

MSc Clinical Pharmacy, International Practice and Policy (CPIPP)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Are you applying for the 12-month **MSc Clinical Pharmacy, International Practice and Policy**, or the 18-month **MSc Clinical Pharmacy, International Practice and Policy with Extended Placement**?

The following is a set of answers from the course team to frequently asked questions (FAQs). We hope these will assist you further with the application process. If you have other questions not included in this document and need an answer prior to applying, please contact postgraduate-admissions@ucl.ac.uk

[Click to jump to the section/page.](#)

Section 1: Course eligibility

Section 2: English language requirements

Section 3: The application process

Section 4: References

Section 5: Funding and finance

[Section 6: Visa](#)

Section 7: The MSc CPIPP programmes

Section 1: Course eligibility

Is this course also open to applicants who studied in the UK, or are currently living/working in the UK?

This course is open to those who have studied, lived and/or worked in **any** country, including the UK. If you plan to work as a pharmacist in the UK after completing the MSc CPIPP, we encourage you to contact us to discuss whether this is the right course for you. Our contact details are on the UCL webpage.

Do you only accept registered pharmacists from specific countries?

You are eligible to apply for the programme if you are a registered pharmacist in the country where you are practising.

What is the definition of ‘relevant work experience in a clinical setting’?

We consider a clinical setting to be anything patient facing. For example, this could include work in a community or hospital pharmacy. In some cases, academic or research roles may be considered relevant if there is a significant patient facing or clinical element to your work.

Do you consider time spent during student placements part of relevant work experience?

We count student/internship/pre-registration experience as part of your clinical experience. What is important is that the total time spent in a clinical setting (inclusive of any placement experience) is a minimum of one year. You will also need to be registered as a pharmacist in your practice setting before you can enrol on the course.

Does my degree meet your entry requirements?

You can check equivalent entry requirements for international students on our course page here: [Clinical Pharmacy, International Practice and Policy MSc | Prospective Students Graduate \(ucl.ac.uk\)](#).

I do not meet the entry criteria because of my degree level, can I still apply?

You may still be considered for the course if you have good academic background overall and several years of experience working as a pharmacist.

The strength of your application, in particular your personal statement and work experience are important to enable us to decide how to proceed with your application. You may be asked to complete an additional qualifying essay in this case.

Applications are considered on an individual basis, and we cannot comment on whether you are likely to receive an offer or not.

Section 2: English language requirements

What are the English requirements for the course? Does my English meet your entry requirements?

The English language level required for this programme is level 2 previously referred to as “Good level”. The full details of the various ways you can demonstrate proficiency in English can be found here:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/learning-and-living-ucl/international-students/english-language-requirements>.

Can I apply if I do not have the required English level yet? I do not have my IELTS test result yet; can I apply?

You may apply pending the outcome of your English language test. You will receive a conditional offer if you are otherwise eligible i.e., meet other requirements. One of the conditions will request that you reach the required standard of English before enrolling. You will not receive an unconditional offer until you have achieved the required standard of English, and you cannot study on the course until you have received an unconditional offer.

I cannot get onto the UCL pre-session English course that I wanted, what should I do?

If your preferred pre-session course is fully subscribed, you could demonstrate meeting the English language requirements through any of the other ways outlined here:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/learning-and-living-ucl/international-students/english-language-requirements>.

Section 3: The application process

How long will it take to receive a decision on my application?

Straightforward applications usually receive a response within 10 weeks of receipt of application. The time can be longer in complex cases e.g., where additional verifications are required.

I submitted my application a while ago and I have not heard anything, who should I contact?

In the first instance, you should email the admissions team on postgraduate-admissions@ucl.ac.uk.

May I defer study on this course?

UCL will not accept applications for deferred entry to taught postgraduate programmes.

However, once an offer of admission has been made, in exceptional circumstances, applicants may seek to defer the place to the following year. Agreement to defer is considered on a case-by-case basis. The full details of referral criteria can be found here.

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate-offer-holders/deferring-your-graduate-taught-offer>

If I have applied in previous years, can the application be used again?

If you received an offer that you deferred, this offer will still be valid for a maximum of one academic year. If you did not receive an offer, or it was more than one academic year ago, you will need to re-apply.

What documents will I need for my application?

Please refer to UCL page for detailed information:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught-degrees/applying-graduate-taught-study-ucl>

You should provide **one academic** reference and **one professional** reference.

Proof of **English language proficiency** and **proof of registration** as a pharmacist are not required at the application stage. You can upload these later as they will be required before you can receive an unconditional offer of a place on the programme.

I have made my application and now have additional documents I wish to add – what should I do?

If we require any additional documents or if you need to add further documents to your application, you will be able to upload these to your application portal once that has been set up for you. Please contact postgraduate-admissions@ucl.ac.uk if you experience any difficulty with this. You should include your full name and student number (that you will get when you start your application) in such communication.

Visit <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/what-happens-after-you-apply-ucl> for more information on '***What happens after you apply to UCL?***'

Can I apply for application fee waiver?

