Quality-related research (QR) research degree programme (RDP) supervision fund - technical document

Purpose

1. This document describes the algorithms we use to derive postgraduate research (PGR) student Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) numbers from HESA data to inform QR RDP supervision funding.

2. This document is aimed at readers with an in-depth knowledge of the data. Readers are advised to have copies of the HESA Student record coding manual to hand when using this document (https://www.hesa.ac.uk/collection).

3. This document shows the calculation of the eligible PGR FTE for each student course session x unit of assessment x provider supervising this part of the student course session (SID x NUMHUS x REF2021UNITOFASSESSMENT x SUPALLHESAID) that has a postgraduate course aim (that is, the first character of QUALCAT = 'D', 'E', 'L' or 'M', unless QUALCAT = 'M0002'[1]).

HESA fields used in the QR RDP supervision fund algorithm

3. Only certain fields, detailed in Table 1, are used to generate the QR RDP supervision fund using HESA student data.

4. Throughout this document, fields taken or derived from the HESA return are shown in capitals using the names given in Tables 1 and 2 respectively.

Table 1: HESA fields which are used to inform the QR RDP supervision fund data summary

Entity	Field	Description
CollaborativeProvision	COLPROVTYPEID	Collaborative provision type
CollaborativeProvision	PARTNERNUMHUS	Where a student has transferred as part of a sequential doctoral research training programme, this field records the NUMHUS at the previous provider
CollaborativeProvision	PARTNERUKPRN	Where a student has transferred as part of a

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[1] M0002 Integrated undergraduate/postgraduate masters degree on the enhanced/extended pattern

		sequential doctoral research training programme, this field records the UKPRN of the previous provider
Engagement	ENGSTARTDATE[†]	Engagement start date
Engagement	INCOMINGEXCHANGE	Incoming exchange programmes
Engagement	NUMHUS	Engagement number identifier
Engagement	OWNENGID[†]	Provider's own Student course session identifier
Engagement	RCSTDNT[†]	Engagement has been funded in whole or in part by a Research Council
Engagement	Z_PROVIDERGRP2	Grouping of the location of the student's reporting provider - (granularity level UK home countries)
FundingBody	FUNDINGBODY	Code of the funding body that is responsible for allocating funding for a fundable StudentCourseSession - eg. 5056 for PGR students that meet the "**Providers funded by Research England"** part of the guidance
Leaver	ENGENDDATE	End date of engagement
Leaver	INTENDEDDESTINATION	Intended destination
Leaver	RSNENGEND	Reason for engagement ending
Provider	UKPRN	UK Provider Reference Number
Qualification	QUALCAT	Qualification category – level and type
ReferencePeriodStudentLoad	RPSTULOAD	Reference period student FTE

SessionStatus	STATUSCHANGEDTO[2]	To record where students are writing-up, intercalating, dormant or returning to active
SessionStatus	STATUSVALIDFROM[1]	Change of status date
Student	OWNSTU[†]	Provider's own identifier for the student
Student	SID	HESA unique student identifier
StudentCourseSession	COURSEID[†]	Course identifier
StudentCourseSession	SCSMODE[†]	Student course session mode of study
StudentCourseSession	SCSSESSIONID	The unique identifier for the Student course session.
StudentCourseSession	YEARPRG[†]	Year of course
SupervisorAllocation	REF2021UNITOFASSESSMENT	REF 2021 unit of assessment (UOA)
SupervisorAllocation	SUPALLHESAID	Collaborating provider HESA identifier
SupervisorAllocation	SUPALLPROP	Proportion of the Student course session's supervision that the combination of the unit of assessment and supervising organisation contributes

[†]These fields are not used to calculate the QR RDP supervision fund but are included in some output files to allow easy identification of students.

Description of derived fields

6. This section details the derived fields, these are used to build the PGR FTE used in the QR RDP supervision fund calculation.

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[2] These fields are used in the calculation of QR RDP, including derivations shown in Table 2 of this document but they may not be included in some output files

Table 2: Derived fields which are used to inform the QR RDP supervision fund data summary

Derived field name	Description	Paragraph
FunderCode	Derivation from FUNDINGBODY	7
RDPEXCLSUM	Derived sum of reason for exclusion	12
RDPEXCL1	Exclusion flag 1 – active/inactive status	8
RDPEXCL2	Exclusion flag 2 - PGR	9
RDPEXCL4	Exclusion flag 4 – Incoming exchange status	10
RDPEXCL8	Exclusion flag 8 – RE Fundability status	11
RDPFTE	QR RDP FTE per UOA per provider	16
RDPFTEProvAdj	Final QR RDP FTE attributed to each UOA and provider	18
RDPFTETOT	FTE counted towards QR RDP FTE calculation	14
RDPProv	UKPRN of provider of the supervisor	15
RDPREFEligFlg	Provider supervising this part of the activity was eligible to submit to REF 2021	17

FunderCode

7. This takes the collecting FUNDINGBODY field and 'flattens' the possible multiple entity returns for the Student course session into a single string.

