

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL  
FOR INFORMATION

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**DATE OF MEETING:** December 19, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Clarification on Awards Opt Out for Students

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**SUMMARY:**

During the Council meeting held on November 21, 2024 a member asked for additional information in response to item 5.1 from the October 24<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

The University Registrar spoke with the Council member on the following questions and, for the record, the answers to those questions are also below:

Q1. If a student opts out when applying for an award, I believe that opting-out should not disqualify or impair the consideration for the award. If they are the recipient, how do we handle notice for the opted-out student?

Opting out would not disqualify a student from receiving an award. There are a small number of awards, as part of the terms of reference, which state that information will be shared with third parties (donor individuals or organizations for example). But this stipulation is upfront as part of the award application and would therefore be an opt-in situation, as to be eligible the student would have to be willing to do so.

Q2. Some awards do not require an application: students are automatically considered for the award simply because of their ethnic background, programme of study, or other factors. What is their opportunity to opt-out of publication, should they receive one of these “no application necessary: all qualified are considered” awards?

All awards, including those where students are automatically considered, require notification of the student that they received it, and language regarding opt-outs should be included in that notification, giving the student a chance to opt-out at that point as well. The Student Finance and Awards office will work with college/department partners to ensure this is always done.