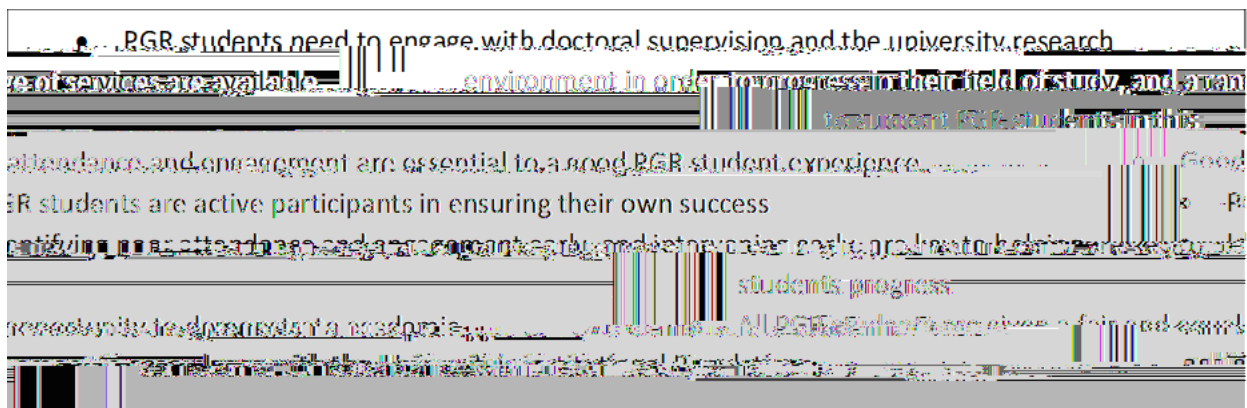


Poor attendance and engagement can put Postgraduate Researchers (PGRs) at risk academically. The University monitors attendance and engagement in order to ensure PGRs are successfully progressing, and to be supportive and anticipatory in its approach to carrying out its duty of care to all students. The University aims to ensure that students receive information, advice and guidance at the earliest opportunity to support their efforts in overcoming barriers to their research and reduce the chance of issues escalating.



Good PGR attendance and engagement is also a requirement of external bodies such as Professional Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs), funders or sponsors, and the UK Visas and Immigration department of the Home Office.

The University is able to deliver courses, administer funds to students, and grant Student Route/Tier 4 sponsorship, by fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to these bodies.

Any sanctions for poor attendance and engagement for students benefitting from arrangements with these bodies will be the same as for other students, however further consequences could mean withdrawal of registration, sponsorship or funding, and/or the PGRs being required to return to their home country. Notes on any specific requirements are included in this policy.

Further information on the Student Route/Tier 4 for staff can be found [here](#) and information for international students

can be found on the International Student Support pages
www.sussex.ac.uk/internationalsupport/immigration

Advice on loans and scholarships can be found here: <https://student.sussex.ac.uk/money/funding>

In addition to the above, for those sponsored under the Student Route, UKVI require that where the student fails to re-engage with their studies within 60 days (30 days for distance learning) of the first contact from the university regarding their lack of academic engagement, the University must withdraw sponsorship except in exceptional circumstances.

Supervisors are responsible for reporting to the REC/DDS/UKVI Compliance Team when there has been no contact or missed supervision meetings with individual PGR students for a month (unless the PGR student is on an authorised leave of absence) or where there is a pattern of absences which

PGRs fees will cease to be accrued during the sole permitted period of authorised absence, and the course end date will be extended by the length of an absence.

The restrictions on work that apply during term time also apply during an authorised absence i.e. the student must not work more than 20 hours per week.

Ten working days before the student is due to resume their studies, they should contact the