

Memo

VRA 2019-11/1

Concerning the maximum number of attempts at exams for students benefitting from the transition clause of the Law of 2018

The new law of 13 June 2018 organising the University of Luxembourg **limits the number of attempts to pass an exam to four** (article 36, paragraph 1). After the fourth attempt, if a course is not validated, the student loses the possibility to complete the course (a course can be validated by obtaining a grade of 10+ or through compensation of a grade of more than 5 in modules that foresee compensation). In the case of a mandatory course, this implies that the student can no longer complete the programme and obtain the diploma.¹

Students who have been enrolled at the University of Luxembourg prior to the entering into force of the new law have benefitted from a transition clause that allows them, as under the previous law, to attempt an exam an unlimited number of times. **The transition period to which this clause applies ends with the beginning of the academic year 2020/21.** From next academic year onwards, the last grade such a student has obtained for a course in which he or she has attempted exams at least four times will become permanent and the student no longer has the possibility to repeat the exam. If this is a grade of 5 or lower or, in modules without compensation, a grade below 10, **the student can no longer complete the respective course.**

For the calculation of the number of attempts at the exams of a course, **all attempts a student has undertaken during his or her studies for which the student has received a grade are counted.** This includes attempts made **before** the introduction of the new law in 2018.

For the students concerned, **the current academic year is their last chance to complete mandatory courses** in which they have participated at exams four or more times and which have not yet been validated. Study programmes are kindly asked to inform all students currently benefitting from the transition clause, using the attached letter of the VRA. Study programmes should make sure that affected students register for resitting the exam(s) concerned before the end of the current academic year 2019/20.

Students can consult the Guichet Etudiant to find out how many attempts at the exams of a given course they have already undertaken (as registered in ACME).

Catherine Léglu
Vice-rector for academic affairs

¹ Students can ask to remove optional courses from their transcript. Where the completion of a minimum number of optional courses is mandatory, students should be advised accordingly.