

PE2009/M: Ensure fair access to Scottish universities for all residents in Scotland and the UK

Scottish Government submission, 16 April 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to respond further on Petition PE2009 in particular "... whether, in the interest of greater transparency, data from each university on how many Scottish-domiciled students are accepted onto each course annually could be published. It was suggested that prospective students could use this information when deciding where to apply, optimising their chances of being accepted to a Scottish university."

The Scottish Government is fully supportive of transparency and providing prospective students with as much information as possible to help them to make informed choices. However, publishing data from each university on how many Scottish-domiciled students are accepted onto each course annually could be misleading.

The number and proportion of students accepted onto courses at university varies greatly from year to year and between institutions. Each institution is allocated a number of full time equivalent funded places via the Scottish Funding Council. It is for the universities themselves to decide: how to distribute the places between faculties; the courses they offer; and how many of the total funded places will be available on each course.

Data is available on: *Number and Proportion of Full-person equivalent (FPE) Scottish domiciled Entrants to Scotland's Universities 2021-22 by Subject Studied, mode and level, and ethnic group* ([Background Tables](#) [XLS]) which prospective students may find helpful when making their choices.

I would like to thank you again for raising these concerns with the Scottish Government and I hope that you find this response helpful.