What next?
Guidance notes for international offer holders
Contact details
Undergraduate Admissions Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACULTY</th>
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Bristol BS8 1SN
Tel +44 (0)117 394 1644
Email ug-admissions@bristol.ac.uk

Accommodation Office
Tel +44 (0)117 954 6640
bristol.ac.uk/accommodation

International Office
Tel +44 (0)117 331 8571
Email international-office@bristol.ac.uk
bristol.ac.uk/international-office

Don’t forget to check your VIP page for the latest updates:
bristol.ac.uk/vip

@ChooseBristolUG We tweet the latest information and news for applicants and offer holders

If you need all or part of this publication in an alternative format, please contact Customer Relations and Student Marketing, tel +44 (0)117 394 1256 or email ug-publications@bristol.ac.uk
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Introduction and key dates

We are delighted you have accepted your offer to study with us! This booklet is designed to guide you through the next stages in preparing for university life.

If you have any questions about the content of this booklet or if you find you have questions that are not answered here, please do not hesitate to contact us. Appropriate contact details can be found on page 2. You can find more detailed information about all aspects of life at the University by visiting our website, bristol.ac.uk.

Please read these guidance notes carefully, as there are some actions that you will need to take straight away.

We have included a checklist on page 13 and a summary of key dates to the right so you can check important information at a glance.

We wish you every success with your forthcoming exams and we look forward to welcoming you here in September.

From the University’s athletics club to getting involved with charity, there are so many diverse opportunities to get involved in Bristol life.

Andrew Third year, MB ChB Medicine

KEY DATES

Monday 20 April 2015
Applications for accommodation can be made online from this date.

Friday 31 July 2015
Deadline for us to receive your application to be guaranteed an offer of accommodation and to be included in round one allocations.

Thursday 13 August 2015
From 8.30am, the Admissions Office telephones will be open to answer enquiries about your application. Contact details can be found on page 2.

Tuesday 25 August 2015
Date by which all guaranteed applicants included in round one allocations can expect to receive an offer of accommodation.

Friday 28 August 2015
Last date for notifying the Admissions Office of examination results.

Monday 31 August 2015
Deadline for us to receive your application to be guaranteed an offer of accommodation and to be included in round two allocations.

Friday 4 September 2015
Date by which all guaranteed applicants included in round two allocations can expect to receive an offer of accommodation.

Monday 7 – Friday 25 September 2015
International (and EU) Students Welcome Lounge open.

Saturday 19 or Sunday 20 September 2015
Arrival at University allocated residences for new students (depending on specific residence).

Monday 21 September 2015
First day of Welcome Week.

TEACHING DATES

Teaching Block 1
28 September 2015 – 18 December 2015

Teaching Block 2
25 January 2016 – 6 May 2016

VACATION DATES

Christmas (3 weeks)
21 December 2015 – 8 January 2016

Easter (3 weeks)
21 March 2016 – 8 April 2016

Summer (14 weeks)
13 June 2016 – 16 September 2016
Financial information for international offer holders

Financing your studies may seem complicated at first, but the information below will help you understand the financial side of going to university.

What will I pay?
We believe that a degree from Bristol is a wise investment in your future but it is worth taking the time to find out about the cost of studying and living here. For more information, please visit bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/undergraduate.

Accommodation and general living costs
These will vary according to your lifestyle and the kind of accommodation you are allocated. For information on the fees payable for different types of accommodation, please visit bristol.ac.uk/accommodation/undergraduate/fees.

If you require a Tier 4 student visa (entry clearance), you will need to demonstrate in your student visa application that you have enough money to cover your tuition fees and living costs for your first year.

For important information regarding the funding required to support your student visa application, please visit bristol.ac.uk/international-office/visas-immigration.

The estimated cost of living for a single student, assuming a stay of 40 weeks in student accommodation, is available at bristol.ac.uk/living-expenses.

