STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2000 No. 250

EDUCATION

Students Awards (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000

The Department of Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment, in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 50(1) and $134(1)(\mathbf{a})$ of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order $1986(\mathbf{b})$ and now vested in it(\mathbf{c}) hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Students Awards (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000 and shall come into operation on 24th August 2000.

Amendment of the Students Awards Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999

- **2.**—(1) The Students Awards Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999(**d**) shall be amended as follows.
- (2) In regulation 6(3) insert after sub-paragraph (b) the following sub-paragraph—
 - "(c) a course the first year of which began before 1st September 1999.".
 - (3) At the end of regulation 16(3), insert the following words—
 - "except in respect of a student who becomes eligible for an award after 1st September 1999 in respect of a course that began before 1st September 1998, in which case fees shall be paid as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter".
 - (4) After regulation 17(5) insert the following paragraph—
 - "(5A) Where a student is participating in the action scheme of the European Community for the mobility of university students known as ERASMUS(e) and
 - (a) his course is an international course, and

⁽a) As amended by S.I. 1993/2810 (N.I. 12) Art. 50(1) and Schedule 4 Part II; Article 50(1) was repealed by S.I. 1998/1760 (N.I. 14) but subject to savings provisions contained in Articles 3 and 4 of S.R. 1998 No. 460 (c. 22)

⁽b) S.I. 1986/594 (N.I. 3)

⁽c) By S.R. 1999 No. 481 Article 5(b) and Part II of Schedule 3

⁽d) S.R. 1999 No. 351 as amended by S.R. 1999 No. 369

⁽e) ERASMUS is part of the European Community action programme SOCRATES, (O.J. No. L87, 20.4.95, p. 10)

(b) all the periods of study during a year are at an institution outside the United Kingdom,

no sum shall be payable in respect of fees under regulation 11(1)(a) in respect of that year.".

- (5) In Schedule 5, in sub-paragraph (iv), for the words "three instalments of £565" substitute the words "two instalments of £565 and a third instalment of £550".
 - (6) In Schedule 7—
 - (a) in paragraph 1(1)(i) for the words "as are mentioned in Part III and living costs as are mentioned in Parts IV and V" substitute the words "and such requirements for maintenance as are specified in Schedules 5 and 6";
 - (b) in paragraph 1(1)(o) after the words "family credit" insert the words "or working families' tax credit".
- (7) In Schedule 9, paragraph 4(a), for the words "paragraph 1(1)(c)" substitute the words "paragraph 1(1)(d)(ii)".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment on 2nd August 2000.

(L.S.) Robson Davison

A senior officer of the Department of Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations, which come into operation on 24th August 2000, amend the Students Awards Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 ("the Students Awards Regulations").

Article 50(1) of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, under which the Students Awards Regulations are made, was repealed on 1st January 1999 with transitional and saving provisions for courses beginning before 1st September 1999, and certain other courses. Regulation 6(3) of the Students Awards Regulations provides that awards can be made under those Regulations for courses beginning after 1st September 1999 but only in certain cases where students have started a course directly after completing a course which began before 1st September 1998. Provision is now made for students who become entitled to an award after 1st September 1999 for a course that began before 1st September 1998 to be eligible for an award under the Students Awards Regulations (regulation 2(2)), and for any fees due to be paid as part of that award to be paid as soon as reasonably practicable after the award has been made (regulation 2(3)).

The Students Awards Regulations are amended to remove the duty on boards to make a fees award in respect of any student who is participating in the ERASMUS scheme where all periods of study during the academic year are undertaken at an institution outside the United Kingdom (*regulation 2(4)*).

The fee rate in sub-paragraph (d)(iv) of Schedule 5 to the Students Awards Regulations is amended to limit the aggregate fees payable for an academic year at the Royal Agricultural College to £1,680 (*regulation 2(5)*).

Pursuant to the Tax Credits Act 1999, with effect from 5th October 1999, family credit is known as working families' tax credit. Paragraph 1(1)(o) of Schedule 7 to the Students Awards Regulations is amended accordingly (regulation 2(6)(b)).

The Regulations also correct minor drafting errors: regulation 2(6)(a) and (7).

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