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Contact us

Community Support
The Open University
Frank Henshaw Building
East Campus
Milton Keynes
MK7 6BY

Email: Community-Support@open.ac.uk

<https://www.open.ac.uk/secure-environments/released>

Tel: + 44(0) 1908 654053

RELEASED STUDENTS

Useful information and contact details for Open University student due to be released from prison.

When you leave prison, many aspects of your life will change, and you will have new priorities and pressures on your time. However, as an Open University student you can continue with your studies wherever you are living in the UK and even if you move abroad.



Getting ready for release

To ensure a smooth transition to study on the outside, please remember the following:

- Bring all your books and study materials with you
- Note down your personal identifier (PI) number, which will help the OU identify you quickly.
- Find a safe place to store your OU material where you can find things quickly.
- Try to work out when and where you are going to study.
- Make sure you have the Community Support Team's contact details.

Post release support checks

In order for The Open University to ascertain which facilities you will be able to access, we need to complete our post release support checks process which involves establishing whether you have been released on licence and have any reporting or monitoring restrictions.

This is a preventative measure to avoid you inadvertently breaching your licence and being recalled. If you are on licence, we will need to confirm the terms and conditions of your licence and speak with your Probation Officer.

The details we will need from you are:

- Date of release
- Name of your probation officer, their telephone number and email address
- Probation Service you are under
- Details of any licence conditions attached to your release.

Unfortunately, until the post release support checks have been completed you will be unable to attend any tutorials, be permitted any form of online access, or have direct contact with your tutor.

To help you plan, please be aware that if your licence restricts you from contact with under 16s or 18s, you are on the sex offenders' register, are subject to a sexual harm prevention order or are classed as high risk to any group of people, it is unlikely that you will receive full online access. This is to safeguard the young and vulnerable students who study with us.

However, this will not stop you studying at either undergraduate or postgraduate level, as you will continue to study from the SiSE prospectus.

Submitting TMAs

If you are able to submit your TMAs electronically you will need to follow these instructions:

- Attach your TMA file to an email and send it to etma@open.ac.uk
- In the subject field put your personal identifier number, your module code and TMA number, each separated by a slash – for example **P1234567/B999/01**
- You will receive a confirmation of receipt within 24-48 hours of submission
- Once your TMA has been marked you will receive an email with a file attached containing your marked TMA, feedback and your TMA score
- It is also possible to submit EMAs via this system. In the subject field, you will need to put your personal identifier number, your module code and the number 30 – for example **P1234567/B999/30**

If you are unable to submit your TMAs electronically we can accept them in hard copy form and will forward these to your tutor for marking.

If you wish to do this, please add details of your personal identification number, module code and TMA number to your TMA and send to:

Accessibility Team
The Open University
Frank Henshaw Building
East Campus
Milton Keynes
MK7 6BY



How to contact your tutor

In the meantime, while the post release support checks are carried out, please contact us by email at Community-Support@open.ac.uk, or by telephone on 01908 654053. We can act as a point of contact between you and your tutor. In addition to this we can also order any missing module materials.

Exams

If you are due to sit an exam within the first month of your release, it is vital that the post release check by your probation officer is completed promptly.

Early contact by you will allow us to make any appropriate exam arrangements.

Job Seeking & Careers Advice

The OU Careers Team can support you once you are back in the community. This can be help with looking for work, how to write CVs, job applications and preparing for interviews.

They can also give you feedback on your CV and job applications. Careers support continues for up to 3 years after you have finished studying with us – even if it's only one module.