

Paid Placement FAQs

Do I have to opt in?

No – opting in is entirely voluntary

What will happen to me if I don't opt in?

You will follow your usual programme pathway.

Can I opt in for a part time placement?

This would be up to the provider but you would need to make up the hours that you were short.

Will I complete my programme on time?

Our main aim is to ensure students completed on time. We can't predict what will happen with respect to the pandemic or how the needs of our placement partners might change.

I have time to make up – when will I do this?

You will be able to make time up on the placement equivalent to one shift per week. You must make sure you agree this with your practice supervisor and manage your work life balance.

I am on modules that will continue over the opt in period – will I still have those sessions?

Each week of paid placement will have a study day in it and you will use this time to work on any content supported by online learning materials. We are looking to keep some sessions where group activities are the method of delivery.

I opted out last year and now have 2 placements to finish – can I opt in?

Yes, you can.

If I undertake a paid placement will my supernumerary status be maintained?

No – on paid placements you will not be supernumerary but you will be provided with protected learning time.

Will I accrue annual leave on paid placement?

Yes you will and you will be able to take this during the paid placement, to be booked in discussion with your practice educator (see below)

Can I choose where I opt in?

No – Placement partners will use the ARC allocation to place you but there may be service delivery need for you to be deployed elsewhere.

Will I be moved when on paid placement?

Placement partners want to make sure your learning continues but can't guarantee that you won't be moved as the staffing and service delivery disruptions develop.

Will I have a practice supervisor?

The NMC have allowed us and placement partners to combine the PS and PA role. You will have someone who can sign you off.

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Can I fail a paid placement?

The paid placement will include completion of the required assessment for that stage of the programme, for some this is a summative placement.

When the paid placement is finished what will I do?

You will still need to achieve 2300 hours of practice. If the paid placement is part of your final placement you will need to do additional hours (depending on how many weeks your original final placement was – this depends on which field you are in) and this will be managed after you resume the programme.

What support will I get from UWE?

All academic staff are aware of the impact of the paid placements and you will be supported by all Academics in Practice (AIP's), Academic Personal Tutors and every member of academic and professional services teams.

If I am in receipt of a training grant, will I still be eligible for it if I am on a paid placement?

All of your student finance funding and your NHS Learning Support Funding including Training Grants will continue as normal and be paid in addition to your pay. If you have questions relating to these, you can get in touch with the [UWE Student Money Service](#). A paid placement may affect students in receipt of state benefits, specifically Universal Credit or Housing Benefit. If you are in receipt of either of these benefits, please seek advice from the Universal Credit department or your local council's Housing Benefit department, or from a local advice agency like the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Will my programme end date be affected?

We are aiming for you to finish your programme in time for summer assessment boards.

I have already been allocated my placement; will this remain the same?

Placement partners will use the ARC allocation to place you but there may be service delivery need for you to be deployed elsewhere. A small number of placement providers will not be using the paid placement option and you will therefore not be able to take advantage of this.

Will there be adjustments to assignment/dissertation deadlines and theory modules for those who opt in?

We have reviewed the programme structure for your final year; we are looking to provide a balance of allowing more time for theory/submissions where possible, without delaying when you can complete.

What was the submission date for last year's dissertation, and how was this affected in terms of weeks by the emergency standard reintroduction?

Similar to this year in that the submission date was in April (it was not moved at all). Students who did not submit or did not pass at the submission date were given a choice of two resubmission dates – it may be that this approach is repeated depending on how the pandemic continues to impact. The department is looking to find an appropriate balance of supporting completion of the programme without undue delay but also to facilitate sufficient time to complete the dissertation.

What is the rationale behind the adjusted deadline for Dissertation?

Delaying the dissertation submission date by more than one week would mean that marking and moderating could not be completed in time to still be ratified at the June examination board. This

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would mean that all students would be denied the opportunity of completing the dissertation module by this board. There is evidence to suggest that some students would be dissatisfied if the opportunity to submit their dissertation at this point was removed.

Why can't I have a longer deadline for my dissertation?

If you require longer to complete your dissertation then you are advised not to submit to the April submission date but to submit to the resubmission date in the summer; a specific date has not been published for this as it was felt that the impact of the global pandemic and paid placements over the next few months should be a factor that feeds into this. Normally the resubmission date is around mid-July but this may still be insufficient time for some which is why the department is reluctant to set this in stone with immediate effect.

Do I have to decide which date I am going to submit my dissertation to now?

No. You are advised to work on your dissertation as you are able (which may be different for each of you), you can then decide in April whether you feel this piece of work is ready to be submitted. If you do not have a piece of work ready to submit then wait for the resubmission date.

If the resubmission date is uncapped, what are the repercussions of a student who deliberately does not submit on the 28th April, but rather submits for the uncapped late submission date?

Any student who does not submit to the April submission date (or submits but does not pass) will have an uncapped resubmission opportunity. The resubmission date impacts on when the programme can be completed; the longer the delay to the resubmission date the longer it may be until the programme is completed, an earlier resubmission date will not delay completion but will students still have had sufficient time to complete the work – please read on to the next FAQ.

For Leadership in Adult/Child/Learning disability nursing if I opt in can I submit to the original date?

The original submission date will be available for all (and adjustments will be made after this has passed for those not submitting) so a student may opt to submit to the original date however they will have missed teaching and may not have had their tutorial relating to the assessment and this may disadvantage the student. If the student submits to the original date then it should be accepted and marked.

I have already been allocated my placement, will this remain the same?

Placement partners will use the ARC allocation to place you but there may be service delivery need for you to be deployed elsewhere. A small number of placement providers will not be using the paid placement option and you will therefore not be able to take advantage of this.

On paid placement, would the study day count towards our hours?

Yes – the study day will be allotted 7.5 hours in ARC and you will complete your UWE timesheets as usual.

Will I accrue leave while on paid placement?

During the 12 weeks contracted paid placement each student will accrue 34.3 hours annual leave, after discussion with practice partners the following principles are to be applied:

- The accrued 34.5 hours will be taken within the 12 week contract period

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- Negotiate and book annual leave with your placement manager
- The deficit of 34.5 hours can be 'made up' in the week after contractual end dates, when annual leave is scheduled prior to return to theory
 - if you wish to do so, please do plan with your placement manager the additional hours after your contract ends – this will be supernumerary and unpaid
 - If you chose not to stay on for this week, you will be supported to achieve your 2300 hours at the end of the following placement block
- Making up time during the 12 week period, if your area allows, you can negotiate additional shifts to make up time during placement – this will be on an individual basis as not all placement providers can support this during the current crisis
 - Please speak to your placement manager to enquire about this opportunity and plan accordingly

Would we be able to take any leave if there are any weeks within the 12 weeks that we have prior plans for?

This would be negotiated with your employer and will depend on the accrued annual leave entitlement at that point, ideally accrued annual leave would be taken within week 12 as agreed by providers.

If I opt out, can I opt in at a later date?

No.

Will there be a specific number of hours a week on our contract?

Contracts will be issued for 30 hours per week.

My original placement is in a PVI. As this isn't part of a trust, would this still be included in the opt in process?

We are asking PVI providers but at the present time most PVI do not have any requirement for paid placement support, this will vary provider by provider. You may not be able to opt in if you wish to remain with your allocated PVI provider. If you choose to opt in we would ask larger organisations if there was additional need to accommodate your choice but this cannot be guaranteed.