Postgraduate Dental Studies

Programmes covered

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

Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, MSc Postgraduate Dental Studies, and Occasional Route

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 Health Sciences

Admissions team and contact details

BUOLD Administrator
School of Oral and Dental Sciences
University of Bristol
Lower Maudlin Street
Bristol BS1 2LY

Email: buold-office@bristol.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 (0)117 342 4439
Website: www.bristol.ac.uk/health-sciences

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

All applicants must hold a Bachelor of Dental Surgery or other approved dental qualification and have been qualified for at least one year. All applicants must have registered or eligible for registration with the General Dental Council or other recognised professional body. Registered dental hygienists and therapists are eligible for units that cover areas within their scope of practice.

Applicants for the Postgraduate Diploma must also hold the Postgraduate Certificate in Dental Postgraduate Studies or equivalent qualification. Applicants with Recognition of Prior (Certified/Experiential) Learning would be considered.

Applicants for the MSc must also hold the Postgraduate Diploma in Dental Postgraduate or equivalent qualification. Applicants with Recognition of Prior (Certified/Experiential) Learning would be considered.

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 B of the University's English Language Requirements Policy.

You do not need to have reached the required level of English language before applying. 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.

Additional requirements

In accordance with the requirements of the University Hospitals Bristol NHS Trust regarding students with access to patients, applicants wishing to undertake the Conscious Sedation Unit must provide evidence by **1 April 2019** of the following immunisations before commencing clinical sessions within Trust premises:

MMR	Either: • Evidence of two MMR vaccinations, or • Evidence of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella
Hepatitis B	• Three hepatitis B vaccines • Blood test results showing immunity • Five-year booster (if applicable)
Chickenpox	Either: • Verbal history of disease, or • Blood test results showing immunity, or • Evidence of chickenpox vaccination within last 10 years
Tuberculosis	Either: • BCG scar, or • Proof of vaccination Overseas candidates must undergo a blood test after six weeks of arrival in the UK. Cases are assessed individually by occupational health staff.
Exposure prone procedures (EPP) clearance	Negative blood test results for: • Hepatitis B • Hepatitis C • HIV All students must take these blood tests in the UK, and must not have subsequently worked abroad, at least one week before commencing EPP work.

Applicants must also undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance before commencing clinical sessions within Trust premises.

International applicants must provide a satisfactory police check/certificate of good conduct from their home country (with a certified English translation if necessary). This requirement will be included in the conditions of any offer that is made and must be satisfied before admission to the programme can be confirmed.

Please note that this is a part-time programme, comprising mainly distance learning units. There are one to two mandatory study days per unit as well as separate examination days.

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 required

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.

  If you graduated more than two years ago, or if professional experience is relevant to your application, a professional reference will be accepted in lieu of one academic reference. At least one referee should be familiar with your academic work. References must be written, signed and dated on official letter-headed paper from the referee's organisation, and must include full referee contact details, as shown in the reference template. References supplied with a personal contact email address are only accepted in exceptional circumstances, which must be explained within the reference. All references must be dated within the last two years.

- **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 state their current average grade in the online application form.

- **Personal statement.** Personal statements should highlight your motivation for applying, any relevant experience and/or skills and details of how the programme will benefit your career.

- **English language certificates** are required from applicants whose native language is not English and whose full undergraduate degree was not taught in an English-speaking country.

- **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.

- **Applicants who have previously completed the Postgraduate Dental Studies programme and wish to apply to study at the next level must complete the** Recognition of Prior Learning form**.**

- **Booking form**

Applicants returning to top up their qualification will are not normally asked to provide information already submitted.

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 reviewed by two members of staff, and another academic will make an assessment of suitability. Existing students studying for the certificate or diploma are given priority each year when booking on to new units. New students are enrolled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Where we receive a large volume of high-quality applications for a small number of places, priority is given to existing students in the final year of their award, followed by new students.

Where an applicant has undertaken a transnational education partnership programme or top-up degree, meeting the minimum academic entry criteria will not automatically mean an applicant will receive an offer. For these applicants, admissions decisions will consider the academic history of the applicant alongside relevance of degree, and, if required, degree content, and performance in key modules.

Each applicant is considered both holistically on their own merit and in competition with the rest of the applicant cohort during the academic cycle.

Interviews

Interviews do not form part of the selection process, although we sometimes contact candidates to further clarify their application.

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 of admission.

Offers

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 available for this programme, subject to agreement. Applicants can only defer their place for one year. Please contact the admissions team if you would like to defer 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

An ATAS certificate is not required for this programme.

Deposits

International self-funded students accepting a place on a taught postgraduate programme must pay a deposit of £1,500. Further information is available on how to pay programme deposits. Further information will also be provided in the offer letter to successful applicants.

The deposit is non-transferable and non-refundable except under the circumstances outlined in the International Deposits Refund Policy.

Visa

This is a part-time programme, and, as such, Tier 4 student visas are not available for international students wishing to come to the UK to study on this programme. International candidates holding non-student visas may be eligible for study. Please contact Student Visa Services for advice.

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.