

Admissions Statement for Visiting Postgraduate Research Students PhD and MSc by Research (MScR)

This Admissions Statement applies to applications submitted for entry to the programme.

It should be read in association with the University Admissions Principles and Procedures for Postgraduate programmes [University policies](#) | [About the University](#) | [University of Bristol](#) and general application guidance [How to apply](#) | [Study at Bristol](#) | [University of Bristol](#).

Admissions criteria

Academic and English language requirements

1. You must be registered as a research student at another higher education institution.
2. You are not applying for the award of credit. Visiting research students cannot be awarded credit or undertake formal assessment at the University of Bristol.
3. You cannot be on a recognised exchange or study abroad arrangement. Please view the [Study Abroad programme at Bristol](#) for more information
4. If your visit is longer than 6 months, you will need to give evidence of your English language proficiency. Refer to the [University of Bristol English Language entry requirements](#) for further guidance.

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 School Postgraduate Research Director 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.

Information/Documents Required

Named supervisors: Required

It is compulsory to indicate the name of the supervisor at University of Bristol, Faculty of Life Sciences, who has agreed to support your visit in the “Research Statement” section of your application.

You must contact your chosen supervisor in advance of making the application, via email. You can find their details on the following School research pages:

- Biochemistry - [Research | School of Biochemistry | University of Bristol](#)
- Biological Sciences - [Research | School of Biological Sciences | University of Bristol](#)
- Cellular and molecular medicine - [Research | School of Cellular and Molecular Medicine | University of Bristol](#)
- Physiology, Pharmacology and Neuroscience - [Research | School of Physiology, Pharmacology and Neuroscience | University of Bristol](#)
- Psychology - [Research | School of Psychological Science | University of Bristol](#)

References: Required

We require one academic reference from your current supervisor, outlining the proposed research, your proposed visit dates and any relevant details.

Proof of enrollment: Required

An official letter issued by your university, confirming the details of the course you are studying and your dates of enrollment.

Degree certificate(s) and academic transcripts: Required

Full and official degree certificates and transcripts of **all** completed degrees. Interim transcripts are required if your degree is not yet completed. We require colour scans of original documents and certified translations of documents issued in any language other than English.

Curriculum Vitae (CV): Required

CVs should include full details of academic credentials and can include details of other relevant work experience and qualifications to support an application.

Personal statement: Required

We require a document with details of your visit, including your preferred dates for visiting; the final dates will be confirmed by the FLS PGR Admin Team. Please note that a research statement is not required; a blank word document can be uploaded instead.

English language certificates/other evidence: Required, if applicable.

For visits longer than 6 months, students must provide evidence of meeting the English language profile as specified by the [University English Language Requirements Policy](#).

Financial guarantee / sponsorship letter: Required, if applicable.

Sponsored students must upload a financial guarantee letter, provided by the sponsor, confirming the details of the funding available for the visit.

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 proficiency (where applicable)
- Academic references
- Personal statement
- Skills training and prior research experience
- Availability of appropriate supervision

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

Offers

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

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)

International students and researchers (apart from exempt nationalities) who are subject to UK immigration control will be required to apply for an Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) certificate to study this programme. For further details see www.gov.uk/guidance/academic-technology-approval-scheme

Visa

International students coming to the UK to study may need to apply for a visa. More information is available on the pages Please read the sections “Visa options for visiting students” and “ATAS” on the page [Visiting Students | Directory of Professional Services | University of Bristol](#)

Fees and Deposits

Bench fees

Visiting students are not required to pay any tuition fees, but you may be required to pay a bench fee. The definitive fee will be confirmed in your offer letter.

Deposits

Deposits are not required for this programme.

Terms and conditions

You are responsible for all costs associated with your visit, including accommodation, health insurance, subsistence, travel and leisure costs. We do not currently offer any bursaries or other financial support for visiting research students.

We recommend that visiting research students bring a laptop computer with them.