

PhD Social and Community Medicine

Programmes covered

PhD, MD, DSc, MSc by research, Occasional for the following:

- Child and Adolescent Health (PhD, PhD by Published Work, MD, MSc by Research)
- Ethics in Medicine (PhD, PhD by Published Work, MD, MSc by Research)
- Primary Health Care (PhD, PhD by Published Work, MD, MSc by Research)
- Psychiatry (PhD, PhD by Published Work, MD, MSc by Research)
- Social Medicine (PhD, PhD by Published Work, DSc by Published Work, MD, MSc by Research)

Applicants should also refer to the relevant prospectus entry for further programme details.

This admissions statement should be read in association with the [University Admissions Principles and Procedures for Postgraduate Research/Taught Programmes](#).

Faculty

Faculty of Health Sciences

Admissions team and contact details

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Admissions cycle

Application process

Online application

Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly into the application form. Guidance on uploading documents can be found in the [How to Apply FAQs](#).

We strongly recommend that you contact potential supervisors prior to submitting an application to discuss your research interests and research statement.

Applicants should make every effort to choose the correct programme in the application form by reading the prospectus entry and admissions statements fully. Applicants should contact the relevant Admissions Team if clarification is required.

Application Deadline

There is no application deadline for this programme. Details of specific studentship deadlines can be found on the Postgraduate page of the School's website.

Required documents

All documents must be translated into English. Degree certificates and transcripts should be certified copies and list subjects taken and grades/degrees achieved. If your degree is not yet complete, please provide transcripts of subjects taken and marks achieved to date. All documents must be uploaded into the online application form unless otherwise noted. Applicants who have already submitted an application can upload additional documents into the 'Post-submission uploads' section. You can find information about how to upload documents to your application form in our [How to Apply FAQs](#).

Required documents for this programme are:

- Two references
- Degree certificate(s) from first and subsequent degrees
- Academic transcript(s) from your first and subsequent degrees
- Personal statement
- The names of two supervisors (following discussion and agreement with them)
- Research statement/statement (completed after consultation with proposed supervisor)
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- English language certificates if English is not your native language and your undergraduate degree was not in an English speaking country (please see the English Language Requirements for a list of English speaking countries)

PhD by Published Work applicants - research statements are not required

Interviews

Typically offers will not be made without interview unless applicants have already secured a nationally competitive studentship.

Correspondence with applicants

Applicants will normally receive communication via email to the email address used to set up their application form account. Applicants should ensure that this profile email address is kept up-to-date.

Admissions criteria

Academic entry requirements

An upper second-class honours degree (or equivalent) and/or a relevant Master's qualification (or equivalent) and/or evidence of prior learning or achievement.

For information on international equivalent qualifications, please see our [International Office](#) website.

English language criteria for non-native English speakers

For applicants whose first language is not English, it is necessary to achieve a minimum score in an approved English language test specified in Profile A of the [University's English Language Requirements Policy](#).

You can find information about the University of Bristol's Pre-Sessional English courses at the [Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies website](#).

Reference criteria

Applicants should submit a minimum of two references, at least one academic, which must not be their potential supervisor. Referees must be of a grade that is senior to the applicant and have known them for at least 6 months.

References should either be submitted directly by the referee using the online reference form, or submitted directly by the applicant.

References should be on headed paper, with clear contact details and signed by the person who wrote it.

Personal statement criteria

Please use the statement to outline your motivation for, and interest in, doing postgraduate research in this area. Highlight details of any previous academic or professional experience related to your research area and any other information which you feel is relevant.

Research statement and research training statement criteria

Please provide a (maximum) 2 page research statement in the form of a project statement (completed after consultation with proposed supervisor). This should contain the following headings: Title; background; objectives; proposed methods. Please clearly state the relative contributions of you and your proposed supervisors to the research statement.

Interview criteria

Interviews are typically conducted by members of the postgraduate team and potential supervisors. Interviews assess the academic and professional potential of individual candidates and provide feedback on the research proposed. Interviews may include an oral research presentation.

Additional requirements

We may ask for additional information to help evaluate your application.

Selection process and offers

Selection process

Applications will be reviewed and independently shortlisted by a member of the Postgraduate team and the proposed supervisors or senior members of academic staff.

Applicants will then be invited for interview or declined. We aim to reach this decision within 3-4 weeks of fully complete application.

All applications are considered in accordance with the [University's policy on equality and diversity](#). The University of Bristol upholds the principles of equality and diversity, respect and dignity. Candidates are not discriminated against on the grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion or belief, disability, health or age.

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 their application. If there is a deadline by which applicants must accept their offer of admission, this will be stated in the offer letter.

Deferrals

Yes. Deferred entry is at the discretion of the School. Applicants are welcome to re-apply at a later date.

Deposits

There is no deposit required for this programme.

ATAS

Applicants to any of the Ethics in Medicine programmes who will require a visa to study in the UK, will also be required to gain clearance through the Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS). Please see the ATAS page on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website for further information.

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.