STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

# 2013 No. 143

# OFFICIAL STATISTICS

## The Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 (Disclosure of Higher Education Student Information) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

*Made - - - - 23rd May 2013*
*Affirmed by resolution of the Assembly on - - - - 18th June 2013*

*Coming into force in accordance with regulation 1*

The Department of Finance and Personnel makes these Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 49(1) and (2), (5)(b) and (6)(b) of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007(**1**).

In accordance with section 49(7) of that Act these Regulations are made with the consent of the Minister for the Cabinet Office.

In accordance with section 49(8) of that Act the Department of Finance and Personnel and the Minister for the Cabinet Office are satisfied that the disclosure authorised by these Regulations is required by the Statistics Board (**2**) to enable it to carry out the functions in relation to which the disclosure is authorised, and is in the public interest.

### Citation and commencement

**1.** These Regulations may be cited as the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 (Disclosure of Higher Education Student Information) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 and shall come into operation on the day after the day on which they are affirmed by a resolution of the Assembly.

### Interpretation

**2.**—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 (**3**) shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Assembly.

(2) In these Regulations —

"the Act" means the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007;

(**1**) 2007 c. 18
(**2**) The Statistics Board is established under section 1 of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 (c.18).
(**3**) 1954 c. 33 (NI).

"institution of higher education" means an institution within the higher education sector within the meaning of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1993(**4**);

"mode of study" includes full and part time study and sandwich, block release and day release courses;

"student" means, for the purposes of these regulations, a person who undertakes a higher education course of study provided by an institution of higher education;

"unique student identifier" means the number which—

(a) is assigned to a student and is used by the Department for Employment and Learning for record management purposes;

(b) continues to apply to the student regardless of any change in the student's institution of higher education; and

(c) does not, without additional information, identify the individual.

**Disclosure of individual student information**

**3.**—(1) The Department for Employment and Learning may, for the purpose set out in paragraph (2), disclose to the Board the information set out regulation 4 in respect of individuals who have been students at any time since 1st August 2000.

(2) Information to be disclosed in accordance with paragraph (1) shall only relate to individuals who—

(a) are or were studying at an institution of higher education in Northern Ireland; or

(b) have or had a term time address in Northern Ireland; or

(c) were resident in Northern Ireland prior to starting their course of study.

(3) The purpose mentioned in paragraph (1) is to enable the Board to carry out its functions in connection with—

(a) the production of population statistics under section 20 (production of statistics) of the Act;

(b) the assessment of census returns under the Census Act 1920(**b**) and Census Act (Northern Ireland) 1969(**5**).

**4.** The information referred to in regulation 3 is —

(a) the student's—

(i) surname, and any former surname;

(ii) first name;

(iii) middle name, or if more than one , each middle name;

(iv) date of birth;

(v) gender;

(vi) unique student identifier;

(vii) institution of higher education reference number;

(viii) location of study and, if different, the location of the institution of higher education;

(ix) type of term-time accommodation;

(x) full address (if held) and postcode of term-time accommodation; and

(xi) education institution attended prior to that student commencing higher education;

(**4**) 1993 No. 2810 (N.I. 12
(**5**) 1969 c.8.