

Frequently Asked Questions

Tuition Fee beyond Normal Candidature Period

- 1. What is the purpose of implementing a tuition fee structure for the period beyond normal candidature?**

This is to encourage students who are enrolled in graduate coursework programmes to complete their course within the normal candidature period, thus benefitting from the competitive advantage by graduating on time.

- 2. What is my programme's normal candidature period?**

Please refer [here](#) for the normal candidature period for the various types of government-subsidised graduate coursework programme.

- 3. What is the tuition fee that I have to pay if I am unable to graduate within the normal candidature period?**

From AY2019/2020 onwards, students enrolled in any government-subsidised graduate coursework programmes and who take longer than the normal candidature period to complete their degree requirements will have to pay full, unsubsidised fees during the extended semesters. The annual tuition fees for different categories of government-subsidised graduate programmes are set out [here](#).

- 4. I plan to go on Leave of Absence (LOA) for one semester. How does this affect my normal and/or maximum candidature period?**

If you apply for LOA within the first two instructional weeks of the semester, your approved LOA will not be counted towards your normal and/or maximum course duration.

- 5. I am a graduate student enrolled in a graduate coursework programme prior to AY2019/2020. What is the tuition fee that I have to pay if am unable to graduate within the normal candidature period?**

Students who are admitted prior to AY2019/2020 can continue to pay subsidised fees until their maximum candidature period, which is usually longer than the programme's normal candidature period. However, those who take longer than the maximum candidature period will have to pay full, unsubsidised fees during their extended semester(s).

- 6. I have converted my academic workload (from full-time (FT) to part-time (PT) or vice versa). What will be the revised subsidy eligibility?**

Students may refer to the following interim subsidy conversion policy when converting their academic workload:

- FT to PT:** Subsidy eligibility for PT programme = Normal Candidature Duration of PT programme – (Number of subsidised semesters consumed under FT programme x 2)
- PT to FT:** Subsidy eligibility for FT programme = Normal Candidature Duration of FT programme – (Number of subsidised semesters consumed under PT programme / 2), rounded up.

MOE is currently reviewing the candidature transfer policy of government-subsidised graduate coursework programmes in a broader perspective. Relevant updates will be publicised when available.