Tuition fees
The full-time tuition fees for the 2015/16 academic year are:

- Arts-based courses £15,200*
- Science-based courses £18,300**
- Clinical courses £33,900

**The science-based fee applies to all degree courses in the Faculties of Science, Medical and Veterinary Sciences (to be renamed Biomedical Sciences from August 2015), and Engineering.

The clinical fee is charged in years three to five of the five-year degree course in Medicine.

The clinical fee is charged in years two to five of the Dentistry degree course.

The clinical fee is charged in years four and five of the five-year degree course in Veterinary Science.

*The arts-based fee applies to all degree courses in the Faculties of Arts, and Social Sciences and Law, excluding those listed below, where the science-based fee will apply:

- Archaeology V400
- Film and Television 4M5N
- Film and a Modern Language 2LK6, 4F29, 4L92, 4PP8, L288
- Theatre and Film 4KDU
- Theatre and English W300
- Theatre and a Modern Language W43F, 21C7, 22FF, R2D8, 4D8C
- Theatre and Performance Studies 2Q3W
- Music W300
- Music and a Modern Language WR31-WR33

Tuition fees are subject to an annual increase.

How and when do I pay?
All students, except those being sponsored by an external organisation, pay their tuition fees direct to the University. You can pay in the following ways:

- bank transfer (in full)
- Sterling banker’s draft (in full)
- online, by direct debit or credit/debit card (in full or in instalments)
- cheque (in full)
- cash (in full).

For full information on how and when to pay tuition fees, please visit bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/tuition-fees/payment.

If a sponsoring organisation is going to pay your fees, you must provide evidence of your sponsorship by supplying the Income Office (see page 2 for contact details) with a copy of your sponsorship confirmation document or by completing a sponsorship authorisation form, which you can download from bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/tuition-fees/payment.

US students
For eligible US students, the University is authorised to certify US Direct Loans (Stafford Loans and GradPLUS loans). For further details, please visit bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/awards/us-loans.
Confirmation information

After months of hard work, waiting for results day can be an anxious period. We’ve pulled together all of the information you’ll need to confirm your place when the big day arrives.

When will my place be confirmed?
If your offer is unconditional, congratulations! Your place is already confirmed and we look forward to welcoming you to the University.

If your offer is conditional on meeting specific requirements in forthcoming A-level, AS-level, Scottish Higher, Advanced Higher, Welsh Baccalaureate, Irish Higher or BTEC examinations, the University will be notified of your results by UCAS as soon as they are publicly available. If you meet the terms of the University’s offer, your place will be confirmed automatically. You will receive official notification of this from UCAS within a few days. In these circumstances, there is no need to contact Undergraduate Admissions to confirm that you have a place.

If you are taking examinations other than those specified above for example, International Baccalaureate, IELTS or other international qualifications), you must ensure that the Undergraduate Admissions Office is supplied with copies of your official results or transcripts as soon as they are available. Please do not send original documents. Once we receive your results, we will aim to make a decision as quickly as possible, and if you have met the terms of the University’s offer, your place will be confirmed automatically.

If you do not meet all the terms of your offer and the University still has places available, your application may be reconsidered by the relevant admissions team. Your place may still be confirmed if you have marginally failed to achieve the required grades, or you may be offered an alternative programme of study.

The process of reconsideration may take several days, but we aim to make a decision on most applications by 2pm on Friday 14 August 2015.

If we do not receive all of your final results by 28 August 2015, we may not be able to confirm your place with us.

We strongly advise you not to be away from home during the period when your examination results are released.

If there are special circumstances which are likely to affect your performance in examinations you are about to take, please write to the Undergraduate Admissions Office using the extenuating circumstances form (bristol.ac.uk/applicants/applied/extenuating-circumstances) before the results are published. In the case of illness, a doctor’s certificate should also be provided. Please note, it is not the policy of the University to consider special circumstances if we are notified of these after results are published.

