

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Pathway students will take part in a series of workshops, masterclasses and seminars which will be delivered either on campus or online via our Virtual Learning Environment. Students must complete an assignment based on work completed during a week-long residential summer school which will take place in June or July 2020 on Queen's campus. Students must successfully complete all elements of the programme to be eligible for the guaranteed conditional offer and any potential grade reduction. \*



School Promotional Visits	Tuesday 1 October – Friday 15 November 2019
Applications Open	Friday 1 November 2019
Applications Close	Sunday 24 November 2019
Students Notified of Outcome	Early January 2020
Welcome and Orientation Event	Tuesday 28 January 2020
Subject Skills Session (Online)	Tuesday 28 January – Sunday 23 February 2020
Subject Specific Session	Tuesday 7 April 2020
Core Academic Skills (Online)	Tuesday 7 April – Thursday 30 April 2020
University Information Session	Monday 8 June 2020
Pathway Residential Summer School	Sunday 21 June – Friday 26 June 2020 or Sunday 19 July – Friday 24 July 2020
Next Steps Session	Monday 7 September 2020
Pathway Celebration Event	Saturday 5 December 2020

## CONTACT US

For further information, please contact:

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Widening Participation Unit  
Student Guidance Centre  
University Road  
Belfast BT7 1NN

Tel: 028 9097 5020  
Email: [pop@qub.ac.uk](mailto:pop@qub.ac.uk)  
Tweet: @qubwpu  
Web: [www.qub.ac.uk/wpu](http://www.qub.ac.uk/wpu)



# Pathway Opportunity Programme



2020



## THE PROGRAMME

At Queen's University Belfast we are committed to recruiting students who will be successful at our University irrespective of their educational or social background. The **Pathway Opportunity Programme** provides a route for talented young people from Northern Ireland who have the desire and ambition to study at Queen's but may require additional support and encouragement to reach their full potential.

Throughout Years 13 and 14, Pathway students will benefit from a structured series of events designed to prepare them for the transition to undergraduate study at Queen's, including insight into academic and extracurricular aspects of student life, admissions guidance and

support and a one-week residential summer school in June or July 2020.

During the programme the students will focus on one of eight subject specific Pathway streams.

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## THE PATHWAYS

- **AHSS** (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences)
- **BioSci** (Biological Sciences)
- **Business**
- **Computer Science**
- **Engineering**
- **Law**
- **Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Science**
- **Natural and Built Environment** (including Architecture, Planning, Geography and Archaeology)

(For example, where the standard offer for a course is BBB, students may be eligible to receive a reduced offer of BCC).

- Receive a £1000 bursary upon first year entry to Queen's and receive ongoing support while at Queen's.

\* For applicants to *Medicine and Dentistry*, Pathway students will receive a guaranteed interview (as opposed to a guaranteed conditional offer) and a maximum grade reduction of one A Level grade.

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## THE BENEFITS

Upon successful completion of all compulsory elements of the **Pathway Opportunity Programme**, students will:

- Receive a guaranteed conditional offer on a course at Queen's University Belfast for their chosen Pathway subject stream. \*
- Be eligible for a reduced offer of up to two A Level grades (or equivalent) below the standard entry offer to Queen's, based on their performance on an academic assignment in their chosen Pathway. \*

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the **Pathway Opportunity Programme** students must meet the following criteria:

### Section A

- Applicants must be ordinarily resident in Northern Ireland and be in full-time attendance at a school or college in Northern Ireland.
- Applicants must currently be in year 1 of an acceptable (to the University) two-year Level 3 qualification such as A Levels, BTEC etc. \*\*
- Neither of the applicant's parents has attended university nor obtained an undergraduate degree (or equivalent) in the UK, Ireland or abroad. However, if a parent is currently studying for their first degree or has graduated within the last 5 years, the application will still be considered.
- Applicants must have at least 7 GCSEs (or equivalent acceptable to the University, such as Level 2 BTEC) at grades A\*-C, including English Language, of which 5 must be at grade B or above. (Students whose 5 best grades are ABBBC or AABCC should still apply and may be accepted on the programme). \*\*

\*\* Applicants are required to meet any specific subject requirements for the course(s) in the Pathway they are applying to. (Please note that for *Medicine and Dentistry* Pathway, BTEC, OCR and other non A Level qualifications are not acceptable.)

Students are advised to research course specific entry requirements via our Course Finder on our website ([www.qub.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate](http://www.qub.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate)) prior to application.

In addition to meeting all of the criteria in section A, we are looking for students who meet at least ONE of the following Section B criteria:

### Section B

- Applicant is eligible or is currently receiving free school meals (FSM) and/or Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).
- Applicant is the main carer for a family member or dependant.
- Applicant's permanent residence postcode is classified as being in a "disadvantaged neighbourhood" by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.
- If the applicant is care experienced or currently in the care of a Health and Social Care Trust, they are automatically offered a place on the programme provided they meet the academic requirements of Section A: Northern Ireland resident, 1st year of a two-year Level 3 programme and GCSE (or equivalent) grades.

Queen's University Belfast welcomes applications from students with a disability or long-term condition.

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## HOW TO APPLY

Applications for the **Pathway Opportunity Programme 2020** will open on Friday 1st November 2019. Students who wish to apply should complete the online application form which can be found at [go.qub.ac.uk/QUBPathway](http://go.qub.ac.uk/QUBPathway). Applications will close at midnight on Sunday 24th November 2019.