

Policy for applicants in situations of displacement

This policy aims to:

- Ensure fair and equitable treatment of applicants experiencing displacement or instability.
- Provide a clear framework for flexible and contextualised admissions decision making.
- Support staff in responding appropriately and safely to sensitive or complex cases.
- Uphold the University's commitment to dignity, inclusion, and access to education, in line with sector guidance.

This document should be read alongside the Admissions Policies and other relevant admissions regulations [Admissions and registration | About | Imperial College London](#).

Policy applies to:

This policy applies to all applicants to Imperial College London who are affected by situations of displacement, including but not limited to:

- Armed conflict or war
- Political violence or persecution
- Natural disasters or humanitarian emergencies
- Asylum seeking or refugee circumstances

These applicants are referred to throughout as **Applicants in situations of displacement**.

The policy covers all aspects of the admissions process, including:

- Application review
- Communication
- Documentation requirements
- English language evidence

Displaced applicants may face significant barriers to meeting standard admissions requirements, such as:

- Limited or no access to official qualification documents

- Disrupted or incomplete education histories
- Barriers to taking English language tests
- Safety risks associated with communication or document sharing
- Unreliable or restricted internet access
- Trauma related challenges affecting engagement

Mitigations available:

The University may consider documents sent directly from an applicant's university confirming:

- Applicant's full name (matching current passport)
- Name of the academic institution
- Course title / qualification achieved or pending
- Final or current classification (confirming that additional marks may increase but not decrease the award)
- Expected or actual award conferral date (unless the institution confirms this is unavailable)

Conditions:

- Documents will be issued centrally (not by academic departments)
- Documents must be sent directly to Admissions [Contact | Study | Imperial College London](#)

Where formal transcripts or degree certificates are unavailable or indefinitely delayed, cases may be referred to an **Admissions Panel** comprising:

- Senior Admissions staff member (Director of Admissions and Data, Head of Admissions, or Senior Admissions Manager)
- Relevant Faculty Admissions Manager
- Programme Admissions Tutor

A formal record will be retained for monitoring and consistency.

Where displaced applicants face barriers to obtaining standard English language qualifications, the University may:

- Offer extended deadlines
- Provide access to free tests where available
- Accept online or alternative tests

For guidance on this policy or any areas of support not covered in this policy please contact Admissions [Contact | Study | Imperial College London](#).

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Cross References:	2025 Undergraduate Admissions Policy [pdf] Postgraduate Taught Admissions Policy 2025 [pdf] Postgraduate Research Admissions Policy 2025 [pdf] Admissions with advanced standing for doctoral students [pdf] Policy and Procedure for Admitting Students Under 18 Years of Age 2025 [pdf] Policy on the Admission Registration and Enrolment of Ex-Offenders 2025 [pdf] Disclosure and Barring Service Policy Statement Relating to Students 2025 [pdf] Special Cases Policy of Admission to Postgraduate Programmes of Study 2025 [pdf] Policy on the Handling of DBS Certificate Information 2025 [pdf] Deferment Policy for Undergraduate Students for 2025 Entry [pdf] Deferment Policy for Postgraduate Students for 2025 Entry [pdf] Privacy Notice for Students and Prospective Students [pdf] Applicant Behaviour Policy [pdf]		
Notes and latest changes:			