

3A – STANDARD ADMISSIONS REGULATIONS: TAUGHT PROGRAMMES

1 SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 All applicants must have a set of skills required to fulfill the demands of the programme. These regulations outline the standard entry requirements for applicants to be admitted to Bournemouth University undergraduate and postgraduate taught programmes, including foundation degrees and graduate certificate/diploma programmes.
- 1.2 Some programmes may have additional entry requirements where qualifications alone do not demonstrate an individual's potential to succeed. Please see 3B - Admissions Policy: Taught Programmes (excluding apprenticeships) and 3B - Admissions Policy: Apprenticeships which can be found on our website at <https://www1.bournemouth.ac.uk/students/help-advice/important-information>.
- 1.3 There are also additional requirements for students applying for direct entry to a programme with existing credit or for applicants to apprenticeship programmes. Please see 3P Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Policy and Procedure.
- 1.4 These regulations will inform all admissions decisions including the setting of entry requirements for new programmes.

2 KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The UK Admissions Manager will review the admissions regulations as appropriate.

3 ACCESSING OTHER RELEVANT BU DOCUMENTS

- 3.1 All documents can be accessed [here](#)

3B - Admissions Policy: Taught Programmes (excluding apprenticeships)

3B - Admissions Policy: Apprenticeships

3P - Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Policy and Procedure

4 STANDARD ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Undergraduate Programmes

- 4.1 Undergraduate applicants (level 4 entry) require a minimum of GCSE grade 4 or grade C in English and Mathematics or qualifications considered by BU to be equivalent at Level 2 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (see <https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/how-apply/entry-requirements/level-2-english-mathematics-equivalences>).
- 4.2 The standard entry requirement of an undergraduate programme (level 4 entry) is a minimum of 2 A-Levels or qualifications considered by BU to be equivalent at Level 3 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. For Foundation degrees, a minimum of 1 A-Level or equivalent is required.

- 4.3 The standard entry requirement of a level 0/level 3 programme is a minimum of 1 A-Level or qualifications considered by BU to be equivalent at Level 3 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. A combination of academic and experiential learning (such as work experience or extra-curricular activities in a relevant field) will be considered on its individual merits and may be acceptable if the applicant does not possess traditional qualifications.
- 4.4 Entry requirements based on academic or professional qualifications from outside the UK are determined using guidance from Ecctis ([Qualification and Language Service \(QLS\) | Ecctis](#)) as well as other external bodies such as UCAS, British Council, overseas governments and international market experience and expertise. Official translated transcripts will be required if qualifications are not certificated in English.
- 4.5 Other qualifications will be considered for entry to an undergraduate programme if listed on the Register of Regulated Qualifications (<https://register.ofqual.gov.uk/>) and will be assessed by benchmarking against traditional qualifications using agreed methods.
- 4.6 Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeships will be considered for entry to an undergraduate programme if they lead to industry recognised standards or qualifications.
- 4.7 If an undergraduate applicant has completed multiple qualifications at Level 3 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, academic achievement will be calculated from a maximum of four A-Levels or equivalent. Applicants who have completed an Access to HE Diploma will be able to supplement their grades with a maximum of one A-Level or equivalent qualification.
- 4.8 A combination of academic and experiential learning (such as work experience or extra-curricular activities in a relevant field) will be considered on its individual merits and may be acceptable if the applicant does not possess traditional qualifications.

Requirements for Postgraduate Programmes

- 4.9 The standard entry requirement of a postgraduate taught programme is a UK Bachelors Honours Degree, or overseas equivalent.
- 4.10 Other qualifications at level 6 of the Regulated Qualifications Framework will be considered for entry to a postgraduate programme if listed on the Register of Regulated Qualifications (<https://register.ofqual.gov.uk/>).
- 4.11 Entry requirements based on academic or professional qualifications from outside the UK are determined using guidance from Ecctis ([Qualification and Language Service \(QLS\) | Ecctis](#)) as well as other external bodies such as UCAS, British Council, overseas governments and international market experience and expertise. Official translated transcripts will be required if qualifications are not certificated in English.
- 4.12 A combination of academic and experiential learning (such as work experience or extra-curricular activities in a relevant field) will be considered on its individual merits and may be acceptable if the applicant does not possess traditional qualifications.

Requirements for Apprenticeship Programmes

- 4.13 The standard UG entry requirements outlined in 4.1 – 4.8 normally apply to level 4, 5 and 6 apprenticeships, and 4.9 – 4.12 to level 7 apprenticeships. Any exceptions are articulated on the relevant apprenticeship course page on the BU website. Applications from candidates without traditional qualifications and with professional experience in a relevant field are encouraged.

Apprenticeship eligibility requirements and exclusions from eligibility are outlined in '3B - Admissions Policy: Apprenticeships'.

- 4.14 All apprentices aged under 19 at the programme start date must hold Department for Education (DfE) approved level 2 qualifications in both English and Maths before they complete the apprenticeship. (See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-and-maths-requirements-in-apprenticeship-standards-at-level-2-and-above>)
- 4.15 Apprentices aged 19 or over at the programme start date must hold BU approved level 2 qualifications in both English and Maths before they complete the apprenticeship if required (see <https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/how-apply/entry-requirements/level-2-english-mathematics-equivalences>)
- 4.16 Apprenticeship programmes may include specific entry requirements including English and Maths which may need to be evidenced on entry.
- 4.17 Where an apprenticeship programme does not require English and Maths on entry, applicants must agree to achieve these qualifications while completing the apprenticeship if required.

English Language Requirements (Undergraduate, Apprenticeship and Postgraduate Taught)

- 4.18 In addition to the entry requirements listed in the sections above, applicants for whom English is not their first language must offer evidence of English language ability in all four components: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.
- 4.19 The standard English language requirement of an undergraduate (level 4) or postgraduate taught programme is IELTS (Academic) 6.0 with a minimum of 5.5 in writing, speaking, listening and reading or qualifications considered by BU to be equivalent.
- 4.20 The standard English language requirement of a level 0/level 3 programme is a minimum of IELTS (Academic) 5.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in writing, speaking, listening and reading or qualifications considered by BU to be equivalent.

5 REFERENCES AND FURTHER INFORMATION

- 5.1 Contact details for further admissions information, policies or procedures:

UK Admissions Manager
Tel: + 44 (0) 1202 965356
Email: ukadmissions@bournemouth.ac.uk

- 5.2 This policy was reviewed according to the University's [Equality Analysis Procedure](#) in May 2025