



University of East Anglia

Information Compliance (ITCS)

The Library
University of East Anglia
Norwich Research Park
Norwich NR4 7TJ
United Kingdom

Email: foi@uea.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 1603 593 523
Fax: +44 (0) 1603 591 010
Web: <http://www.uea.ac.uk>



13 August 2018

Dear 

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_18-172)

We have now considered your request of 26 July 2018 for information relating to the administration of visa and immigration requirements of international students.

Our response is on pages 2-4 of this letter, together with a copy of your request.

We hope this information will meet your requirements, however if you are not satisfied you have the right of appeal. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your reasons for appealing and send to the above address. You must appeal within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal received after that date will not be considered nor acknowledged. This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Information Commissioner's Office.

You also have a subsequent right of appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information is available on their website:

https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us, or by telephone on 0303 123 1113.

Please note that any material over which UEA has copyright is released on the understanding that you will comply with all relevant copyright rules regarding reproduction and/or transmission of the information provided.

Please quote our reference given at the head of this letter in all correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Palmer
Information Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia

Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI_18-172)

1. How does the university monitor international students' engagement with and attendance at their programme of study?

The University's policy requires one register per week per module for all home/EEA and International students on taught courses. Attendance data is made available for Schools to follow up where the School has concerns about any student's attendance record and/or his/her ability to engage or catch up with studies.

1.1 Are there any differences in the ways that international undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD students are monitored? If so, what are the differences?

There is no difference between the monitoring of engagement of undergraduate or taught postgraduate modules. The engagement of all postgraduate research students is monitored through their completion of monthly supervision reports.

2. How does this differ from the ways home students are monitored?

There are no differences in the monitoring of the engagement of international or home/EEA students, as monitoring is done on a modular basis and the same modules could be taken by home or international students.

3. Which staff at the university are responsible for recording evidence of individual international student's compliance with their immigration and visa requirements?

The University does not specifically record evidence of compliance other than through attendance and engagement records maintained for all students so therefore there are no staff with this specific responsibility.

4. Have staff received guidance from the university on the government's 'hostile environment' policy (to curb illegal immigration) and how it should be applied in the university?

No.

4.1 If so, please provide a copy of this guidance.

Not applicable – see response to question 4 above.

5. Has the university introduced any penalties for staff who fail to adequately monitor students' compliance with their visa and immigration requirements?

No.

5.1 If so, what are those penalties?

Not applicable – see response to question 5 above.

6. Have any students not complied with and/or breached their immigration and/or visa requirements in the past five years?

Yes.

6.1 If so, how is this recorded?

It is reported via the UKVI Sponsor Management System.

6.2 If this is recorded, how many students were non-compliant and/or in breach in the last two academic years (2016-17, 2017-18)? Please provide a year-by-year breakdown.

Our response is as follows:

Year	Number
2016/17	1
2017/18	7

7. How does the university monitor international staff, including those on short-term and temporary contracts, differently from other staff?

We undertake monitoring and reporting duties for Tier 2 and Tier 5 employees as required under the terms of our licences and in line with the Tier 2 and Tier 5 Sponsor Guidance published by the Home Office.

8. Have any international staff, including those on short-term and temporary contracts, breached their immigration and/or visa requirements in the past five years?

No.

8.1 If so, is this centrally recorded?

Not applicable – see response to question 8 above.

8.2 If it is centrally recorded, how many staff – including, if recorded, those on short-term and temporary contracts – were in breach in the current and previous academic year?

Not applicable – see response to question 8 above.

9. When was the university last audited by the Home Office/UK Visas and Immigration to check its compliance with their immigration and visa guidelines?

UEA was last audited for Tier 2, 4 and 5 in 2012.

9.1 Has the university ever been found in breach of these guidelines by the Home Office/UKVI?

No.