

University of Gloucestershire

Admissions Policy

The University of Gloucestershire's Admissions Policy and Procedures comply with all applicable legislation and are informed by the principles outlined in the QAA 'Chapter B2: Recruitment, selection and admission to higher education', the Home Office 'Policy Guidance for Tier 4 sponsors' and the University's Student Contract.

Aims

1. The University is committed to creating an inclusive, student centred, academic community in which students thrive, actively engage and are glad to belong. As such, the University welcomes applications from potential students of all social and ethnic backgrounds. It aims to promote equal opportunities while at the same time admitting students who have the ability and motivation to benefit from the programmes of study offered.
2. The University will ensure that all applicants are treated fairly by showing appropriate sensitivity to individual differences, and that decisions about recruitment, selection, admission and progression to University programmes at all levels are based on criteria that have been made available to applicants prior to application. The University will seek to promote and develop diversity of its student body by:
 - treating each applicant on his/her own merit;
 - identifying student potential as well as acknowledging past academic and other achievements;
 - providing information and advice to enquirers or, where appropriate, referring the applicant to external specialist providers.
3. The University aims to play a crucial role in educational provision for the local community, in higher education across the United Kingdom, and in the wider European and international market. It therefore encourages and supports applicants from all localities.

Transparency in Admission and Selection

1. The University is committed to operating a transparent admissions policy. Course entry requirements are reviewed annually and published in the University Prospectus, which is also available online, and other sources such as the UCAS website.
2. Applicants to the University are considered on the basis of their merits, abilities and potential, regardless of gender, ethnic or national origin, age (subject to the University regulations on minimum age), disability, religion, sexual orientation or any other irrelevant distinction, although, in certain circumstances the University may base admissions decisions on non-academic criteria in order to meet its obligations under UK law.
3. The University recognises that not all applicants have had an equality of educational opportunity and as such it will consider applicants in the light of the opportunities available to them. The University welcomes applications from individuals who have followed non-standard educational routes, or those who meet entry criteria through experience rather

than academic qualification. The University will admit candidates who have the potential to succeed on their chosen course regardless of background.

4. The University will always conduct its admissions processes efficiently, effectively and courteously. It will communicate clearly with applicants and students, and provide clear and explicit information concerning admission to, and enrolment on its courses, as well as associated fee implications.
5. The University will ensure that all staff involved in the admission process, including collaborative partners, external advisers and agents, understand the criteria for admission to the University and are aware of the issues affecting fair treatment of potential students and applicants.
6. The University will ensure that the admission of international students is conducted with strict adherence to the Home Office Immigration Rules and Tier 4 Policy Guidance in order to protect the University's Tier 4 sponsor Licence.
7. The University will ensure that potential students are provided with the information needed to make a fully informed decision about the suitability of the course they are considering applying to and the costs associated with undertaking that course, in accordance with CMA requirements.
8. The University will do its utmost to run courses as advertised but reserves the right to vary the content and delivery of courses, to discontinue, merge or combine courses where required.

Responsibilities and Oversight

1. The University's Recruitment and Admissions Committee has institutional responsibility for the content of the University's Admissions Policy and Procedures and for regularly monitoring and reviewing their appropriateness.
2. The University's Academic Portfolio Committee is responsible for overseeing and approving the standard course entry requirements.
3. The University will ensure that all staff involved in the recruitment of students understands the criteria for admission to the University, are aware of the issues affecting fair treatment of potential students and are clear on their responsibility to provide transparent, up-to-date and accurate information to allow informed choices to be made.
4. The Recruitment and Admissions Committee will review student performance and look for trends and inconsistencies in performance that might be linked to the admissions criteria. The University will also monitor and be guided by principles outlined by external bodies, e.g. UK NARIC, QAA, Tier 4 Immigration Compliance. Please see Applicant Procedures and Staff Procedures for operational detail on the implementation of this policy.

This Admissions Policy:

Is due for review October 2020.