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**Aegrotat and Posthumous Awards Guidance**

As a guideline the following thresholds are a starting point for considering what type of award should be issued for both Aegrotat and Posthumous awards. Due to the sensitive nature of such awards, these are only a guide and other evidence can be drawn in as needed when the final award is being considered. Definitions and regulations can be found at Annex A.

The award conferred will normally be the next exit award for which the student would have been eligible, based on the stage of the programme of study they had commenced. All posthumous and Aegrotat awards will be unclassified.

**Aegrotat thresholds\*:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Level** | **Proposed Threshold** | **Classification** | **Title**  |
| **Undergraduate** | Awards may be given at the level at which the student was studying and the candidate has achieved no fewer than 2/3rds of the credits required, or the equivalent, at the appropriate level. Up to Level 4 = CertHE; Up to Level 5 = DipHE; Up to Level 6 = Bachelor’s Degree ; Up to Level 7 = Integrated Master’s Degree | **No** | Aegrotat contained in award title  |
| **Postgraduate Taught Certificates & Diplomas** | 1. **After completion of the taught element of the programme, where the candidate has normally completed some of the required assessments, but is unable to complete the course due to ill health before completion of all of the required examinations:**
2. In such a case, the PVC Education in their capacity as Chair of University Exam Board, shall consider the candidate's performance in the completed examinations and in the coursework submitted and award the original qualification aim if performance is deemed to be satisfactory to suggest completion would have been likely.

**Prior to completion of the taught element of the programme:**In such a case, provided that the candidate has normally completed two thirds of the taught part of the programme, the PVC Education in their capacity as Chair of University Exam Board, shall consider the candidate's performance in the completed examinations and in the coursework submitted and award the original qualification aim if performance is deemed to be satisfactory to suggest completion would have been likely | **No** | Aegrotat contained in award title |
| **Postgraduate Taught Masters**  | **Taught Component:** PVC Education in their capacity as Chair of University Exam Board, may approve the award (by considering the candidate's performance in the completed examinations and/or in the coursework submitted) of a Postgraduate Diploma to a candidate for a Master's degree programme (regardless of whether a Diploma has been approved for the programme in question) where a candidate has become too unwell to proceed :* 1. *1) after completion of the taught element of the programme, where the candidate has passed all of the required assessments, but has* become too unwell to proceed *before commencing the Master's dissertation; or*
	2. *2) after completion of the taught element of the programme, where the candidate has taken some of the required assessments for a PG Diploma, but has* become too unwell to proceed *before completion of all of the required assessments; or*
	3. 3) *after completion of the taught element of the programme of study, but prior to taking any of the required assessment examinations.*
	4. 4) *prior to completion of the taught element of the programme -* provided that the candidate has completed two thirds of a programme.

**Dissertation Component:** the PVC Education in their capacity as Chair of University Exam Board, may approve the award of a Masters degree on the recommendation of the relevant examination board where a candidate has become too unwell to proceed before the submission of a dissertation, provided that the relevant Examination Board is able to consider available evidence of the research work completed by the candidate. Normally, such evidence shall be supplied by the candidate's supervisor/advisor, who shall also submit a report for consideration by the PVC Education. The following criteria must be satisfied before the PVC Education can approve the award of a Aegrotat degree be made:* + 1. *enough of the research project must have been completed to allow a proper assessment to be made of the scope of the dissertation;*
		2. *the standard of the research work completed must be of that normally required for the award of the degree in question, and must demonstrate the candidate's grasp of the subject;*

*the written material available (draft chapters, published work, work prepared for publication, presentations to conferences/ seminars, progress reports by the candidate for his/her School) must demonstrate the candidate's ability to write a dissertation of the required standard* | **No** | Aegrotat contained in award title |

\*Degrees which are subject to fitness to practice requirements shall not be awarded Aegrotat awards