Your place at the University will be confirmed when you receive your confirmation letter from UCAS. We will assume you will be taking up your place unless you tell us that you wish to withdraw from the University. Please follow the instructions on UCAS Track if you do not intend to take up your place.

If you have applied through the Common Application, your application will transfer into UCAS once you have met the conditions of your offer. If you have any queries on the Common Application procedure prior to meeting the conditions of your offer, please contact Undergraduate Admissions:
ug-admissions@bristol.ac.uk.

Application verification
The University has a legal and moral responsibility to ensure that all its students have valid academic qualifications. If you are taking UK A- or AS-levels, Irish Highers, Scottish Highers or BTEC qualifications, these will be verified by UCAS. In the case of all other qualifications, we will ask you (whether you hold a conditional or unconditional offer) to bring the original certificates with you when you register in September.

This verification is not related to procedures for obtaining a student visa, or entry to the UK (please see page 7 for further information on visas).

We will email you later in the year to tell you which certificates we want to see.

Please note: If you are unable to produce valid original documents at registration, you may not be permitted to register as a student of the University.
Please check that your name on university documentation matches that on your passport. If any changes are required, please notify UCAS and the University.

UK student visa holders (Tier 4 general students) If you require a Tier 4 student visa to study in the UK, the University of Bristol will be your immigration sponsor, and your UK student visa must indicate this to enable us to register you in the autumn. Your student visa will need to cover the full length of your course of study.

You must ensure that you apply for your student visa using a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) issued by the University of Bristol. This can only be issued once you have firmly accepted your offer. You can apply for your student visa up to three months prior to the start of your course and you must do so in good time to ensure you hold a valid visa at the time of registration.

We will not be able to register you for your course of study if at the time of registration you do not hold a valid student visa indicating the University of Bristol as your immigration sponsor and covering the full length of your course.

If you are currently in the UK, you can apply for your visa to study at Bristol while you are still in the UK only if your current visa expires less than 28 days before your course starts. If your current visa expires more than 28 days prior to the start of your course, you are expected to return to your home country to secure entry clearance (a visa) with the University of Bristol as your immigration sponsor. For more information about student visas, please visit bristol.ac.uk/international-office/visas-immigration.

At registration you must produce your passport and your student visa for checking and scanning. We will also need to check and scan your UK Biometric Residence Permit (ID card) or Biometric Immigration Document (BID card) if you hold one.

UK student visa holders – entry to the UK
When you arrive at your point of entry to the UK (eg Heathrow or Gatwick Airport), you should have available to present to immigration officials: your passport, your CAS number and copies of all documents used to secure your UK student visa.

International Advice and Support is a really friendly service that is always willing to help out students. I’m really grateful I have this service available to me.

Sooto Second year, BSc Pharmacology
Accommodation

Our Accommodation Office will help you find somewhere to live that suits your budget or lifestyle – wherever you choose, you’ll have the opportunity to join a community where you will study, socialise and make lifelong friends.

You will able to apply online for accommodation from 20 April 2015. Information regarding how to apply may be found at bristol.ac.uk/accommodation/undergraduate/apply.

If you plan to live in private accommodation, you will have plenty of opportunities to meet new people at the University’s welcome events. The student network Brunel organises social events for students living in private accommodation.

Applications for accommodation
If you meet the terms of your offer of study, are eligible for guaranteed accommodation and submit your application by the 31 July 2015, you can expect to receive an offer of accommodation by 6pm on the 25 August 2015.

If you meet the terms of your offer of study, are eligible for guaranteed accommodation and submit your application by the 31 August 2015, you can expect to receive an offer of accommodation by 6pm on the 4 September 2015.

If you would like to receive an earlier offer of accommodation, we are delighted to be able to allocate earlier for our Stoke Bishop residences, where the majority of our first-year students are based.