UCL acknowledges that prospective students living in conflict zones, or affected by displacement, may face considerable difficulties in paying the application fee. UCL is firmly committed to making the application process accessible to individuals disadvantaged by such circumstances and would be pleased to consider written requests for suspension of the application fee. Should you wish to make such a request, please visit <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/node/786#form>

Do I need to write an examination to apply?

You are **not** required to sit a formal examination to apply for the programme. In some cases, e.g., applicants at the borderline of the course requirements, you may need to write an essay on a given topic in order to be considered for a place on the programme.

Section 4: References

Who should I use for my references?

You should provide one **academic reference** and one **professional reference** (someone you have worked with as part of your pharmacy practice). As this course encompasses professional skills, it is important for us to have an idea of your professional performance.

My referee does not have an institutional email address, only yahoo/gmail or similar. What should I do?

You should ask your referee to provide their reference as a letter on headed notepaper from their workplace. If this is not possible, they should provide their reference as usual from the email address they normally use. If this is the case, we may contact you later for further verification of your referee.

Section 5: Funding and finance

What scholarships are available?

You can find details of available scholarships here: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships>. Course staff cannot advise you on your scholarship application process or assist with applications. You should make your application to study at UCL as early as possible in the application cycle to allow time to receive a decision before your scholarship application deadline.

Can I have a part time job while studying on this course?

You are expected to be available for lectures or study during standard office hours i.e., Monday to Friday 9am – 5:30pm. You will not be scheduled for lectures or placement all day every day, but you will need time for personal study.

We do not encourage students to take on additional work while studying this course. The MSc programme is intensive (and fulfilling!). Balancing academic work alone may be challenging without the added pressures of a part time job.

What course fees will I pay?

Course fees are published on the relevant course page:

[Clinical Pharmacy, International Practice and Policy MSc | Prospective Students Graduate \(ucl.ac.uk\)](#)

[Clinical Pharmacy, International Practice and Policy with Extended Placement MSc | Prospective Students Graduate \(ucl.ac.uk\)](#)

If you defer to the following year, the fees you will pay will be the fees published for that academic year of entry i.e., not the year you originally applied to start. These fees are subject to any annual increase in accordance with the applicable terms and conditions and the UCL fees schedule.

The fees for the second year (i.e., 6 months) of the 18-month course are charged pro rata, i.e., approximately 50% of the listed fees.

If you have any queries relating to student funding/finance, you can email studentfunding@ucl.ac.uk.

Section 6: Visa

Has Brexit affected studying at UCL?

From 1 January 2021, the UK has a new immigration system and any EU/EEA/Swiss citizen not eligible for the EU Settlement Scheme requires a visa to study after 1 January 2021. This means that, you will need to apply for a [Student visa to study at UCL](#).

UCL has further information and support for current and prospective EU students here: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/brexit/support-ucl-community/faqs-students>.

Section 7: The MSc CPIPP programmes

What is the difference between MSc CPIPP and MSc CPIPP with Extended Placement?

The first year is the same and all students will be in the same cohort. Upon completion of the first 12-months, students on MSc CPIPP with Extended Placement will have 6 months of additional placement activities.

What clinical experience do you offer on this course? Where will I go for my clinical placement?

You will be allocated to one National Health Service (NHS) Trust for your clinical placement for the duration of the MSc. Some NHS Trusts operate across more than one site, in which case your placement may take place across any of the sites in that Trust. The NHS Trusts that we currently collaborate with are across the whole of the Transport for London (TfL) travel area and could include travel time of up to 2 hours each way depending on where your accommodation is.

Students can apply for a Student Travelcard, which entitles you to discounted travel costs. You will receive information on this as part of student induction.

Can I complete this course on a part time or modular basis?

We do not currently offer any part time, flexible or modular options for this course.

Where can I find out more about the different modules studied on this course?

Further details on the modules can be found here:

[Clinical Pharmacy, International Practice and Policy MSc | Prospective Students Graduate \(ucl.ac.uk\)](#)

Will this course help me become a registered pharmacist in the UK?

This course is not a route to achieving registration as a pharmacist in the UK.

Can I use this degree to progress on to a PhD? Can I use credits from this programme to another course?

This course does not directly lead on to MPhil or PhD study. If you are considering further studies after this course, you should follow up with the relevant programmes you are interested in to see if the MSc CPIPP course would help you fulfil your further study goals.

Some of our students go on to study for a PhD here at UCL and other universities in the UK or overseas.

How is this programme relevant to pharmacy practice in my home country?

The aim of the programme is to equip pharmacists with relevant skills to support, develop and improve clinical pharmacy practice in their home settings. You will be encouraged to reflect on how you can apply your learning to your home setting throughout the programme. The programme modules support the development of transferable skills that can be applied to any setting.

A general step by step guide on the UCL application process is available on:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught-degrees/how-apply-step-step-guide>

We look forward to receiving your application.