

Postgraduate Admissions Statement for PhD South West Biosciences Doctoral Training Partnership (BBSRC)

This Admissions Statement applies to applications submitted for entry to the programme between 18 September 2024 and 17 September 2025.

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](#)

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

Non-standard applications

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept non-standard applications for this programme. Applicants must meet the entry requirements stated above.

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 documents

It is compulsory for applicants to include the supervisor and project title from the list of available advertised projects <https://www.swbio.ac.uk/programme/projects-available/>. Applicants can apply for up to 3 projects, a separate application must be submitted for each project.

References: Required

We require two academic references. References should comply with our standard requirements outlined on [our guidance pages](#).

Degree certificate(s) and academic transcripts: Required

From first and subsequent degrees. Degree certificates and transcripts should comply with our standard requirements outlined on [our guidance pages](#).

Personal statement: Required

The personal statement should state the project they want to be considered for. The statement should summarise the suitability of the applicant for the intended project, including how their academic credentials match the programme requirements (including the required mathematical training).

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](#)

Curriculum Vitae (CV): Required

CVs might include details of other relevant work experience and qualifications to support an application.

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 the supervisory team. [Selection process – SWBiosciences Doctoral Training Partnership](#)

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Interviews

[Selection process – SWBiosciences Doctoral Training Partnership](#)

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 are only allowable under exceptional circumstances (including health reasons) and where funding permits. Applicants are only able to defer by 1 academic year. A deferral request will also require approval from the project supervisor.

Deferral requests can only be made when an exceptional circumstance arises between receiving a studentship offer and starting the studentship. Depending on the exceptional circumstance, evidence may be required. For international candidates, there may be visa and ATAS implications to also take into consideration and you will need to meet the programme's language requirements at the new start date of the studentship.

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 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. [Tier 4 student visa guidance notes](#) are available on the University website.

Fees and Deposits

Fees

Annual tuition fees are available on the relevant [prospectus entry](#) for this programme.

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.