

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 submitting an application, please contact postgraduate-admissions@ucl.ac.uk

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Section 1: Course eligibility

Is this course 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 would 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 as long as 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.

Can I use credits from another programme to this course?

No. We do not currently accept credits from any other programme. You cannot currently transfer credits from another programme to the MSc CPIPP.

Does my degree meet your entry requirements?

You can check equivalent entry requirements for international students on our course page here: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/pharmacy/study/msc-clinical-pharmacy-international-practice-and-policy>.

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

Candidates who do not meet the equivalent entry criteria based on their academic degree may still be considered for the course if they 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 or examination in this case.

Applications are considered on an individual basis and we cannot comment on whether candidates 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 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>.

The English language level required for this programme is 'Good'.

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>.

Alternatively, you could defer an offer to study on our course for one academic year, while you enrol on a pre-session course.

Section 3: The application process

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

Straightforward applications usually receive a response within 6 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?

You are allowed to defer your application, but only once you have received an offer and only for a maximum of one academic year (for example if you received an offer to start studying with us in September 2021, you can defer to start the following year i.e. September 2022).

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 reapply.

What documents will I need for my application?

You will need your **official degree transcript** (with an official translation if it is not in English) and a **copy of your passport** in order to submit your application.

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. If you have them available at the time of your application, you can upload them, as they will facilitate the application process.

You should provide one academic reference and one professional reference, written on a headed notepaper from organisation where referees work or sent from their institutional email address. Again, you can upload these later, but they will be required before you can receive an offer.

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

If you need to add further documents to your application, please email documents to postgraduate-admissions@ucl.ac.uk. Please include your full name and student number (that you will get when you start your application).

Do you have another way to register without fees?

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 contact postgraduate-admissions@ucl.ac.uk.

When can I apply?

The specific dates are on our applications page. Applications usually open in October/November for candidates hoping to start studying in September the following year. As it can take some time to receive a decision, you are encouraged to apply as early as possible, to give you sufficient time to sort out some essentials such as visas, accommodation and funding/scholarships.

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 practise). 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.

How much does it cost to live in London?

You can find details here of estimated living costs while studying at UCL: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught-degrees/fees-and-funding/fees-and-costs>.

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 9 – 5 pm. 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 webpage:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/pharmacy/study/msc-clinical-pharmacy-international-practice-and-policy>

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught-degrees/clinical-pharmacy-international-practice-policy-extended-placement-msc>

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.

In relation to Brexit and fees for EU students, UCL has following information: “UK government confirms EU students joining from 2021–22 academic year onwards will no longer be eligible for home fee status and student loans in England.”

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

Section 6: Visa

Where can I find more information about visas for studying?

You can find further information here: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/immigration-and-visas>. Course staff cannot advise you on visa applications.

Will Brexit affect studying at UCL?

Current information available to us is: "From 1 January 2021, the UK will have a new immigration system and any EU/EEA/Swiss citizen not eligible for the EU Settlement Scheme will require a visa to enter after 1 January 2021. As a student, this means that to enter the UK on or after 1 January 2021, you must apply for a Student visa. To apply for a Student visa, you must meet specific requirements, complete an application form, pay an application fee and pay for the Immigration Health Surcharge. You will also need a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) which you can request from us.

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

Section 7: The MSc CPIPP programme

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 year, 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:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/pharmacy/study/msc-clinical-pharmacy-international-practic/module-outlines-msc-cppip>.

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 CIPP 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.

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.