

Postgraduate Admissions Statement for PhD Cellular and Molecular Medicine, MSc by Research and Cellular and Molecular Medicine

This Admissions Statement applies to applications submitted between 13 September 2025 and 11 September 2026.

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](#), in the “Entry Requirements” section, under “English language requirements”.

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

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 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 and optional information/documents

Named supervisors: Required

It is compulsory to indicate the names of one or two supervisors whose research interests you. Please contact these Supervisors by email in advance of making your application. You



can find their details on the school's research page as 'Principal Investigators' under our three themes- [Cancer Biology](#), [Infection and Immunity](#) and [Regenerative medicine and stem cells](#).

References - Required

We require two references, one of which must be an academic reference, preferably both. We accept references from personal tutors and lead supervisors of significant research experience, for example from final year projects or a year in industry. References should comply with our standard requirements outlined on [our guidance pages](#).

Degree certificate(s) and academic transcripts - Required

Full and official degree certificates and transcripts from all completed degrees. Interim transcripts are required if your degree is not yet completed. Degree certificates and transcripts should comply with our standard requirements outlined on [our guidance pages](#).

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

Personal statements should not exceed one A4 page and should highlight the motivation for applying for the PhD/MSc by research project, along with any relevant experience and/or skills.

At the top of your personal statement, state your proposed area of research interest. Choose from:

- Cancer Biology
- Infection and Immunology
- Stem Cell Research
- Other (please specify)

English language certificates/other evidence - Required

Evidence of meeting the English language profile as stated on the [Postgraduate Prospectus](#) and specified by the [University English Language Requirements Policy](#)

Research Statement: Optional

Please note that a research statement is not required, unless the application is for a specific scholarship that requires it.

Please note: If a research statement is not required, you may need to upload a Word document with the header "No research statement required" for the application to be submitted correctly.

If required, to be completed after consultation with the proposed supervisor.

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:

- The research questions or problems that you intend to address;
- The research context for your project/programme of work;

- The methods you think you will use to pursue the key questions.

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:

- Performance in undergraduate degree and, if relevant, Masters degree
- English language ability (where applicable)
- Academic References
- Personal statement
- Skills training and prior research experience
- Availability of appropriate supervision.

Interviews

Interviews are part of the selection process as required.

The purpose of the interview is to assess whether the applicant 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 Zoom. 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.

Deferrals

Deferrals by a full academic year or more are not permitted for this programme. Applicants are encouraged to re-submit their application for consideration the following year. Requests for shorter deferrals are dealt with on a case-by-case basis.



Results deadline

Applicants who receive a conditional offer will be required to submit all final results to meet their offer conditions a month before the intended start date. Offer holders who will be unable to provide their final results by this date should email fls-pgenquiries@bristol.ac.uk to notify the admissions team as soon as possible.

Additional information

Exceptional 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 full-time may need to apply for a student visa. Guidance is available on the [University website](#).

Fees and Deposits

Fees

Annual tuition fees are available on the relevant [prospectus entry](#) for this programme. Bench fees may apply and will vary according to the individual project.

Applicants should indicate on their application if they are applying for a funded studentship/scholarship, will be self-funded, or if they have secured funding elsewhere.

Offer letters for programmes do not represent any intention to fund. The offer of admission is separate to any offer of funding.

Deposits

Deposits are not required for PGR students.

Sponsored Students

Sponsored students are not required to pay the deposit but will need to upload a copy of their sponsorship letter to the online application.