

An alternative format of this summary is available. Please contact the Student Support team via [Contact Us](#) (phone +44 (0)300 303 5303), or via [StudentHome](#) if you are a current Open University student.

This summary was written alongside the main procedure to offer a short introduction. Support from our advisers is available so please [Contact Us](#) to discuss this. Welsh-speaking Students and Learners may speak with a student support adviser in Welsh on +44 (0) 29 2047 1170.

We offer professional training routes in social work, nursing, non-medical prescribing, teaching, counselling, and policing. Fitness to practise is all about meeting professional standards, including your character, professional competence, your academic conduct and health. [The Fitness to Practise procedure](#) states how we confirm suitability for training and education, registration or employment with a Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) or a professional counselling body for the counselling programme, and how we will respond to concerns about our students and learners meeting professional standards.

We will follow these principles

- We recognise the high level of responsibility required of our students and learners and will support them to achieve this.
- We will be clear about our responsibilities and the responsibilities of students, learners, employers, sponsors and placement providers through use of clear written statements.
- We will be thorough and fair if concerns arise and keep to the timeframes described for each process as set out in the full procedure.

You need to be aware

If you fail to meet the required standards set by the Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) for your professional programme or by a professional counselling body if you are on the counselling programme, or your conduct, character or health suggest you are unsuitable, your employer can withdraw your registration as a student. The Open University can decline to recommend you for registration for your chosen profession. It is essential that you and your sponsors, your employers or placement provider share full and up-to-date information with us about any conduct or behaviours which cause concern.

Your data

The full details about the use of data are found in Section 7, Confidentiality and the sharing of information of the [Fitness to Practise procedure](#). In summary, data relating to this procedure will be kept on your student record for the duration of your professional programme, or for as long as you remain a student with us and for six years after you leave.

How to question a decision made under this procedure

For information about how to appeal against a decision made under this procedure please refer to the [Complaints and Appeals Procedure](#). Please [Contact Us](#) for support.

Give Us Your Feedback

If you have any comments about this procedure summary document and how it might be improved, please share this with us, by emailing SPR-Policy-Team@open.ac.uk.

Charity Statement

The Open University is incorporated by Royal Charter (RC 000391), an exempt charity in England and Wales and a charity registered in Scotland (SC 038302). The Open University is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in relation to its secondary activity of credit broking.

Document Information

This short summary was created in December 2024 to accompany the [Fitness to Practise Procedure](#) effective from December 2024.

Approved by The Open University Student Experience Committee.

Date for review December 2025.