EZ/EXTEND

What is EzExtend?

EzExtend is an integrated assignment extension tool designed to streamline the process of managing assignment extension requests within your learning management systems (LMS). It reduces administrative work for staff while making it easier for students to request extensions.

How does EzExtend benefit students?

Students can easily submit extension requests directly from the assignments page without leaving the LMS. The intuitive user experience simplifies applying for extensions and keeps students updated on the status of their requests. Furthermore, streamlining the request process has been shown to improve pass rates and reduce non-submission rates.

How does EzExtend reduce the workload for teaching staff?

EzExtend streamlines extension management by automating key tasks. It automatically and seamlessly generates clear, structured notification emails and integrates with the LMS to update due dates, add system notes, and notify students. This eliminates the need for manual email handling and significantly cuts down on administrative tasks, allowing teaching staff to focus on more important responsibilities.

How much time can EzExtend save?

EzExtend processes an average extension request in under two minutes, saving over 10 minutes compared to traditional methods. This time-saving is primarily due to its automation of tedious tasks, such as updating due dates, notifying students, and adding system notes within the LMS. In traditional systems, these steps often involve multiple exchanges of emails, manual updates, and tracking several requests, which can take up significant administrative time.

Can EzExtend be integrated with my LMS?

Yes, EzExtend can be seamlessly integrated into your LMS. It is designed to work in Canvas and Moodle without requiring students or staff to navigate outside the system. Blackboard will be the next version to be released, though no ETA is available as yet. Further, EzExtend will not interfere with other tools, like Turnitin, Atomic Assessments, etc., provided we simply update the due date in the LMS's native location. Testing in your development environment is, of course, always best practice.

What does EzExtend cost?

Costs depend on the number of student users and the length of your contract. Contact us for a custom quote.

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Does EzExtend lead to misuse of extension policies?

After handling more than 200,000 extensions, we have a significant body of evidence to disprove this. Our findings have shown that, rather than rampant misuse, we see students making strategic selections of what and when to seek an extension. Students with conflicting assignment due dates across multiple units/courses are not seeking extensions for all assignments; rather, they select one and focus on completing the assignments sequentially.

- Across three years of use, we have seen no instances of students systemically overusing extensions. This is partly due to some of the controls we have in place, outlined below.
- Students who are using the extensions tool at a higher rate than the general student population are generally already identified as our 'at-risk' students based on factors such as submission rates, failure rates, LMS engagement, and other behavioural signals. This new data set bolsters your at-risk model, but it is clear that the relationship to EzExtend is correlation, not causation.
- The inverse of overuse is an important consideration. Our study and student feedback have shown that students who really should be requesting an extension are often faced with embarrassment or hesitation when using a manual approach. Having a tool that enables them to take a systematic approach to extensions boosts confidence and results in more strategic and appropriate use.
- Interestingly, and counterintuitively, we've explored the 'so what?' element of students using short-term extensions at higher rates than the rest of the student body. Our findings are that students using extensions ultimately have higher submission rates, and the submitted assignments have equal or marginally higher academic results. So, while probably uncomfortable, this is worth considering: Does it really matter if some students use it more?

What are some of the configurations and controls that EzExtend offers?

- EzExtend offers an application window before an assignment's due date. We use 14 days before and two days after the due date, but you may like to start with a narrower window to reduce the opportunity for misuse.
- Automation caps: You can set a limit per student where automatic short-term approvals revert to human approval after a given threshold.
- Long-term extensions always require human approval, so while a student may request the extension, your teaching staff (or programme coordinators, as the case might be) are still able to decline the request if they feel there are not sufficient grounds.

Has EzExtend been tested?

Yes, EzExtend has been thoroughly tested, processing over 250,000 extension requests across numerous education institutes. Data analysis shows that students who use EzExtend have higher submission rates and better pass rates, highlighting its positive impact on performance and academic success. Teaching staff note a marked impact on their mental load and administrative tasks, immediately after implementation.

What reports or data can EzExtend give me?
• Our reporting dashboards have been designed with our pilot partners and will be released by June 2025.
• Reporting will be at the account/sub-account, programme, teacher, and student levels.
• Dashboards will include trend analysis, comparisons, outliers, and general usage.
• EzExtend currently offers CSV file extracts, and we intend to develop an API to integrate its data into your CRM or local database.

Can I customise extension rules in my LMS with EzExtend?
Yes, administrators can customise extension rules, permission sets, and messaging using the intuitive configuration panel. EzExtend implementations allow you to set specific criteria for extension requests. For example, you might require students to provide a valid reason for the extension or attach supporting documentation.

Does EzExtend update assignment deadlines automatically?
Yes, once an extension request is approved, EzExtend automatically updates the assignment due date within the LMS, reducing manual data entry and errors. The update occurs by overriding the original due date, meaning any other application or system that looks at this field will see an updated date. No additional fields are created that could be missed by other integrations.

Can I limit how many automatically approved short-term extensions a student can have?
Yes, you can enable the limit option, which applies a limit to students at the course level. This does not prevent the students from requesting another extension. It simply creates a request that requires review/action by the assigned teacher role.

Can certain assignment types be excluded?
Configuration is available to exclude assignment types such as oral, non-submission, quiz, and exams.

Can students apply for an extension after a due date has passed?
Long-term extensions can be configured to be available after the original due date for a period of your choosing. Short-term extensions can only be applied for before the original due date. (Note: We have captured this as a requirement in our development roadmap.)

How are teaching staff and students notified of requests and outcomes?
Teaching staff notifications are sent via email, though we suggest you enable the 'daily summary' email option so that teaching staff are only sent one email, or none if no requests require their action. Students receive email confirmation of a submitted request, and upon an outcome (approved or rejected). Emails arrive from noreply@ezextend.com.au. However, we plan on introducing a way to use an email address that mirrors your institution in the coming months.

Does EzExtend work at all levels of my LMS?
Yes, EzExtend can be installed at the account or sub-account level in your LMS, providing configuration flexibility should each sub-account require unique rules/configuration. Users are set up with one of four EzExtend role types, with varied levels of permissions ranging from view-only to master-user type permissions.

Can I disable supporting document uploads?
Yes, you can configure whether students can upload supporting documents or not.

Does EzExtend store sensitive data like a medical certificate or other supporting evidence documents?
No, documents that students upload are stored and protected by the university. OES has no access to view or use this data. Most personal data used in EzExtend is sourced from information already available within the client's own LMS platform, which remains within that environment. This is referred to as 'transactional data'. This includes: student name, student ID, student email, teacher name, and teacher email. EzExtend will create and store new data fields, including date of application, outcome of the request (i.e., approved or not approved), and reason code for extension (e.g., medical or personal).

Can we use our standard contract template, rather than the EzExtend standard terms agreement?
While possible, the university will bear the cost of OES legal administration. Some exceptions may be considered where state mandates are in place, so raise this with us for further discussion.

EZ/EXTEND ✓

A **better solution** for assignment extension requests.

Book a Demo With Our Team

Email sales@oes.com or book a demo to experience exactly what EzExtend can do for you and your students.

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