



University
of Exeter

Department of Health
and Care Professions

MSci & BSc Nursing Admissions Process Policy

2025 entry cycle

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1. Governance and Entrance Requirements

A specific Recruitment and Admissions Group (RAG) will operate in relation to admissions to the MSci or BSc Nursing programmes and reports from the Panel will be made available to the Admissions Policy Group (APG). The Recruitment and Admissions Group will be chaired by the DPVC for the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences with representation from relevant academic leads, central admissions and Faculty Professional Services staff.

Language requirements for international students:

All applications from international students are considered in line with our standard entrance requirements. Candidates must have the proficiency in English language necessary to succeed on the chosen programme of study and meet the UKVI minimum requirements to obtain a Tier 4 visa.

Minimum levels and approved tests for English Language proficiency are detailed below:

IELTS: 7 overall with no less than 6.5 in any element.

For further details please visit our [English language webpage](#)

Typical offer:

Qualification	Typical Offer	Required Subject
GCSE	C or 4	English Language and Maths
A-level	BBB	
IB	30/555	
BTEC	DDM	
ACCESS	24 L3 credits at Distinction Grade and 21 L3 credits at Merit Grade including	
T-level	Merit	T-Level in Health or Healthcare Science
Other accepted qualifications		View other accepted qualifications

NB: All offers will also be conditional on a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and occupational health assessment as well as the signing of the appropriate student agreement. Applicants who have declared previous offences or whose DBS check has outlined an undeclared offence will be assessed according to the University's Admissions Policy:

Applicants not resident in the U.K. will be required to produce an international police check and apply for an enhanced DBS check on arrival in the U.K. Applicants who have spent more than six months outside of the U.K. in the last five years, will also be required to produce a police check for those periods. Please see: www.exeter.ac.uk/dbs/offence.

2. Admissions selection process

Process:

Submit UCAS application form by 29 January 2025. Applications submitted after this date will be considered where places are available. Assessment of academic credentials (achieved or predicted) are made by Admissions Staff based on information contained within the UCAS application form.

1. Applicants who meet the published entry requirements are then ranked according to their best three A-level (or equivalent) prediction of achievement as shown in the table below.

Rank	Grades Achieved or Predicted	Standard Offer	Contextualised Offer	International Offer
Tier 1	A*A*A*	BBB	BCC/CCC	BBB
Tier 2	A*A*A	BBB	BCC/CCC	BBB
Tier 3	A*AA	BBB	BCC/CCC	BBB
Tier 4	AAA	BBB	BCC/CCC	BBB
Tier 5	AAB	BBB	BCC/CCC	BBB
Tier 6	ABB	BBB	BCC/CCC	BBB
Tier 7	BBB	BBB	BCC/CCC	BBB
Tier 8	BBC	BBB	BCC/CCC	BBC
Reject –	BCC or below (or can't meet requirements)		CCC or below (or can't meet requirements)	BCC or below (or can't meet requirements)

2. Applicants who meet the programme entrance requirements but have completed their studies more than 3 year before application will be referred to the Department for assessment.
3. A defined number of applicants will be invited to interview from the top-ranked students downwards. Decisions on how each Tier of applicants are invited to interview will be determined by the overall application position.
4. Interviews held and judgements recorded. This is managed at Department level. The interview process is outlined under section 5.
5. A defined number of offers will be made to those who have been deemed suitable by the interview panel to receive an offer, based on interview.

- Offers will be made in line with programme entrance requirements and all offers will include non-academic conditions. See section 1.

3. Widening Participation

In order to help the institution make progress towards its agreed Widening Participation targets with the Office for Students, and to ensure appropriate diversity within the MSci Nursing programme, different processes will be in place for students from widening participation backgrounds.

Please note that these conditions may be subject to change, in accordance with the University of Exeter policy on [widening participation](#).

3a. Contextualised Offers

- Outreach scheme participator will be offered a contextual offer of 3 grades below bottom of published range, following a successful interview.
- Students identified as from a WP background according to University of Exeter definitions will be offered a contextual offer of 2 grades below bottom of published range, following a successful interview.

3b. Care leavers

- Submit UCAS application form by 29 January.
- Applicants assessed against eligibility criteria for Care leaver process¹
- Assessment of academic credentials (achieved or predicted) are made by Admissions Staff based on information contained in the UCAS application form. Personal statement and reference are not read for evidence of mitigating circumstances.
- Applicants interviewed will be assessed in the same way as all other applicants.
- Conditional offers made at 3 grades below bottom of published range, following a successful interview.

3c. Access to Healthcare Course

- The University of Exeter is working with local Higher Education Colleges in Devon and Cornwall to develop an “access to Healthcare” course. The purpose of this is to attract applicants from “non-traditional” backgrounds to enable them to pursue careers in healthcare. Specific entry criteria will be developed in partnership with these Colleges in due course. It is anticipated that the process will be as follows;
 - Submit UCAS application form by 29 January 2025.
 - Applicants assessed as attending an Exeter Link Partner School or a Key Partner.
 - Assessment of academic credentials (achieved or predicted) made by Admissions Staff on the basis of information contained in the UCAS application form. Personal statement and reference are not read for evidence of mitigating circumstances.
 - Applicants to be appropriately tiered.