Example value	Description	Example definition
5016, 5056	'Flattens' the multiple returned entities for each Student course session	FUNDINGBODY = 5056 and FUNDINGBODY = 5016 returned for the same Student course session

RDPEXCL1

8. This field indicates whether the student is active on the student course session during the reference period. (Note: Year1 is the first year of the academic year being processed – eg Year 1 = 2022 if the data collection covers the academic year 2022-23).

Value	Description	Definition
1	Student not active on student course session	ENGENDDATE < 1 August Year1 or (Most recent STATUSCHANGEDTO = '02' or '03'and STATUSVALIDFROM < 2 August Year1)
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

RDPEXCL2

9. These fields indicate whether the student course session activity is PGR for the reference period.

Value	Description	Definition
1	Student course session not leading towards a postgraduate research degree	QUALCAT ≠ D0003, L0000, L0001
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

RDPEXCL4

10. These fields indicate whether the student course session is an incoming exchange for the reference period.

Value	Description	Definition
1	Incoming exchange Student course session	INCOMINGEXCHANGE = '01', '02', '03' or COLPROVTYPEID = '02'
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

RDPEXCL8

11. This field indicates whether the student course session is Research England-fundable for the reference period.

Value	Description	Definition
1	Not Research England-fundable Student course session	FunderCode does not contain '5006' or '5056'
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

RDPEXCLSUM

12. This field indicates whether the student course session FTE contributes towards the eligible QR RDP FTE. It is calculated as $(1 \times RDPEXCL1) + (2 \times RDPEXCL2) + (4 \times RDPEXCL4) + (8 \times RDPEXCL8)$. The reason(s) which contribute to the exclusion of a student course session can therefore be calculated. For example, if RDPEXCLSUM = 5, by subtracting figures from the table below, starting at the bottom, we see that the student course session is an incoming exchange student course session (RDPEXCL4 = 1) and the student is not active on the student course session (RDPEXCL1 = 1).

13. Student course sessions that contribute towards the eligible QR RDP FTE have RDPEXCLSUM = 0.

Value	Description	Definition
1	Student not active on Student course session	RDPEXCL1 = 1
2	Student course session not leading towards a postgraduate research qualification	RDPEXCL2 = 1
4	Incoming exchange Student course session	RDPEXCL4 = 1
8	Not a Research England-fundable Student course session	RDPEXCL8 = 1
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

RDPFTETOT

14. This field contains the FTE for the student course session that informs the QR RDP supervision fund FTE calculation.

Value	Description	Definition
RPSTULOAD	QR RDP FTE for the year	RDPEXCLSUM = 0
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

RDPProv

15. This field shows the UKPRN of the provider supervising this part of the student course session.

Value	Description	Definition
UKPRN	Registering provider is supervising this part of the student course session	SUPALLHESAID = BLANK
SUPALLHESAID	Collaborating provider is supervising this part of the student course session	SUPALLHESAID≠ BLANK

RDPFTE

16. This field shows the QR RDP FTE for the student course session (RDPFTETOT) attributable to each UOA (REF2021UNITOFASSESSMENT) and provider supervising the activity (RDPProv). It is calculated as RDPFTETOT × (SUPALLPROP/sum of SUPALLPROP)[3].

RDPREFEligFlg

17. This field indicates whether the provider supervising this part of the activity (RDPProv) was eligible to submit to REF 2021.

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[3] In most cases this is equivalent to (SUPALLPROP/100) but to allow for slight variations.

Value	Description
1	Provider supervising this part of the activity (RDPProv) was eligible to submit to REF 2021
0	Otherwise

RDPFTEPROVADJ

18. This field shows the QR RDP FTE for the student course session (RDPFTETOT) attributable to each UOA (REF2021UNITOFASSESSMENT) and provider supervising the activity (RDPProv) that was eligible to submit to REF 2021 (RDPREFEligFlg= 1). It is this FTE that will be used to inform the QR RDP supervision fund FTE calculation.

Value	Definition
RDPFTETOT × (SUPALLPROP /sum of SUPALLPROPs across all providers eligible to submit to REF 2021 supervising this student course session)	RDPREFEligFlg= 1
0	Otherwise