

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](#).

Applicants who meet the University's criteria for displaced applicants may contact Admissions if they require support or advice regarding deposit payment deadlines. The University will consider all requests for deposit extensions on a case-by-case basis, taking into account individual circumstances and ensuring a fair and compassionate approach.

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