

EWS DATES EXPLAINED

UTS: UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL

WHAT IS AN EWS DATE?

An EWS date is your **Expected Work Submission** date. This is the date by which you are expected to hand in your thesis to the University Graduate School for final examination.

As you are a higher degree by research student, your candidature is counted in a measurement of time called "EFTSL" (Equivalent Full-time Student Load), and is defined by DEEWR (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations). You have a limited amount of EFTSL time in which to complete your degree. Your EWS date falls at the end of this period.

Semesters, or Enrolment Period/s, for this purpose are stated as Autumn semester, which is 1 January to 30 June, and Spring semester, which is 1 July to 31 December.

Full-time studies consume 0.5 EFTSL each semester and part-time studies consume 0.33 EFTSL each semester.

If you go on leave, this temporarily stops your EFTSL clock. If you drop from full-time down to part-time, it slows the EFTSL clock. If you go from part-time to full-time, this speeds up the clock.

If you come to the end of your EFTSL, but are not ready to submit your thesis, you need to apply for an extension of candidature. It is up to your Faculty to initially consider the request for extension, **which must be for reasons beyond your control**, and it is then considered by a committee of UGS.

STANDARD EWS DATES INCORPORATING THE NEW RULES

Generally, your amount of EFTSL time will be as follows:

1. If you started your research degree before Autumn 2001:

As a Master's student

- you get 3 EFTSL points in total
- this works out to be 6 semesters full-time and 9 semesters part-time
- your EWS date then automatically falls at the end of the sixth or ninth semester

As a Doctoral student

- you get 5 EFTSL points in total
- this works out to be 10 semesters full-time and 15 semesters part-time
- your EWS date then automatically falls at the end of the tenth or fifteenth semester

2. If you started your research degree during or after Autumn 2001:

As a Master's student

- you get 2 EFTSL points in total
- this works out to be 4 semesters full-time and 6 semesters part-time
- your EWS date then automatically falls at the end of the fourth or sixth semester

As a Doctoral student

- you get 4 EFTSL points in total
- this works out to be 8 semesters full-time and 12 semesters part-time
- your EWS date then automatically falls at the end of the eighth or twelfth semester

However, if your attendance pattern is a combination of part-time and full-time, as you have had approval to change from part-time to full-time or the reverse, then the above pattern will be different for you. As we have already stated, your time elapses faster or slower depending on whether you are part-time (slower) or full-time (faster).

WHAT IF MY EWS DATE DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT?

There are several possible reasons why you don't have the EWS you think you should. Please read the following carefully.

1. You have changed your candidature:

If you have changed your attendance rate (full-time or part-time), had any leave, or transferred courses, it will affect your EWS date. Full-time consumes 0.5 EFTSL each semester and part-time consumes 0.33 EFTSL each semester, but sometimes in the past Faculties set up the course so this was consumed at a different rate, affecting your end date, or you did coursework subjects that consumed at different rates again.

2. Your enrolment date is shown as being in the middle of a semester:

Regardless of the date you enrol to start your first semester, you will be counted as consuming a full semester's worth of EFTSL for that semester. Therefore, the date you enrolled will not make a difference, as we have backdated your start date to 1 January for Autumn semester and 1 July for Spring semester for all those who started in 2003 or later.

COMMON QUERIES

Please read the following answers to common questions if you still have a query.

How Can I Find Out My EWS Date? We put your EWS date on your progress report cover-sheet each semester. You can also contact UGS for your EWS date.

I enrolled after the first semester had begun, and I thought the EWS date should expire exactly 4 years after I commenced my study. But the EWS date shows that it expires at the beginning of the semester in 4 years' time. That is because the whole semester is "rounded off" rather than using portions of a semester, and we have backdated your start date to 1 January for Autumn or 1 July for Spring.

My EWS date is NOT the same as my scholarship expiry date. The two dates are not necessarily linked to be the same. If you have a question about the expiry date of your scholarship, please contact the Scholarships Manager at UGS, on ph. 9514 1694.

My EWS date is out by about one semester. This is probably because at some point you changed your candidature from part-time to full-time (or vice versa), or went on leave.

I have done coursework. Will that affect my EFTSL? Your semester loadings of EFTSL may not be exactly even, depending on how the Faculty set up your course.

I am approaching my EWS date and do not think that I will be able to submit my thesis by that date. You will need to apply for an extension, on the proper form and submit it to your faculty for approval.
<http://www.gradschool.uts.edu.au/policies/policiesprocess/ExtensionofCandidature.pdf>

My EWS date has already passed. What should I do? You should have applied for an extension to this date, by completing the proper form and submitting it to your faculty for approval.
<http://www.gradschool.uts.edu.au/policies/policiesprocess/ExtensionofCandidature.pdf>

My 'Date of Admission' is NOT the exact date I was admitted into the course. This is because all students' enrolments were backdated to the first day of the semester. For those who started in 2003 or later, this means if you were admitted to the Autumn semester, your 'Date of Admission' will be 1 January of the year, and if you were admitted to the Spring semester, your Date of Admission will be 1 July of the year.

WHAT DO I DO IF I'VE READ THE ABOVE, BUT THE DATE STILL DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT?

If you have carefully read all the above points, but your EWS date still doesn't look right, then please contact UGS for clarification, ugs@uts.edu.au

The relevant rule, in the Graduate Research Study section of the UTS rules, states:

11.7.1 The maximum time to complete a research degree is as follows:

(1) Doctoral degree by research, professional Doctoral degree and Doctoral degree by creative works:

- (a) four years for a full-time student; or
- (b) six years for a part-time student.

(2) Doctoral degree by publication:

- (a) one year for a full-time student.

(3) Master's degree by research:

- (a) two years for a full-time student; or
- (b) three years for a part-time student.

11.7.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of 11.7.1 above, a student who has had prior study and research recognised as contributing to the requirements of the current course may be required by the University Graduate School Board to complete the program in less than the normal time.

11.8 Extension of candidature

11.8.1 A student who wishes to extend the period of his or her research candidature is required to seek approval from the University Graduate School Board.

11.8.2 An extension of the approved period of candidature granted by the University Graduate School Board shall not include periods of approved leave of absence.

11.8.3 The maximum period of extension shall not normally exceed for a:

(1) Doctoral degree by research, a professional Doctoral degree and a Doctoral degree by creative works:

- (a) one year for a full-time student; or
- (b) one and one-half years for a part-time student.

(2) Master's degree by research:

- (a) one half year for both a part-time and a full-time student.

11.8.4 Where an extension of candidature means that a local student will exceed the maximum period for which Commonwealth support is normally provided the student may be liable for course fees for any period of time that is outside the maximum period of time normally covered by such Commonwealth support.