**I have withdrawn from my programme of study. What will happen about my visa?**

If you have a Tier 4 visa, the University will contact the Home Office (UK Visas & Immigration) to inform them of the change to your studies. The Home Office will then in all likelihood cancel your visa. The Home Office may contact you to tell you that your visa has been “curtailed” (this means made shorter) and ask you to leave the UK. However, your visa may be curtailed without your knowledge, especially if the Home Office do not have your current UK address or contact details.

**Do I have to leave the UK?**

In all likelihood you will have to leave the UK. If you have not arranged an alternative programme of study, you should plan to leave the UK within 60 days of withdrawing from your programme. If you leave the UK within this time this should help you to avoid problems in applying for UK visas in future.

**What if I arrange to start a new course?**

If you withdraw and have not successfully completed your course then you will not be able to apply for a new visa in the UK. If you have been offered a place on a new course with another institution you should leave the UK and apply for a new visa in your home country.

**What if I will be coming back to Stirling to complete my studies?**

If you are granted Leave of Absence, the University will notify the Home Office. You should leave the UK until you are ready to return to your studies.

Before returning to the UK you should apply for a new visa – please contact the Student Immigration Team (tier4visastudents@stir.ac.uk) to request a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies to include in your visa application. You can also read more about visa processes at <http://www.stir.ac.uk/study-in-the-uk/visa-information>

**Why can’t I stay in the UK until my studies start again?**

Your Tier 4 visa was issued to allow you to study a particular course, at a particular time, at the University of Stirling. The University must notify the Home Office that your studies have ended or that you are taking a Leave of Absence. If you stay in the UK there is a risk that you will be asked to leave the UK at a later stage. You may also have problems extending your visa or getting a new visa to cover the extra time you will need to complete your studies. If you work in the UK after withdrawing or taking Leave of Absence, the Home Office will regard this as working in breach. These problems can be avoided by leaving the UK in good time.

For more information about withdrawing from your programme, please contact Student Administration: <http://www.aro.stir.ac.uk/studentadmin.php>

For information and advice on immigration matters, contact the Student Immigration Team: tier4visastudents@stir.ac.uk

Student Immigration Manager, April 2016. The information in this sheet is given in good faith and has been carefully checked. The University of Stirling, however, accepts no legal responsibility for its accuracy.