

Amendments to UPR AS11 (Schedule of Awards) for 2020/21

This paper summarises the approved amendments to UPR AS11 for the 2020/21 academic year.

1. Relaxation of Sandwich Award requirements

Previously, UPR AS11 identified that a sandwich award required the successful completion of at least 36 weeks full-time equivalent placement activity from a maximum of two separate approved placements. If students did not accumulate 36 weeks then there were three options within the regulations:

- To award a degree 'with Employment Experience' if the student has accumulated at least 12 weeks of experience;
- If they have completed between 12 and 35 weeks of experience, the balance could be made up by a separate 12-week (minimum) placement;
- Revert to a non-Sandwich route.

However, many placement students were leaving their placements early because of the Covid-19 outbreak. It was agreed that the University should be more flexible with respect to students who could not complete their 36 weeks. The following temporary arrangements have been agreed in these exceptional times:

- Reduction of the 36-week minimum requirement to 30 weeks minimum;
- In exceptional circumstances, the Director of Academic Quality Assurance is able to approve a Sandwich award where a student has accumulated down to the 24 weeks placement activity, which is the HESA minimum expectation of a Sandwich Year.

This temporary amendment to the regulations would reassure students finishing their placement early, and those wanting to but worried of the consequences of doing so. The following amendment was therefore approved to UPR AS11, section 2.4 for 2019/20 and extended into the 2020/21 academic session:

2.4 Award titles acknowledging employment experience

2.4.1 Sandwich awards

A sandwich award requires the successful completion of at least **30** weeks full-time equivalent placement activity from a maximum of two separate approved placements, neither of which shall be normally less than **12** weeks in duration, in order for the award to be made. The sandwich award title should be:

<Award title (Sandwich)>

*In exceptional circumstances, the Director of Academic Quality Assurance is able to approve a Sandwich award for the successful completion of at least **24** weeks full-time equivalent placement activity.*

2. Doctor of Public Health (DrPH)

To note the approval of a change from Doctor of Public Health (DPH) to Doctor of Public Health (DrPH), recommended by the Research Degrees Board.

3. Professional Doctorate in General Internal Medicine (Clinical MD)

To note the approval of the Doctor of General Internal Medicine (ClinicalMD)