

## Postgraduate Admissions Statement

# MSc Epidemiology

### Programmes covered

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

MSc Epidemiology

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

Senior Postgraduate Admissions Administrator

Faculty Student Administration

Health Sciences Faculty Office

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Website: [www.bristol.ac.uk/population-health-sciences/research/epidemiology/](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/population-health-sciences/research/epidemiology/)

### 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

Applicants must hold/achieve a minimum of an upper second-class honours degree or equivalent in a relevant subject, including (but not limited to) medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, pharmacy, biological sciences, statistics, mathematics and psychology. Applicants must also provide evidence of numeracy skills (for example, A-level Mathematics or Statistics at grade C or higher, or a module with a minimum of 60% in a previous degree). Preference is given to candidates with excellent

academic results in their undergraduate degree and demonstrated interest in epidemiology or public health through work experience, volunteering or research. We reserve the right to close admissions early to certain markets.

Candidates who do not meet the minimum academic requirements, but have relevant professional experience, may still be eligible for admission. Please [contact the admissions team](#) if you are not sure whether this is the right course for you.

Applicants looking for training in public health practice are advised to apply to the [MSc Public Health](#).

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 submitting an application. 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.

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.
- **Certificate for A-level Mathematics or Statistics** (or equivalent) if this constitutes the chosen evidence of numeracy. This is not required if you have submitted an academic transcript of a first degree, showing a minimum of 60% for a mathematics or statistics subject.
- **Personal statement.** Personal statements should highlight the motivation for applying for the course, any relevant experience and/or skills, and clearly indicate the chosen evidence of numeracy ( A-level Mathematics or Statistics or equivalent, or an undergraduate degree module, including subject/title).
- **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.

### **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 using the following criteria:

- Qualifications/grades at the time of applying
- Motivation for applying (as outlined in the personal statement)
- Work experience
- Academic references

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.

### **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](#) the admissions team 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**

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 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 [International 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](#).