

Undergraduate Admissions Statement

This statement should be read in conjunction with the University's Admissions Principles and Procedures: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/after-you-apply/policies/2026/>



Year of Admissions cycle

2026

Courses covered

Certificate in Higher Education (Cert HE) Dental Nursing

1. Course Specific Information:

1.1 Admissions process

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

Applicants will be directed to an online process, which permits upload of supporting information. Further information is available on our How to Apply webpage.

Applications will not be considered until all required documents have been uploaded. All correspondence relating to an applicant's status will be sent by email.

All applications are considered by the Dental Nursing Admissions Team who assess the information provided for:

- Academic potential and communication skills
- Interest and an understanding of the scope of practice of a dental nurse
- Qualities and attributes that would make the applicant suitable for the training
- Knowledge of the importance of dental team training
- Motivation, and commitment to the programme and the profession.

The University is committed to creating a diverse learning environment where all students are valued for their individual differences and contribution, with equal opportunities for all irrespective of age, disability, race, sex, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, religion or belief, and sexual orientation.

Scenarios (not required until after invitation to interview)

Applicants who are invited to interview will be asked to produce responses to specific scenarios in advance of the interview. Eligible applicants will receive information about these scenarios at least two weeks before the deadline for submission of responses. Responses to scenarios will be used to support your application and will be discussed at the interview. Where responses have been requested, the interview will not go ahead if the written work has not been submitted by the given deadline. Using generative AI tools to create or substantially edit content may be treated as contract cheating and academic misconduct, even if the tool is freely available. This may result in the application being withdrawn.

1.2 Admissions criteria

The English language requirements for this programme are displayed on the prospectus page.

We are unable to consider applications from applicants eligible for international 'overseas' fees. International students may wish to consider our [International Foundation Programmes](#). Our website provides information on [how we determine home or overseas fees status](#).

You need to apply for this programme directly to the University, not through UCAS.

All successful applicants are subject to certain conditions and checks before starting the programme; this is common practice for ALL students starting clinically based programmes.

Occupational health clearance: All offers are subject to satisfactory occupational health clearance. Applicants who accept our offer as their firm choice will be asked to complete and return the pre-course health questionnaire by the specified deadline. Further information can be found at: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/after-you-apply/after-accepting/questionnaires/>

Disclosure & Barring Service: All offers are subject to satisfactory criminal record checks through the Disclosure & Barring Service. All checks must be completed satisfactorily in order for an applicant to register as a student on this course.

1.3 Interviews

Based on the application and required supporting documents, applicants will be shortlisted and considered for interview as part of the selection process. Such interviews are conducted in person, with a small panel of staff which will include the Programme Director and at least one member of staff who has been trained in fair and effective recruitment techniques and are undertaken in accordance with the University's policy on equal opportunities.

The following criteria will be considered when assessing the interview performance:

- Academic potential and communication skills
- Interest and an understanding of the scope of practice of a dental nurse
- Qualities and attributes that would make the applicant suitable for the training
- Knowledge of the importance of dental team training
- Motivation, and commitment to the programme and the profession.
- Deeper understanding of written responses to scenarios submitted prior to the interview

Interviewees with a disability should contact Disability Services to discuss any support requirements they may need at interview. Further information about interviews can be found on our web pages: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/after-you-apply/interviews/>

1.4 Deferred applications

Deferrals will not be allowed. Applications will only be considered in the cycle in which they are submitted, and under the policies in place for that cycle.

1.5 Transfers

Transfer requests to or from another Dental Nursing programme will not be considered.

2. General Information

2.1 Admissions process

We assess applicants based on their application, required supporting documents and interview only; we do not consider any additional information received from an applicant or institution, unless we have requested it.

Applications received before the deadline are guaranteed equal consideration. To assess an application, we require the following documents:

- Online application
- Personal Statement

Shortlisted applicants will be offered an in-person interview at Bristol Dental School as part of the selection process. You will be provided with a short tour of the School as part of the process.

Once a decision has been made, the applicant will be informed the outcome by email. If a successful applicant decides to accept the offer, they are encouraged to respond and provide any required supporting documents as soon as they are available before the set deadline.

The offer letter will include information on subsequent steps of the admission process.

2.2 Sponsorship

Bristol Dental School will sponsor tuition fees for up to 20 students per annum.

If the programme is over-subscribed, priority for sponsored places is given to applicants in the following circumstances:

- Applicants without prior experience of higher education and/or who do not already hold a qualification at QCA Level 3 (e.g. A-Levels or an Access to HE Diploma)
- Applicants who live in a BA, BS or other local postcode within an hour's journey of the University of Bristol (including South Wales)
- Applicants from groups that are currently underrepresented in higher education. This may include, for example:
 - Mature applicants (over the age of 21);
 - Refugees and applicants seeking asylum in the UK who have been awarded the Sanctuary Scholarship;
 - Applicants who live in an Indices of Multiple Deprivations (IMD) quintile 1 or 2 area;
 - Applicants who are or have been eligible for free school meals;
 - Applicants who are from a Black or Asian background or of a mixed background featuring one of these groups;
 - Applicants from minority ethnic groups;
 - Applicants who are from Gypsy, Traveller, Roma, Showmen and Boater (GTRSB) communities;
 - Applicants who are care leavers, carers or parents;
 - Disabled applicants
 - Applicants who have a parent or carer who currently serves in the UK Armed Forces, or who has done so in the past.
 - Applicants who are part of the first generation in their family to go to university

2.3 Correspondence with applicants

All correspondence relating to an applicant's status is sent by email. If the contact details change, we ask applicants to inform us by email: Dental-nursing@bristol.ac.uk

2.4 Applicants' age

Applicants who are under the age of 18 must be at least 18 years of age by the 1st of September in their year of entry to the Cert HE Dental Nursing programme at the University of Bristol in order to undertake clinical learning, as students must be able to have legal capacity to be bound by the rules of clinical confidentiality.

2.5 Policies

All applications are considered in line with our Admissions Principles and Procedures for undergraduate courses: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/after-you-apply/policies>

We are committed to implementing high-quality, fair, and transparent admissions procedures for all our applicants. However, applicants who believe they have cause for complaint should consult our applicant appeals, complaints and feedback policy. This policy provides a mechanism for objective review in cases where an applicant believes that the University's Admissions Principles and Procedures have been inconsistently or incorrectly applied.

2.6 Additional Information

We collect equality data for monitoring purposes as part of the application. This is only used as part of the admissions decision-making process as described above, if necessary to select between otherwise equal candidates. This data is otherwise only used to inform widening access reporting, and to help our interviewers signpost any useful Student Support information to candidates attending an interview.

2.7 Contacts for enquiries

Any enquiries should be addressed to Dental-nursing@bristol.ac.uk