Postgraduate Admissions Statement for

University of **BRISTOL**

PhD South West Biosciences Doctoral Training Partnership (BBSRC)

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

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	Unfortunately, we are unable to accept non-standard applications for this programme. Applicants must meet the entry requirements stated above.

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 and optional documents		
✓	**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**	The personal statement should state the project they want to be considered for. The statement should summarise the suitability of the applicant for the intended project, including how their academic credentials match the programme requirements (including the required mathematical training).
✓	**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.

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 using the following criteria:

- •Academic achievement
- English language ability (where applicable)
- Academic references
- personal statement
- Skills training, prior research experience and appropriateness for the project applied for

Interviews

Interviews will be used as part of the selection process. Project supervisors may invite candidates for informal visits before nominating. Nominated candidates will then be reviewed by members of the institutional interview panel and shortlisted candidates will be invited to the advertised institutional interview day (interview candidates must attend this interview day to progress their application). During the interview, applicants will be asked to make a short research presentation; instructions will be provided in advance of the interview. Candidates can expect to be questioned by the interview panel on their research presentation, their background research interests and experience, and future career plans. In addition to the interview there will also be a task-based exercise to complete (instructions will be provided in advance). After the interviews, the selection panel will allocate the available studentships to the highest-ranked candidates. This means that although a student may be successful in being nominated by a supervisor for a particular project, they are not guaranteed a studentship until they have been successful at the institutional interview day. If required, interviewees based overseas will normally be interviewed by telephone or Skype. All interviews are undertaken in accordance with the University's Equality and Diversity Policy.

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

Due to the nature of postgraduate funding, deferred entry is not permitted for funded applicants for this programme. Applicants are encouraged to re-submit their application for consideration in the following year.

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

Sponsored students will need to upload a copy of their sponsorship letter using the 'Post Submission Uploads' section of the online application.