

Mapping The Regulatory Landscape for Higher Education in Scotland

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High Level Regulatory Structure - Scotland

Scottish Government

54 directorates including
Lifelong Learning Directorate, which sponsors SFC.

UK Government

Non-devolved responsibilities
e.g. immigration

Scottish Funding Council (SFC)

Non-departmental public body directly accountable to the Scottish government.

Other Scottish Public Bodies

e.g. Scottish Public Services Ombudsman
(student complaints), NHS Education for Scotland,
General Teaching Council for Scotland

QAA Scotland
Jisc-HESA

Professional Bodies e.g. RIBA, RSC, PBS

**Universities
and HE-delivering Colleges**

Scottish Higher Education Regulation (Students) – Structural Overview

Scottish Funding Council

Outcomes Framework
Monitoring
Engagement

Scottish Public
Service
Ombudsman

Disclosure
Scotland

General Teaching
Council for Scotland

NHS Education for
Scotland

Higher Education
Statistics Agency

Quality Assurance
Agency

Non-Governmental
Professional Bodies
e.g. RIBA, RSC, BPS

General Medical
Council

Nursing and
Midwifery Council

UK Home Office

UK Visas and Immigration

Competition and Markets
Authority

Student Loans
Company

UK Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

UK Research and
Innovation

Information
Commissioner's Office

SFC Outcomes Framework

Funding regularity

Skills and Work-based Learning

Good governance

Research Excellence

Financial viability and sustainability

Knowledge Exchange and Innovation

Estates and Infrastructure

Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion

High Quality Learning and Teaching

Net Zero

Student Interests, Access and Success

SFC Main Monitoring Mechanisms for Student-Related Outcomes

| Accountability Return | Description | Relevant Outcomes |
|---|---|--|
| Jisc-HESA Student Record (Data Futures) | Individualised student record covering all aspects of the student journey, supplying data for a range of quality and funding purposes | Funding, Financial sustainability Skills and work-based learning Student participation, access and success |
| SFC Early Statistics and Early Access Returns | Monitor overall numbers of students in December | Funding Targets for Initial Teacher Training, Medicine, Nursing Widening access |
| National Student Survey | Gather student feedback about their learning experience. Independent survey by NSS. | High quality learning and teaching Student interests |
| Graduate Outcomes Survey | Survey employment of graduates 15 months after graduation. Undertaken by HESA. | High quality learning and teaching Student success Skills and work-based learning |
| Tertiary Quality Enhancement Framework | Provide evidence that academic provision is of high quality and is improving, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional self-evaluation and action plan • QAA engagement, monitoring and review • Data and evidence e.g. graduate outcomes | High quality learning and teaching |

Timing of Accountability Returns required from Higher Education Providers

HESA Student (Data Futures)

HESA Aggregate Offshore

HESA Staff

Early Statistics and
Early Access Returns

GMC Assessment

Annual Financial
Return

Quality Enhancement and Review cycle including Annual Monitoring and Institution-led Quality Review

Aug

Sep

October

Nov

December

Jan

Mar

April

May

June

July

Year-round transactional reporting (e.g. UKVI, FOI)

DiscoverUni

Graduate Outcomes Survey

HESA
Provider
Profile

National Student
Survey