completed.
- 1.4 An Aegrotat (including a posthumous) degree, diploma or certificate may be graded (pass, merit, distinction), or subject to honours classification, where: (a) the original qualification is subject to grading or classification according to the Undergraduate Programmes, or any programme-specific regulations; and (b) there is strong evidence that the candidate would have successfully completed the programme to the given standard. Normally this would mean that a candidate had **completed at least half of the credits at the highest level of the award being made**, and that the **majority of the total credits earned were at or above the grade or classification being awarded**. Whilst Assessment Boards may be flexible in the interpretation of this guidance, there should be good reasons, recorded in the Board minutes, for any significant variations.
- 1.5 An Aegrotat qualification will not normally entitle the holder to registration with a PSRB, or to be exempt from the requirements of any professional qualification which might otherwise be associated with the programme of study or original qualification

2.2 Except in the case of a posthumous award, or where the request is made by the candidate themselves, the individual making the request shall be required to provide written evidence acceptable to the Assessment Board that the candidate is willing to accept an

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academic standing of the candidate;
causes which prevented the candidate from attempting the whole or part of the assessment(s);
medical or other appropriate evidence;
recommendation from a qualified practitioner (medical and/or occupational health) (as appropriate);
evidence on the prospects of the candidate completing the assessment(s) in a subsequent year within the time-limit;
recommendation on the title of the Aegrotat qualification, if it is not considered appropriate for the qualification to be named in accordance with the original intermediate award or end qualification registered for;
(except in the case of a posthumous award) written evidence from the candidate or, where the candidate is otherwise unable to provide it, from their family member or other representative, that the candidate is willing to accept an Aegrotat assessment(s)

Proposal to an Assessment Board for the Award of an

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