

## Graduation / Degree Ceremonies and Degree Certificates

<p>Are the February 2021 (Postponed from July 2020) Graduation Ceremonies going ahead?</p>	<p>As you know, the University of Bolton has been closely monitoring the developments in relation to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.</p> <p>We have been planning for a graduation ceremony in February 2021, for those of you who were scheduled to graduate in July 2020 but due to the pandemic, we have to postpone once more.</p> <p>Sadly, due to the uncertainty and a further government lockdown in November 2020, the University has decided that, for safety reasons and in order to give you as full a graduation experience possible, it is necessary to postpone again. We are therefore planning to hold the ceremonial part of your graduation in the summer of 2021.</p> <p>Please keep your contact details up to date and we will provide you with the necessary information in due course.</p>	<p>Updated 13/11/20</p>
<p>Will the postponement of the ceremony in February 2021 prevent me from graduating / receiving my certificate?</p>	<p>Please be assured that you do not have to wait until a graduation ceremony to receive your qualification. The Degree Congregation is the ceremonial element to your studies.</p> <p>Awards will still be confirmed following a final Assessment Board and it is anticipated that certificates for successful graduates will be posted out (where possible) up to 8 weeks after the Board.</p> <p>This means that you will graduate as planned following an Assessment Board (but without a ceremony), and in the summer of 2021 you will have the opportunity to celebrate your success at a graduation ceremony with your family and friends.</p>	<p>Updated 13/11/20</p>
<p>I still have to submit my work and expect to graduate with my peers in February 2021. Which group of ceremonies will I attend?</p>	<p>If you were due to graduate in July 2020 but then were given an extension to hand in work at a later date, you will be invited (subject to completing the course at the February boards) to the <b>re-scheduled</b> event.</p> <p>If you do not complete the course at the February boards, you will be invited to the July 2021 ceremonies.</p>	<p>Updated 13/11/20</p>

<p>Why has it been decided to postpone now when the ceremonies are not until February?</p>	<p>As you know, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is already causing significant financial disturbance. We believe it is vitally important to secure your safety and to protect every student from any potential financial loss associated with flight and accommodation cancellation costs (or any other associated costs or losses) which might be incurred if the graduation ceremonies were to be postponed much closer to the February date.</p>	<p>Updated 13/11/20</p>
<p>When will the ceremonies be postponed to, and what if I can't attend the rearranged ceremony due to work, travel or family commitments?</p>	<p>We aim to offer all graduands with the opportunity to attend the ceremonial part of your graduation in the Summer of 2021.</p> <p>Graduands who are unable to attend the re-scheduled graduation date should request a deferment to 2022 and send proof to <a href="mailto:graduation@bolton.ac.uk">graduation@bolton.ac.uk</a> of a holiday, work commitments or other exceptional circumstances. The request must be made prior to the date of your rescheduled graduation ceremony when it is provided to you.</p>	<p>Updated 13/11/20</p>
<p>I'm an overseas student - what do I do about pre-booked travel arrangements for family members etc. (for example, visas, flights, accommodation etc.)</p>	<p>If you decided to make arrangements prior to receiving your official invitation (for the February 2021 ceremonies which are now postponed to the summer of 2021) then the University of Bolton recommends that you contact your carrier provider in relation to the cancellation or rearrangement of your bookings.</p> <p>You will appreciate that the University cannot advise on individual circumstances nor can it comment on the refund policies of third parties in circumstances such as this.</p> <p>Please note that the University will not be liable for any flights or accommodation, or for any and all other direct or indirect costs or losses incurred as a result of the University postponing the July 2020 or February 2021 graduation ceremonies.</p>	<p>Updated 13/11/20</p>
<p>My student visa is due to expire, will I need a new one?</p>	<p>If your Visa does expire before the Summer 2021 Graduation, you may be required to apply for a Visitor Visa.</p> <p>For more information, please contact our International Student Journey Officer: <a href="mailto:studentimmigration@bolton.ac.uk">studentimmigration@bolton.ac.uk</a></p>	<p>Updated 13/11/20</p>
<p>Who should I contact if I have further questions about graduation?</p>	<p>Please email: <a href="mailto:graduation@bolton.ac.uk">graduation@bolton.ac.uk</a> quoting your student number.</p>	<p>Reviewed 13/11/20</p>