

Annex N Level of study

1. This annex explains how to determine a student's level of study (foundation degree, other undergraduate or postgraduate). It also explains how the undergraduate data on Table 5 are split.

Undergraduate

2. Undergraduates are students studying towards a first degree (including foundation degree), foundation degree bridging course, HND, HNC, DipHE, CertEd or DTLLS. In Tables 1, 2 and 3, undergraduate data are split between 'FD' (foundation degree) and 'UG (excl. FD)' (undergraduate excluding foundation degree). A foundation degree is a two-year, full-time higher education course, or the part-time equivalent, which has been validated as a 'foundation degree' and which is expected to incorporate the core features set out in the foundation degree prospectus, HEFCE 00/27. Foundation degree bridging courses should be returned as 'UG (excl. FD)' in Table 3.

3. The undergraduate data in Table 5 are split between:

- students on HND courses
- students on sub-degree level courses excluding HND (those aiming for an HNC, DipHE, CertEd or DTLLS)
- students on foundation degree courses
- students on another undergraduate degree (excluding foundation degrees but including foundation degree bridging courses).

4. Where students have stated multiple qualification aims as part of the same programme of study, they should be recorded against the lower aim. For example, a student registered for an HND and a degree should be recorded as HND.

Postgraduate

5. Postgraduate students are registered for courses where a normal condition of entry is that entrants are already qualified to degree level: that is they are already qualified at Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, published by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

6. Postgraduates include those on graduate conversion courses and all PGCEs (whether Postgraduate or Professional Graduate Certificate in Education).