

## How grades will be awarded this summer

On 3 April 2020, Ofqual published further guidance on how GCSEs, AS and A levels will be awarded following the cancellation of examinations in England. In their letter to students, they say:

*Your school or college will be asked to send exam boards two pieces of information for each of your subjects, based on what they know about your work and achievements:*

- *The grade they believe you were most likely to get if teaching, learning and exams had happened as planned*
- *Within each subject, the order of students at your school or college, by performance, for each grade. This information will be used to standardise judgements – allowing fine tuning of the standard applied across schools and colleges*

Further information is published on the Government website:

### [GCSEs, AS and A levels summer 2020](#)

Schools and colleges will not be allowed to share their assessment grades until after final results are issued.

On 9 April 2020, Ofqual published a further update relating to the assessment and award of vocational and technical qualifications, confirming that the qualifications taken by many students to progress to further and higher education will also be awarded a calculated result.

### [Vocational and technical qualifications summer 2020](#)

Calculated results will draw on a range of evidence, depending on the structure of the qualification including teacher, trainer or tutor judgements of the result each learner would most likely have achieved had they been able to complete their assessments in summer 2020. The awarding organisation offering the qualification will use any centre assessment grade, combined with other relevant information (such as marks for completed assessments in some modules or units), to determine the most appropriate calculated result.

Ofqual is working with awarding organisations to finalise the qualifications where learners will receive a calculated result. It will include many BTEC Nationals, Cambridge Technicals, and UAL Diplomas as well as general qualifications such as

the International Baccalaureate, Cambridge Pre-U and qualifications included under the umbrella term 'Core Maths'.

Learners due to take assessments for Functional Skills qualifications before the end of the summer will also receive a calculated result.

Ofqual states that the overriding priority for all qualifications is to develop a process which is applied fairly and consistently, so that standards are maintained and all those who use qualifications can continue to have confidence in their value.

Information for students studying qualifications in Northern Ireland:  
<https://ccea.org.uk/covid-19-faqs>

Information for students studying qualifications in Wales:  
<https://www.qualificationswales.org/english/coronavirus---covid-19/>

## Your application to study at LJMU

LJMU has written to all undergraduate offer-holders in relation to their application. Please contact your Faculty Admissions team or International Admissions if you have any questions relating to your current offer.

### **Faculty of Arts, Professional and Social Studies**

+44 (0)151 231 5175  
[APSadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:APSadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk)

### **School of Education**

+44 (0)151 231 3000  
[Education@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:Education@ljmu.ac.uk)

### **Faculty of Business and Law**

+44 (0)151 231 8080  
[busadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:busadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk)

### **Faculty of Health**

+44 (0)151 231 5829  
[health@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:health@ljmu.ac.uk)

### **Faculty of Science**

+44 (0)151 231 2888  
[scienceadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:scienceadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk)

### **Faculty of Engineering and Technology**

+44 (0)151 231 2777  
[fetadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:fetadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk)

### **International Admissions**

+44 (0)151 904 6499  
[internationaladmissions@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:internationaladmissions@ljmu.ac.uk)

## **Progressing to postgraduate study**

If you are in your final undergraduate year and looking to progress to postgraduate study your university should have notified you about alternative assessment if you are not able to sit your exams.

All current LJMU students have been notified that there will be no examinations for the remainder of the year and that examinations will be replaced by alternative assessment.

## **Open Days and visiting LJMU**

The health and wellbeing of our students, staff and visitors is our number one priority. In line with advice from Public Health England, the university has suspended all Open Days, Applicant Days and campus tours until at least the end of June 2020. If you have already applied to LJMU, we will keep in touch with you about your chosen course and the university. We will be holding a number of virtual events, so please ensure you check your email regularly.

If you have any questions in the meantime please email [courses@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:courses@ljmu.ac.uk) or your Faculty Admissions team and we will respond to you as soon as we can. Our website and social channels will also keep you up to date with essential news and studying at LJMU.

For details of a variety of virtual events and online chats scheduled over the next few months please [visit our website](#).

## **Start dates for the academic year 2020/21**

There is currently no change to the start of the next academic year and we are looking forward to welcoming our new students in September. If you are a School Direct student, the start date is the end of August.

We have a number of plans for bringing the university back together in line with public health guidance and we do not anticipate this affecting our academic calendar.

However, as you will appreciate, we are operating in an unprecedented environment and will keep you updated if the position changes.

## **Should I still apply?**

We are still accepting applications and making offers for undergraduate and postgraduate courses starting in September 2020.

## **Deferring your place**

If you wish to defer your place at LJMU, please contact your Faculty Admissions team. International applicants should contact International Admissions.

## **Student accommodation**

If you have not already had the opportunity to view our student accommodation, take a look at your options online. As a new student, you are guaranteed accommodation in the city centre with easy access to the main campuses. You can search by room type, location, price and facilities as well as take a virtual tour of your chosen hall.

If you are looking to study at LJMU in September and have received, and accepted an offer from LJMU, you can request accommodation via the applicant area. If you are not able to take up your place in our accommodation for any reason, you can cancel your tenancy without financial penalty at any time until the end of August 2020.

## **Interviews, auditions and portfolios**

If your admissions assessment involves an interview, audition or portfolio our admissions staff will have been in touch regarding a change in the arrangements.

## **Student funding**

It is really important that you still apply for your student funding as soon as you have decided where/what you want to study. Don't worry, if this health situation continues longer than expected or you change your mind about going to university or what you want to study, you can log into your application and change it at a later date.

Applications for funding do take a number of weeks to process, particularly in year one so it's really important you apply for your funding ASAP.

The website you need depends on where in the UK you normally live:

Students from England or the EU apply via [www.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.gov.uk/studentfinance).

Students from Wales apply via [www.studentfinancewales.co.uk](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk).

Students from Northern Ireland apply via [www.studentfinancenir.co.uk](http://www.studentfinancenir.co.uk). Students from Scotland apply via [www.SAAS.gov.uk](http://www.SAAS.gov.uk).

If you need any help or advice regarding your student funding you can contact the LJMU Money Advice Team on [moneyadvice@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:moneyadvice@ljmu.ac.uk).

## International applicants

Should I still apply? We are still accepting applications and making offers to overseas students. You should still apply to LJMU, even if you are not currently able to leave your country.

## English language testing

For the latest developments on English language testing:

- IELTS: [IELTS](#)
- Pearson Test of English (PTE): [Pearson](#)
- TOEFL iBT: [TOEFL](#)

For English language requirements, see our [international entry requirements](#).

The university accepts a number of different qualifications as evidence of English proficiency and if applicable, details will be included in your offer letter.

## Deposits

If you have paid your deposit and do not take up your place at LJMU you will need to complete the [International deposit refund form](#).

## International scholarships

If you decide to defer your place your International Achievement Scholarship will be honoured for the next intake of your programme. All other scholarships, including regional based ones, are only valid for entry in the 2020/21 academic year and therefore cannot be carried forward.

For any external scholarships, please check with your scholarship provider.