

Transport Masters Student Numbers Bounce Back

The total number of students studying for a transport Masters at 10 UK universities has bounced back, with the first increase since 2009.

The annual TPS survey of transport Masters students has found an increase of 4.5%, to a total of 337 'Full Time Equivalents'; up 10 on last year.

The number of UK students starting a course this year increased by 14, to 79, up 22%.

There was also an increase of 12 in the number of students from outside the EU/EEA, to 153, but a drop in students from the EU/EEA (excluding the UK), down to 57.

Student Category	Total 2013/14	Total 2012/13	Change 2013 relative to 2012	%age change 2013 relative to 2012
UK full time students	51	44	7	15.9%
UK part time students starting 2013	28	21	7	31.4%
UK part time students continuing from previous years	48	52	-3	-6.4%
Total UK	127	117	10	8.8%
Other EU/EEA	57	65	-7	-11.1%
Rest of the World	153	141	12	8.1%
Overall Total	337	322	15	4.5%

Note: the above figures are based on 'Full Time Equivalents' (FTEs) and include rounding errors

Table 1 Total Students

The universities participating in the annual TPS census are Cardiff, Edinburgh Napier, Imperial College/UCL, Leeds, Loughborough, Newcastle, Salford, Southampton, UWE and Westminster.

Funding for UK Students

Table 2 (on the next page) shows that 55 of the 127 UK students (full and part time) have full employer financial support (covering fees, their salary while attending the course and out of pocket expenses), while 47 are fully self funding. 11 have a full bursary, including those awarded by the

the Rees Jeffreys Road Fund, and 5 have a partial bursary, including those provided by the Brian Large Bursary Fund. There has been a decrease since 2012 in the number with bursaries, and increase in the number that are fully self funding, while the number with full employer support has changed by only 1

Funding Source	2013-14		2012-13		Change 2013 wrt 2012 Full Time	Change 2013 wrt 2012 Part Time	Total %age change wrt 2012
	Full Time	Part Time - FTEs	Full Time	Part Time - FTEs			
Full bursary	11.0	0.0	13.0	1.0	-2.0	-1.0	-21%
Other Bursary (ie not "full")	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.7	0.0	-0.7	-12%
Full Employer (fees, salary, costs) Funding	1.0	54.1	0.0	57.4	1.0	-3.3	-4%
Partial Employer Funding	0.0	9.0	1.0	7.0	-1.0	2.0	13%
Fully Self Funding	34.0	12.7	25.0	6.4	9.0	6.3	49%
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	--
Total	51.0	75.8	44.0	72.5	7.0	3.3	9%

Martin Richards, the Society's Director for Skills, said

“These findings are very encouraging; another sign that transport planning is recovering well from the difficulties caused by the recession and austerity measures. Many more graduates have been recruited this year, and there has been an increase in the number of transport planners following the Society's Professional Development Scheme, the PDS. But, we must recognise the budget challenges that local authorities continue to face, and the depressing effects of some public procurement on professional standards.

The quality of UK Masters level education in transport continues to be reflected in the number of students choosing to study here – 153 this year; a real success story!”

For further information contact

Martin Richards TPP
Director for Skills, Transport Planning Society

www.tps.org.uk

T: 01306 711885
M: 07785 928 719