



24 October 2019

Dear pupils and parent(s)/ guardian(s),

The Widening Participation Unit at Queen's University has announced the expansion of the post-16 Pathway Opportunity Programme, which is part of its suite of widening access and participation initiatives. This programme is a route to University for young people from Northern Ireland who have the ambition and academic ability to study at Queen's University, but who may require additional support and encouragement to reach their full potential.

All participants who successfully complete the programme will receive a **guaranteed conditional offer (or a guaranteed interview for applicants to Medicine or Dentistry)**, with the opportunity to qualify for a reduced admissions offer for their chosen course of study at Queen's University. The reduced offer may **be up to two A level grades (or equivalent) lower** than the standard undergraduate admissions offer. Successful participants will also receive a bursary of £1000 upon first year entry to Queen's, as well as ongoing support whilst studying at the University.

Course pathways available for 2019/2020 entry equate to around 80% of courses taught at Queen's and include:

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

Students on the programme will benefit from a structured series of events **throughout Years 13 and 14** which have been designed to aid progression to Queen's University. Pathway students will take part in a series of workshops, masterclasses and seminars delivered online and on campus. Students are also required to complete an assignment based on a week-long residential summer school at the end of Year 13.

Pupils from all post-primary schools who meet the essential criteria will be eligible to apply. **Applications open on Friday 1st November 2019 and the closing deadline for applications is Sunday 24th November 2019.**

For further information, please see the attached document, or visit www.qub.ac.uk/wpu.

The online application for the programme can be found at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/sgc/wpu/PathwayOpportunityProgramme/>

Kind regards,
GCS Careers Department