



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoinachaidh na h-Alba

Additional AY 2020-21 student number collection (college sector)

SFC Call for Information

Issue Date: 24 September 2020

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Deadline: 30 September 2020

Reference: SFC/CI/07/2020

Summary: To request early information on student numbers at Scotland's colleges for AY 2020-21 in order to inform SFC planning and advice for Scottish Government Ministers

FAO: Principals / Chairs of Scotland's colleges

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Additional AY 2020-21 student number collection (college sector)

Introduction

1. I am contacting you regarding a SFC request for early student number information for AY 2020-21. We are also collecting periodic data from the university sector over the coming months but because we get regular data through FES we are only seeking a limited one-off early data collection from colleges.
2. Given the unique COVID-19 circumstances, there is obviously some uncertainty in relation to potential student numbers and 'deferred' students. The requested information will inform SFC planning and provide Scottish Government Ministers with an early indication of student numbers for AY 2020-21 for:
 - Public health surveillance and work to monitor COVID-19 outbreaks that is associated with student populations.
 - To support on-going work on youth unemployment (age 16-24) and on developing the youth guarantee.
 - Determining the number of additional university places that students have taken up as a result of the SQA regrading process and any impact this has on colleges.

The collection

3. In order to gain early evidence of student enrolments prior to the 2020-21 FES Data Portal going live in October we request that you complete the attached form with FE and HE, full-time and part-time student enrolments numbers and a breakdown by age of enrolled students in your college at 25 September 2020.
4. For this collection UHI partner colleges and SRUC need only return figures for FE full-time and part-time students as any HE students will be included in the separate universities student numbers collection.
5. Please return this information to SFC by email to datareturns@sfc.ac.uk by the end of the working day on **Wednesday 30 September 2020**.



Martin Boyle

Director of Policy, Insight and Analytics