¹ See <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/students/finance/studentfunding/fundingforcareleavers/>

- e. Defined number of offers made to those who are judged suitable to be made an offer, using the same process as for the Direct School Leaver Group.
- f. Conditional offers made at appropriate grade. It is anticipated that applicants would need to pass QAA-approved Access to HE Diploma to include 24 L3 credits at Distinction Grade and 21 L3 credits at Merit Grade.

4. Previously enrolled Nursing students

Applicants who have previously studied on an MSci or BSc Nursing programme will remain eligible for consideration providing all modules and examinations have been successfully completed. If an applicant has failed any part of a nursing programme, they will not be eligible for consideration.

Eligible applicants are to submit an initial request via email to the admissions team at ug-ad@exeter.ac.uk, submitting a personal statement and evidence of academic ability to date. Such information will be reviewed by the Programme Lead for the MSci/BSc Nursing. Eligible applicants will be required to undergo an interview and will be subject to satisfying the standard non-academic conditions of offer as set out in this document.

5. Interview Process

The purpose of the interview is to meet the National Health Service Value Based Recruitment (VBR) requirements.

Interviews will take the form of Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI). The MMI will consist of a series of short, structured interview stations used to assess non-cognitive qualities including cultural sensitivity, maturity, teamwork, empathy, reliability and communication skills.

Panellists will be appropriately trained and will be from the following backgrounds:

- Nurse registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council
- Non-Clinical Academic
- Other healthcare professional (nursing or non-nursing background) registered with a regulatory body such as HCPC, GMC etc.
- Patient & the Public Representative
University of Exeter Student
- University of Exeter Professional Services
Staff

On each interview session at least one Healthcare professional or Clinician will be present.

Panellists will ask a series of non-academic questions which are scrutinised by a panel prior to use.

6. Offers

After interview all interview judgements will be recorded. A threshold score will be set and offers will be made to those who achieve the minimum score set. Students who meet or exceed the threshold score will be made an offer to fill the number of places available.

7. Non-Academic conditions

All applicants will be required to complete the following non-academic conditions, sign a student agreement, undertake the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) screening and undergo occupational health screening. Offers will remain conditional until all academic and non-academic conditions have been met. Students will be required to complete forms and return them within a time schedule advised. Students who are unable to do so may have their offer deferred to the next year of entry.

For overseas students where DBS checks cannot be completed until arrival in the UK an overseas Police check should be undertaken OR a certificate of good character obtained from a reliable source.

8. Admissions process for under 18 to protect the public and students

The University of Exeter is committed to equal opportunities and all applications are considered on their individual merits.

Occasionally the University admits students who are under the age of 18 years. In most cases this will be a very temporary situation, as the student will be approaching their eighteenth birthday at the time they register for university.

For Nursing programmes, students must be 18 by the start of the second terms within the first year of their course.

Students and their parents/ guardians should understand that the University predominantly admits students who are over the age of 18 years and that they will be entering an adult environment. The University treats all its students as independent, mature individuals and students who are under the age of 18 years will be treated in the same way.

The usual personal and academic support arrangements will apply to students who are under 18 years. This normally includes the allocation of a personal tutor and a comprehensive range of specialist student services.

However, the University acknowledges that anyone under the age of 18 living in England is legally a child and recognises that students under the age of 18 may therefore have additional needs in relation to their wellbeing and require additional support.

Full details on the Under 10 Policy and Process can be found on the [website](#)

9. Review and Ratification

No.	Date	Committee	Approved/Ratified
1	17 January 2018	Nursing Board of Students	Approved
2	19 January 2018	Admissions and Selection Advisory Group (Chair's Action)	Ratified
3	25 January 2018	Education Quality Standards Group (for information)	Reviewed
4	27 th September 2018	Nursing Board of Studies	Annual Review
5	24 th May 2019	Claire Galliford (Undergraduate Admissions Manager)	Annual Review (2020 cycle)
6	21 st August 2019	Claire Galliford (Undergraduate Admissions Manager)	Approved, changes to English Language
7	10 th March 2020	Claire Galliford (Deputy Head of Admissions)	Annual Review (2021 Cycle)
8	2nd August 2021	Claire Galliford (Deputy Head of Admissions)	Annual Review (2022 Cycle)
9	4 th May 2022	Aku Clemmet (Student Recruitment and Admissions Manager)	Annual Review (2023 Cycle)
10	17 th April 2023	Claire Galliford (Deputy Head of Admissions)	Annual Review (2024 Cycle)
11	29 th April 2024	Claire Galliford (Head of Admissions Operations)	Annual Review (2025 Cycle)