



08 February 2019

Dear 

Freedom of Information Act 2000– Information request (ref: FOI_19-016)

We have now considered your request of 16 January 2019 for information relating to academic sanctions.

Our response is on page 3 of this letter, together with a copy of your request.

On this occasion it is not possible to provide some of the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm that the University does not hold any of the following information:

- The number of students sanctioned due to unpaid library fines or accommodation, as our recording system does not allow for such a breakdown.
- We are also unable to provide figures for years previous to 2016 as this information is no longer retained by the University.

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 40 working days of the date of this letter. In line with section 5.3 of the UK Government's Freedom of Information Act Code of Practice, we are not obliged to accept internal reviews after this date.

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

Kirsty McDonald
Information Compliance Assistant
University of East Anglia

Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI_19-016)

I am looking to find out about academic sanctions for students who owe money to the university.

For each of the past five academic years (or less if this full range isn't possible) could you tell me how many UK domiciled undergrad students have been hit with academic sanctions because they were in debt to the university. (If a data extraction this specific isn't possible, I am happy to drop the 'undergraduate' and 'UK domiciled' specifications.

If possible within the constraints of the FOI act, could you break the information down by telling me the numbers that received each type of sanction – such as how many were given a library ban, how many were not allowed to graduate, how many were banned from attending classes etc. – and the numbers who received their sanction for owing a certain type of debt – for example, how many received sanctions because they owed student accommodation money, how many were sanctioned because they owed library fines, how many were sanctioned because they owed tuition fees.

If it is possible to tie up the sanction to reason for the sanction this would also be appreciated, but if this isn't possible, then I don't wish for it to delay the request.

Our response is within the table below. Please note that we are, as offered in your request, dropping the 'UK domiciled' and 'Undergraduate' parameters for our response.

Question	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
No. of students given a library ban ¹	[Information not held, s.1(1)(a) Freedom of Information Act]					
No. of students sanctioned due to debt to library fines	[Information not held, s.1(1)(a) Freedom of Information Act]					
No. of students prevented from graduate due to owing to tuition fees ²	3	6	0	[Information not held, s.1(1)(a) Freedom of Information Act]		
No. of students banned from classes	0	0	0			

¹ All library borrowers are blocked from further borrowing if their outstanding library fines reach a limit of £5. The University is unable to ascertain the numbers of borrowers who have been affected by this block on borrowing, as the block is not permanently recorded in any logs in our Library Management System.

² The University is not permitted to prevent a certificate from being issued on any grounds other than a debt of unpaid tuition fees, so therefore unpaid library fees and accommodation fees etc. will not prevent a student from graduating.