

# Postgraduate Admissions Statement for



## PhD Cyber Security (TIPS at Scale)

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

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Academic and English language requirements</b> | The academic and English language requirements for this programme are displayed on the <a href="#">Postgraduate Prospectus</a><br><br>For information on international equivalent qualifications, please refer to our <a href="#">International Office website</a> .  |
| <b>Non-standard applications</b>                  | 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.<br><br>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

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| ✓ | <b>References</b>                                     | We require two academic references. References should comply with our standard requirements outlined on <a href="#">our guidance pages</a> .  |
| ✓ | <b>Degree certificate(s) and academic transcripts</b> | From first and subsequent degrees. Degree certificates and transcripts should comply with our standard requirements outlined on <a href="#">our guidance pages</a> .  |
| ✓ | <b>Personal statement</b>                             | Personal statements should highlight the motivation for applying for the course, and any relevant experience and/or skills.   |
| ✓ | <b>English language certificates/other evidence</b>   | Evidence of meeting the English language profile as stated on the <a href="#">Postgraduate Prospectus</a> and specified by the <a href="#">University English Language Requirements Policy</a>  |
| ✓ | <b>Case Study</b>                                     | The applicant should provide up to 1 A4 page of text on a cyber security issue that interests them, discuss why the problem is challenging from both a social and technical perspective and what methods or techniques would be appropriate to develop a deeper understanding of the issue. |
| ✓ | <b>Curriculum Vitae (CV)</b>                          | CVs might include details of other relevant work experience and qualifications to support an application.   |

| <b>Optional Documents</b>          |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Research Training Statement</b> | Applicants are welcome to provide details of any relevant qualifications or training required to assist with their application.   |
| <b>Additional References</b>       | 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 for shortlisting for the recruitment workshop by two members of staff using the following criteria:

- Academic achievement (50%)
- Motivation, case study and fit to cohort (30%)
- References (20%)

### **Recruitment Workshop**

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a recruitment workshop with members of the CDT management and supervisory team as well as industry partners. The recruitment workshop is a fundamental part of the selection process and only candidates shortlisted following the application will be invited. Shortlisted candidates based overseas will normally be interviewed by telephone or Skype.

The recruitment workshop will involve: (1) a group task developed in collaboration with industry partners to assess the applicant's ability to problem-solve and work with others from different backgrounds and perspectives (2) an individual interview with a panel from academic and industry representatives to further explore motivation, passion for the subject and ability to engage in interdisciplinary thinking. During their visit, applicants will have the opportunity to meet with current CDT students and will be taken on a tour of the offices and labs by a student or postdoctoral researcher.

All interviews are conducted by members of staff, who will have been trained in equality, diversity and inclusion with respect to recruitment techniques. All interviews are undertaken in accordance with the University's policy on equal opportunities. Industry members of the panel will be provided with the CDT's equality, diversity and inclusion statement and will be expected to commit to it prior to the interview.

### **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**

This programme does not normally allow deferrals unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please contact [sceem-pgr-admissions@bristol.ac.uk](mailto: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. The expected start date will be stated in the offer letter.

Offer holders should email [sceem-pgr-admissions@bristol.ac.uk](mailto: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.

### Funding

This Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) programme has Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) funds to support up to ten UK/EU students per year including fees, stipend, research and travel expenses. Applicants must meet the [Residency requirements](#) set by the EPSRC.

The programme has no internal funding for non-EU applicants. Any applications received from self-funded or externally sponsored applicants will be considered.

### Sponsored Students

International offer holders who will be fully funded by an external funder 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.

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