Stoke Bishop is a ‘campus’ of accommodation, made up of six halls of residence housing over 2,000 students – Badock, Durdham, Churchill, Hiatt Baker, University and Wills Halls. The site extends across approximately 65 acres of grounds, including gardens, an arboretum and space for socialising and relaxing. Based two miles from the University campus, there is a regular bus service running to the University (bus passes are included in your accommodation fee). The Stoke Bishop residences are set on the edge of The Downs, which recently won a green flag award for environmental excellence. The Clifton Suspension Bridge, Avon Gorge, Ashton Court and Leigh Woods are all within walking distance.

When you apply for accommodation you will be asked for three preferred residences. If your first and second choices are Stoke Bishop residences and you are confirmed to study with us unconditionally, we will give you an early offer within two weeks of applying for accommodation, meaning you can start planning for your time at Bristol as soon as possible.

You do not have to include a Stoke Bishop residence in your choices. If you prefer some of our other residences, your accommodation application will be considered as normal and you will receive your offer of accommodation by 4 September 2015 at the latest. We will of course do our best to allocate you your preferred choice wherever possible.

Details of our accommodation guarantee and further information about our residences can be found on our website: bristol.ac.uk/accommodation/undergraduate.

If you have any questions about accommodation, please contact:
Tel +44 (0)117 954 6640
Email accom-office@bristol.ac.uk
bristol.ac.uk/accommodation

I absolutely loved living in halls – the sense of community was great, everyone was so friendly and there was always someone around to hang out with.

Maddy Third year, BA History of Art
Registration and arrival

There can be a lot to organise in the period between confirming your place and arriving at university. We shall provide you with information which explains what you need to do both before and after you arrive.

What information will I receive from the University?
After the University has confirmed your place in August you will receive information about registration and the activities that will take place during Welcome Week (please see page 11).

It is important that you read this information straight away, as you will need to complete a number of tasks before you come to Bristol. You may also receive separate information from your academic school(s) about introductory activities and your teaching timetable.

What do I need to do before I arrive?
You will need to upload a recent digital passport-style photograph, which can be reproduced on your student card. Provided you upload a suitable photograph by the specified date, your student card will be ready for you to collect when you arrive.

Registering at the University is a two-part process. The first step is to complete the online registration process in mid-September 2015.

When you arrive at the University you will then need to register in person and collect your student card.

Don’t forget to bring your passport, visa and original examination certificates to registration.

Depending on the subject(s) you are studying, you may have further tasks to complete before arrival, eg ordering laboratory coats or submitting your preferred unit choices. Please read your school documentation carefully and return any forms requested by the dates specified.

When will I be expected to arrive?
Arrivals weekend is 19-20 September 2015. If you are allocated a place in a hall of residence or student house we will contact you to let you know which day you are expected to arrive. If you are living at home or in private accommodation please come along to the welcome events, as this will be a great opportunity to meet some of your fellow students.

Meet-and-greet
The International Office runs a meet and greet service for international students on Friday 18, Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 September 2015: bristol.ac.uk/international-office/new-students.

If you plan to arrive in Bristol and check in to your accommodation on the same day, please check that your residence will be open before confirming your travel plans: bristol.ac.uk/accommodation/undergraduate/arrivals.

Welcome Lounge
Once in Bristol, we invite you to visit the International Welcome Lounge. This will be open from 7 September through to 25 September 2015. Here, you will be able to collect a welcome gift and letter to open a UK bank account, and meet other students. For further information, please visit bristol.ac.uk/international-office/new-students.

Student Agreement
The University values its students and works hard to provide a high-quality learning environment as well as an effective support structure.

The Student Agreement sets out the terms and conditions that will form the basis of the relationship between you and the University. As part of the formal registration process, you will be required to confirm your acceptance of the agreement and agree to abide by the University’s rules and regulations. By working together, we can create a positive environment for learning and academic achievement.

For a copy of the Student Agreement for 2014/15, please visit bristol.ac.uk/studentagreement. The 2015/16 version will be available after 1 August 2015.
Welcome Week

Your first week at the University is kept free of teaching to allow you to attend welcome talks and complete induction activities. In your free time, you’ll be able to settle into your accommodation and discover what Bristol has to offer.

