

Placements and HEFCE funding – A Summary of Funding Higher Education in England

Full HEFCE report:

http://www.hefce.ac.uk/Pubs/hefce/2005/05_34/05_34.pdf.

The HEFCE guidelines on funding stipulate that placement year students attract half the funding of a full time student:

33. Student numbers are counted in full-time equivalent (FTE) terms.....Students who undertake practical work or industrial experience for a year outside the university or college (known as sandwich year-out students) are counted at the rate of 0.5 FTE per student for that year (HEFCE, 2005 – p10).

All students are banded based on subject related factors (Sciences attract 'price band B' funding - £6134 p/a). Funds are further categorised by institutional factors (London weighting, small institutions etc.) and student factors (part time, long course, foundation degree).

42. The total weighted FTEs for an institution are the sum of the FTEs weighted by price group, plus the student and institutional premiums (HEFCE, 2005 - p12).

43. The standard resource for an individual institution is its total weighted student FTEs multiplied by the base price (HEFCE, 2005 - p12).

A simple figure is unattainable, other than through the Finance Dept or Heads of School who have this information at their disposal. However, many case studies suggest that funding for placement year students gets swallowed into the School resource and remain unallocated (see case study from Lancashire Business School by John Wilson in this section).