

Postgraduate Admissions Statement for



PhD Computer Science, MSc by Research

This Admissions Statement applies to applications submitted for entry to the programme between 1 October 2020 and 30 September 2021.

It should be read in association with the [University Admissions Principles and Procedures](#) for Postgraduate programmes, the relevant [prospectus entry](#) and general [application guidance](#).

Admissions criteria

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| Academic and English language requirements | The academic and English language requirements for this programme are displayed on the Postgraduate Prospectus For information on international equivalent qualifications, please refer to our International Office website . |
| Non-standard applications | We welcome applications from those with non-standard qualifications who can demonstrate knowledge, experience and skills developed in the workplace, or elsewhere, relevant to the programme of study. Please use your personal statement to provide further details. Non-standard applications will be considered by the Admissions Tutor(s) for the programme on a case by case basis. |

Application process

Online application form

Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly. Further information is available on our [guidance for online applications page](#)

Applications will not be considered until **all** required documents have been uploaded.

Required documents

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| ✓ | References | We require two academic references. References should comply with our standard requirements outlined on our guidance pages . |
| ✓ | Degree certificate(s) and academic transcripts | From first and subsequent degrees. Degree certificates and transcripts should comply with our standard requirements outlined on our guidance pages . |
| ✓ | Personal statement | Personal statements should highlight the motivation for applying for the course, and any relevant experience and/or skills. |
| ✓ | English language certificates/other evidence | Evidence of meeting the English language profile as stated on the Postgraduate Prospectus and specified by the University English Language Requirements Policy |
| ✓ | Curriculum Vitae (CV) | CVs might include details of other relevant work experience and qualifications to support an application. |

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| ✓ | Research Proposal: | <p>The primary requirement for the research proposal is to define and situate your research within an academic/disciplinary context. You should remember that people in the academic community are the primary audience/readership for postgraduate research. This means that you will need to identify:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The research questions or problems that you intend to address; 2. The research context for your project/programme of work; 3. The methods you think you will use to pursue the key questions. 4. The names of any academics you might like to work with, and the research group that most closely covers your interests. You will find details of the research groups and their contact details on the Faculty of Engineering research website and the Computer Science Research website. |
| ✓ | Nominate a Supervisor for your Proposed Research | <p>We recommend that you contact supervisor/s who are interested in your field of research to discuss your ideas before submitting your proposal. You can find supervisor information on the bottom of the programme prospectus page or you can use search for researchers.</p> |

Optional Documents

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| Research Training Statement | Applicants are welcome to provide details of any relevant qualifications or training required to assist with their application. |
| Additional References | Applicants are welcome to upload additional references to further support an application. Professional references from work experience in a related field and/or industrial placements can help an application. |

Selection process

Assessment of applications

All applicants are considered in line with the University's [Admissions Principles and Procedures Policy](#). Once a complete application has been submitted with all required supporting documents, it is considered by at least two members of staff.

Interviews

Interviews may form part of the selection process.

The purpose of the interview is to assess whether the applicant has the necessary skills and capabilities to pursue the chosen postgraduate programme, and whether the programme is appropriate to the applicant's interests and aspirations.

If required, interviewees based overseas will normally be interviewed by telephone or Skype.

Interviews are conducted by two members of staff, at least one of whom is trained in fair and effective recruitment in accordance with the University's policy on equal opportunities.

Decisions

Applicants will be notified by email when a decision has been made and decision letters will be available to view and print by logging into the application. If there is a deadline by which applicants must accept an offer of admission or pay a deposit, this will be stated in the offer letter.

Offers

Offers will typically be made in line with the academic requirements set out above.

Offers made may be conditional or unconditional. An unconditional offer will be made to applicants who have already met the conditions and provided evidence that conditions have been met. Where academic or language requirements have not yet been fulfilled, applicants will receive a conditional offer outlining the requirements that must be met.

If an applicant is not selected to receive an offer for the course to which they have originally applied, we may offer the opportunity to be considered for an alternative programme in a related subject area. In such cases applicants will receive an email notification providing any alternative course options and asking whether they wish to be considered for these. It may be necessary for applicants to submit additional documentation in order for the application to be fully considered for an alternative programme. Details of the documentation required can be found in the admissions statement for the relevant programme.

Deferrals

In some cases, deferred entry is available for this programme, subject to agreement. Please contact sceem-pgr-admissions@bristol.ac.uk if you would like to discuss the possibility of deferring your start date.

Due to the nature of postgraduate funding, however, applicants funded by the University of Bristol are not eligible for deferred entry. Any such applicants wishing to defer are encouraged to resubmit their application for consideration in the relevant year.

Results deadline

Applicants who receive a conditional offer will be required to submit evidence that they have met their offer conditions before they can register for a programme. Offer holders should submit early enough to allow time to register for the start date stated in the offer letter.

Offer holders should email sceem-pgr-admissions@bristol.ac.uk about any delay in providing evidence for the offer.

International offer holders should meet their conditions allowing time to obtain an ATAS certificate and apply for a visa. Here's a link [Gov.UK Visa processing times](#) for an idea of how much time you will need to apply for your visa.

Additional information

Extenuating circumstances

If your education has been significantly disrupted through health or personal problems, disability or specific difficulties within your studies, you can submit an [extenuating circumstances](#) form as part of your application.

The information provided will be treated confidentially and will help us to assess your academic performance fairly considering your circumstances.

Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS)

Applicants who will require a visa to study in the UK will also be required to gain clearance through the [Academic Technology Approval Scheme](#) (ATAS). The Academic Technology Approval Scheme is a clearance process which affects overseas applicants (outside the EEA and Switzerland) for certain postgraduate science, technology, medical and engineering studies in the UK. Applicants to affected programmes are required to obtain an ATAS certificate before applying for a visa.

Visa

International students coming to the UK to study full-time may need to apply for a student visa. [Tier 4 student visa guidance notes](#) are available on the University website.

Fees and Deposits

Fees

Annual tuition fee are available on the relevant [prospectus entry](#) for this programme.

Deposits

Deposits are not required for this programme.

Sponsored Students

International offer holders who will be fully funded must provide evidence of funding in the form of a confirmation letter from the recognised sponsor organisation. This should be uploaded to your online application using the '*Evidence for conditions*' section.

Home and EU Offer holders who are successful in securing funding sponsorship must have the sponsor complete a [Sponsorship authorisation form](#) and email it to student-fees@bristol.ac.uk.