What is Welcome Week?
Welcome Week runs from Monday 21 September to Friday 25 September 2015.

We realise it may take you a bit of time to settle in to your new environment and get organised for your studies. We deliberately keep this first week free of formal teaching. Instead, your academic school will organise a programme of introductory activities to welcome you to the University and prepare you for your studies. You will also have free time for personal matters such as opening a bank account, and, of course, for meeting other students.

Welcome Week is your opportunity to get settled into your accommodation and to explore Bristol and the University campus. You will start to become familiar with your academic school(s) and libraries, and time will be scheduled for various administrative tasks and introductory events. In addition, you will be able to meet your personal tutor, sort out your teaching timetable and start using your University computer account.

Teaching starts in the week commencing Monday 28 September 2015, and we hope that by the end of Welcome Week you will be fully prepared for your studies.

Welcome Week activities
• Attend welcome talks, eg from the Warden of your residence and the Head of your academic school.
• Complete registration, collect your student card and pick up various handbooks.
• Check your core teaching timetable and sign up for any additional seminar groups, practical classes, etc.
• Meet your personal tutor.
• Attend a safety briefing (where appropriate).
• Collect special equipment such as laboratory coats (where appropriate).
• Take part in other activities (varies according to subject area – may include a field trip or other visit outside the University).

A Welcome Fair for international students will be held on Wednesday 23 September 2015.

For mature students (aged 21 or over) there will be a separate welcome event, followed by an optional study skills session, to ease you back into formal study.

What about the social life?
The Students’ Union and residences organise a range of events during Welcome Week, so look out for posters and flyers when you arrive.

The Students’ Union’s Welcome Fair is your opportunity to join various clubs and societies (visit ubu.org.uk/activities for a complete list). There will also be several sporting activities on offer.

We look forward to welcoming you to the University in September.

[bristol.ac.uk/newstudents]
From mid-August onwards, we will regularly update this website with information specifically for new students. On it you will find the following information:
• deadlines for the key administrative tasks you need to complete before you arrive;
• advice on how to settle into university life;
• information about registration;
• information about Welcome Week;
• links to other useful information.

Please bookmark this website now, and check it regularly from mid-August onwards.
Welcome events for international and EU students

Meet and Greet
Friday 18 – Sunday 20 September

University representatives will be available at the following stations and airports to welcome you to the University of Bristol:

• Bristol Airport
• Bristol Bus and Coach Station
• Bristol Temple Meads
• Heathrow Airport.

Welcome Lounge
Monday 7 – Friday 25 September

• Collect your welcome gift.
• Meet staff and students in a relaxed social setting.
• Get your letter to open a bank account.
• Sign up for our trips and tours.

International Welcome Fair
Wednesday 23 September 2 – 4pm

• Meet staff from Student Services and find out about the extracurricular activities on offer.
• Try snacks and refreshments from local Bristol suppliers.

bristol.ac.uk/international-office/new-students
Watch highlights of last year’s welcome events
Checklist

Have you…

☐ read your offer on UCAS Track (https://track.ucas.com) and raised any queries?

☐ made a note of your student number (see your VIP page)?

☐ applied online for accommodation (from 20 April)?

☐ informed the University and UCAS of any changes to your name or contact details including email address?

☐ determined if you require a Tier 4 student visa?

☐ supplied the Undergraduate Admissions Office with copies of your official results or transcript, if you have taken the International Baccalaureate or other international qualifications?

☐ made a note to bring with you originals and copies of any relevant examination results, transcripts and translations (keep these with you)?

☐ checked your VIP page bristol.ac.uk/vip for the latest updates?

☐ prepared for results day (13 August 2015)? Make sure you will be at home and bookmark the results website: bristol.ac.uk/results.

☐ bookmarked our website for new students: bristol.ac.uk/newstudents?

☐ uploaded a photograph for your student card online: bristol.ac.uk/cardservices/newstudents?