

Queen's University Belfast – Pathway Opportunity Programme 2018

Queen's University Belfast is committed to recruiting students irrespective of their educational or social background. The **Pathway Opportunity Programme** provides a route for talented young people from Northern Ireland who have the ability to study at Queen's University Belfast, but may require additional support and encouragement to reach their full potential.

Participants of the programme will benefit from advice and guidance to prepare them for the transition into undergraduate study at Queen's University. Upon successful completion of the Pathway Programme, participants will:

- Receive a guaranteed conditional offer of a place at Queen's University Belfast for their chosen Pathway course stream;
- Be eligible for an offer reduced by up to two A-level grades (or equivalent) below the standard entry offer to Queen's University;
- Receive a support bursary upon first year entry at Queen's.

N.B. All offers are made on a conditional basis. Students must complete all compulsory elements of the Pathway Opportunity Programme and select Queen's University as their firm UCAS choice to be eligible for the guaranteed conditional offer from Queen's University for their chosen Pathway course. This reduction in grades is valid only upon successful completion of the programme and on the basis on your performance in an academic assignment in your chosen Pathway subject.

Programme of Events:

Participants will take part in a series of workshops, masterclasses and seminars which will be delivered either on campus or via a Virtual Learning Environment. Participants must complete an assignment based on work completed during a six-day residential summer school which will take place in July 2018 on the Queen's campus. Participants must successfully complete all elements of the programme to be eligible for any potential reduction in admission offer.

Key Dates:

Monday 6 th November 2017	Applications open
Friday 8 th December 2017	Applications deadline
Early January 2018	Students notified of outcome
January – June 2018	Pathway first steps
Sunday 22 nd – Friday 27 th July 2018	Pathway summer school
October 2018	Next steps session
Saturday 8 th December 2018	Pathway celebration event

To be eligible for the Programme, students must meet the following criteria:

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants must meet ALL of the criteria in Section A. • Applicants should also meet at least two of the criteria in Section B. • Queen's welcomes applications from students with a disability or long-term condition. • 	
Section A	Section B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants must be ordinarily resident in Northern Ireland and be in attendance full-time at a school or college in Northern Ireland. • Be currently in year 1 of an acceptable two-year Level 3 qualification such as A levels. • Have at least 7 grades A*-C at GCSE (or equivalent) including English Language. 5 of these must be grade B or above. • Applicants are required to meet any specific subject requirements for the course they are applying to (<i>please check course specific requirements on the QUB website</i>). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neither of your parents have attended university and obtained an undergraduate degree or equivalent level qualification in the UK, Ireland or abroad. (<i>If one or both parents are currently studying for their first degree, or they have graduated from their first degree within the last five years, your application will still be considered.</i>) • You are eligible for or in receipt of free school meals (FSM) at your school or college. • You receive Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) at your school or college. • You live in a 'disadvantaged neighbourhood'. This will be defined by your permanent residence postcode. • You are currently in the care of or have previously experienced Local Authority Care.

Applications for the 2018 Programme will open on Monday 6th November 2017 and close on 8th December 2017. Students who wish to apply should complete the online application form which can be found at www.qub.ac.uk/wpu.