

Postgraduate Admissions Statement

PhD Quantum Engineering (Centre for Doctoral Training)

Programmes covered

This Admissions Statement applies to the following programme(s):

Quantum Engineering (EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training), PhD

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 Taught Programmes](#).

Faculty

Faculty of Science

Admissions team and contact details

Postgraduate Admissions

School of Geographical Sciences

University of Bristol

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Telephone: +44 (0)117 39 40025

Website: www.bristol.ac.uk/quantum-engineering

Admissions cycle

This Admissions Statement applies to applications submitted for entry to the programme between 1 October 2018 and 30 September 2019.

Application deadline

Application deadlines can be found on the individual programme page within the [University course finder](#).

Admissions criteria

Academic requirements

To be considered for admissions to this programme, applicants are required to hold/achieve a minimum of an upper second-class degree (or international equivalent) in physics, electrical engineering, computer science, maths, chemistry or in other relevant physical sciences.

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

English language requirements for non-native English speakers

Applicants whose first language is not English, and whose full undergraduate degree was not taught in an English-speaking country, must hold/achieve a minimum score in an approved English language test as specified in Profile E of the [University's English Language Requirements Policy](#).

You do not need to have reached the required level of English language before submitting an application, but an English language test must be submitted with the application for review. If necessary, English language will be included as a condition of offer.

There is an option to take one of the University's Pre-sessional English courses; details are available on the [Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies website](#).

Application process

Online application form

Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly. Guidance on uploading documents can be found in the [guidance for online applications](#). Paper documents received by post, or electronic documents received by email, are only considered in exceptional circumstances.

Before applying, make sure you choose the right programme by reading the prospectus entry and Admissions Statement fully. If you need clarification, please [contact the relevant admissions team](#).

Applications may not be considered until all required documents have been uploaded. If you have already submitted an application, you can upload additional documents into the 'Post-submission uploads' section of the application form.

Documents to upload to online application form

Required documents for this programme are as follows:

- **Two academic references (minimum):** References should be submitted electronically by the referee, using the online reference form. Alternatively, scanned copies of the original reference document(s) can be uploaded by the applicant. At least one referee should be familiar with the applicant's academic work. If you graduated more than two years ago, or if professional experience is relevant to the application, professional references will be accepted in lieu of one academic reference. References must be written, signed and dated on official letter headed paper from the referee's organisation. They must also include the referee's full contact details, i.e. postal address, telephone number and organisation email address.

We cannot accept references where the contact email address is a personal email address. All references must be dated within the last two years. While there is no set format, references typically address several of the following: academic achievement and potential;

motivation; intellectual maturity and independence; relevant experience; potential for benefiting from and contributing to the course; written and spoken communication skills; ways in which an applicant's performance does not reflect their ability, including special circumstances.

- **Degree certificate(s)** from first and subsequent degrees. We require colour scans of original documents and certified translations of documents issued in any language other than English.
- **Academic transcripts** from first and subsequent degrees. We require colour scans of original documents and certified translations of documents issued in any language other than English. Transcripts must list all subjects taken and grades achieved to date, with the grade scale clearly displayed in the transcript. Applicants must clearly state their current average grade in the online application form.
- **Research Statement:** The primary requirement for the research statement 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:
 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.
- **Personal statement:** Personal statements should highlight the motivation for applying for the course, and any relevant experience and/or skills. The candidate should give their motivation and reasons for applying for this specific project and detail any relevant experience they have that may enhance their application. They should also outline their future goals.
- **Evidence of English language** is required from all students whose native language is not English, in accordance with the English requirement for the programme. A colour scan of the original document or certificate is required.
- **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** CVs might include details of other relevant work experience and qualifications to support an application. Please do not include any school (pre-university) certificates, unless otherwise specified above.

Optional documents for this programme are:

- **Research Training Statement:** A Research Training Statement is not required, but applicants are welcome to provide details of any training requirements to support their postgraduate studies. If there are no training requirements this section can be left blank.

Correspondence with applicants

We will correspond with you via the email address used to set up your application form account. Please keep this address up-to-date.

Selection process

Assessment of applications

All applicants are considered on an equal basis in line with the [University's Equality and Diversity Policy](#).

Once a complete application has been submitted with all required supporting documents, it is considered by the individual graduate schools, usually by the intended supervisor(s) and an internal committee, which may involve several members of staff. Decisions are made on the basis of all the available information, including the written application and references, and, if applicable, the performance at interview.

Applicants who have undertaken a transnational education partnership programme or top-up degree and meet the minimum academic entry criteria will not automatically receive an offer of admission. In these cases, we consider academic history alongside relevance of degree, and, if necessary, degree content and performance in key modules.

Applicants are considered holistically on their own merit and in competition with the rest of the applicant cohort during that academic cycle.

Interviews

Candidates may be invited to attend an interview. Where required, Interviews will last approximately 20 minutes and will be held with a panel of at least two members of academic staff. Applicants will be assessed on their academic achievement, research potential, fit to the project and strength of references, as well as their performance in the interview.

The purpose of the interview is to assess whether the applicant currently 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. All interviews are conducted by two members of staff, at least one of whom is trained in fair and effective recruitment techniques. All interviews are undertaken in accordance with the University's policy on equal opportunities.

Decisions

Notification of 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. Decision letters include any deadline by which applicants must accept an offer.

Offers

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

Offers may be conditional or unconditional. Unconditional offers are made to successful applicants who have met the admissions requirements. Successful applicants who have not yet fulfilled the academic or language requirements will receive a conditional offer outlining the outstanding requirements.

Unsuccessful applicants may be considered for an alternative programme in a related subject area. In such cases, applicants will receive an email with details of the alternative options. You may have to submit additional documentation in order to be considered for an alternative programme. Please check the relevant [admissions statement](#) for details.

Deferrals

Deferred entry is only considered in exceptional circumstances. Please [contact quantum-engineering@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:contact_quantum-engineering@bristol.ac.uk) to discuss the possibility of deferring your start date.

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 in light of your circumstances.

ATAS

Applicants who require a visa to study in the UK must first gain clearance through the Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS). Please visit the [ATAS page](#) on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website for further information.

Deposits

International self-funded students accepting a place on this programme must pay a deposit of £1,500. Further information on [how to pay programme deposits](#) is provided in the offer letter as well as online.

The deposit is non-transferable and non-refundable except under the circumstances outlined in the [Deposits Refund Policy](#).

Visa

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

Sponsored students

Sponsored students are not required to pay the deposit, but must upload a copy of their sponsorship letter in the 'Post-submission uploads' section of the online application, and must also complete and upload the [sponsorship authorisation form](#).