

## Franchising

### Definition

Franchising is the process by which the University authorises an approved partner institution to deliver (and sometimes assess) all, or part of one or more, of a programme of study leading to a University award.

**The University will not normally enter into a franchise arrangement.**

A variant of franchising is a 'distance delivery' programme in which delivery may be shared between the University and the partner institution. In such cases, the main difference is that the University has sole responsibility for programme delivery and delegates the provision of student support and learning resources to the partner institution.

### Common features

- The programme is wholly or predominantly devised by the University.
- The partner institution is responsible for the delivery of the programme, and the provision of learning resources and student support.
- The University awards the degree and is responsible for the quality of the student learning experience and the standards of the award.
- The nature and level of direct supervision and quality and standards monitoring of the partner's programme by the University is determined on the basis of the University's assessment of the partner organisation's own quality assurance systems.
- The University is ultimately responsible for the recruitment and selection of students, although this may be delegated to the partner institution subject to approval of arrangements and monitoring. Students are registered with the University of Glasgow and are subject to our regulations, including those relating to academic appeals, complaints and student conduct.
- The University is solely responsible for assessment and examination unless agreed otherwise, which will follow the same format and contents of students studying in Glasgow. Assessments and examinations are set by the University and marking is normally undertaken by University staff and results considered by the Board of Examiners in Glasgow. It is acknowledged that, particularly with candidates overseas, it may be impractical for students to attend the University for exams or for University staff to directly supervise them or for University staff to provide timely assessment feedback on coursework. In such cases arrangements will be agreed for the assessment of coursework; security of exam papers; timing of exams and invigilation etc;
- University staff may undertake site visits involving some teaching.
- A franchise arrangement is a complex collaboration and can take some time to develop.

### Stage and Level of approval

Type of arrangement	Stage/Level of approval
All 'franchising' arrangements	Stage 3 (Senate)

A judgement would be made on the type of site visit to the partner institution and this would generally be determined by a combination of the nature of the collaboration and the level of risk associated with the partnership. A diagram summarising the approval process can be found [here](#).

**Type of Agreement**

A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) is required for a franchise arrangement which requires the signature of the Principal and Vice-Chancellor or his nominee.

**Key Contacts**

School/RI	College	University Services
Head of School/Director of RI Head of School/RI Administration	International Lead Relevant functional Dean (Graduate Studies, Learning and Teaching) Head of Academic and Student Administration College Head of Finance Business Development Manager (where applicable)	The Academic Collaborations Office (ACO) Planning Services Registry Marketing, Recruitment and International Office Director of Student Services

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