**Posthumous thresholds+:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Level** | **Proposed Threshold** | **Classification** | **Title**  |
| **Undergraduate & Postgraduate Taught**  | Awards are normally given as a minimum at the level at which the student was studying at the time of death. Up to Level 4 = CertHE; Up to Level 5 = DipHE; Up to level 6 = Bachelor’s Degree; Up to Level 7 = Integrated Master’s/PG Cert/PG Diploma/ or Master’s Degree at the discretion of the Vice-Chancellor in their capacity as Chair of Senate. | **No** | Posthumous contained in award title |

+ If the death of a student occurs after they have completed all the requirements for an award the award will not be considered posthumous and will, therefore, be classified. An award made in such circumstances may still be accepted on the student’s behalf by a parent, spouse, or other appropriate individual in consultation with the family.

**Definitions**

**Aegrotat**

An Aegrotat award is an honours degree without classification, a pass degree without classification, a PGT Certificate, PGT Diploma or PGT Masters, awarded (subject to University discretion) under the presumption that, had a candidate who is unable to undertake his or her exams due to illness or even death completed those exams, he or she would have satisfied the standard required for that degree.

Aegrotat awards are often qualified with an appended "(Aegrotat)"on the certificate. Following the introduction of modern regulations regarding extenuating circumstances, Aegrotat awards are less commonly awarded than they previously were.

**Posthumous**

A posthumous award is an honours degree without classification, a pass degree without classification, a PGT Certificate, PGT Diploma or PGT Masters , awarded to a deceased student who has earned enough credits (subject to University discretion) to be awarded an award posthumously.

**Ordinance B6: Award and Conferment of Degrees, Diplomas etc.**

**13 POSTHUMOUS AWARDS – TAUGHT PROGRAMMES**

13.1 Any taught award of the University may be conferred posthumously where the death of a student occurs prior to their completion of the requirements for their award. The award conferred in such circumstances will normally be as a minimum the next exit award for which the student would have been eligible, based on the stage of the programme of study they had commenced at the discretion of the Vice-Chancellor in their capacity as Chair of Senate.

13.2 All posthumous awards are unclassified If the death of a student occurs after they have completed all the requirements for an award the award will not be considered posthumous and will, therefore, be classified.

**14 AEGROTAT – TAUGHT PROGRAMMES**

14.1 An Aegrotat award for incomplete study is an unclassified award that may be conferred in exceptional circumstances, such as in cases where a student's ability to complete an award is permanently compromised by severe illness once extenuating circumstances processes have been fully considered and followed as applicable.

14.2 All Aegrotat awards are unclassified. All taught awards are available as Aegrotat awards, with the exception of Degrees which are subject to fitness to practice requirements which shall not be awarded Aegrotat awards. The PVC Education and Student Experience, and Chair of University Exam Board, may exercise their discretion to recommend conferment of an Aegrotat award where the appropriate criteria have been met.

**Regulation D2 Progression and Classification Rules**

**6. POSTHUMOUS AND AEGROTAT AWARDS**

**6.1 Posthumous Award**

6.1.1 Any taught award of the University may be conferred posthumously where the death of a student occurs prior to their completion of the requirements for their award. The award conferred in such circumstances will normally be as a minimum the next exit award for which the student would have been eligible, based on the stage of the programme of study they had commenced at the discretion of the Vice-Chancellor in their capacity as Chair of Senate. All posthumous awards are unclassified.

6.1.2 If the death of a student occurs after they have completed all the requirements for an award the award will not be considered posthumous and will, therefore, be classified.

**6.2 Aegrotat Award**

6.2.1 An Aegrotat award for incomplete study is an unclassified award that may be conferred in exceptional circumstances, such as in cases where a student's ability to complete an award is permanently compromised by severe illness once the exceptional circumstances processes have been fully considered and followed as applicable. All taught awards are available as Aegrotat awards, with the exception of degrees which are subject to fitness to practice requirements. The Pro Vice-Chancellor in their capacity as Chair of University Exam Board may exercise their discretion to recommend conferment of an Aegrotat award. Acceptance of an Aegrotat award completes your study on a programme.