Deferment Policy: Undergraduate

Applicants can apply for deferred entry to programmes that do not require ATAS clearance via UCAS from the outset (i.e. when initially applying). Applicants who do not apply for deferred entry at the outset, but who wish to request to defer their entry, must do so in writing by contacting the appropriate admissions team.

The deadline to request a deferment is the 19th July. Any request to defer must be made prior to an applicant’s place being confirmed (made unconditional-firm), regardless of the deadline date and requests to defer after this status will not normally be considered.

Any request to defer should outline the reason for the request and where appropriate, confirm any anticipated activities (professional or educational) that the applicant intends to undertake during the year preceding the deferred course start date. Please note that the College reserves the right to request documentary evidence verifying these circumstances in considering any such requests.

Where an applicant intends to undertake another course of study during the period of deferment and prior to the Imperial course deferred start date, this must be declared at the time of requesting the deferment, or you must update us with this information if you commit to another educational undertaking after your deferment request is approved. Any such omission of information related to undertaking other educational programmes during a period of deferment will be treated as a materially important omission and can lead to a deferred offer being withdrawn. For individuals requiring a visa to study in the UK, this can also potentially impact your eligibility for the deferred offer with Imperial in line with any immigration rules that apply during the period of deferment.

Please note that offers can only be deferred by one year at a time and only one deferment is normally permitted. All requests to defer are considered on a case-by-case basis by the admitting department and approval is at their discretion and not guaranteed.

Where applicants fulfill English conditions in the admissions cycle within which they apply, but where these results will expire prior to the deferred course start date, any such deferment request will be denied.

Deferments will not normally be considered for programmes requiring ATAS clearance, as this clearance will need be valid at the point at which an individual will make their visa application for their intended programme and year of entry.

Please note that approval to defer an offer relates solely to the offer of admissions to a particular programme. It does not confirm or guarantee that any scholarship or
funding that may have initially been awarded will also be deferred. Where applicants have received confirmation of funding or scholarship, they will need to check the impact on those awards separately.

Applicants holding a deferred offer must still fulfil all conditions of that offer within the UCAS cycle in which they applied and meet all relevant deadlines associated with that offer, as stipulated by both UCAS and Imperial College London.

Please note that any approval to defer an offer is made in good faith at that time, but does not act as a guarantee that the College will definitely deliver that educational provision in the following academic year. Where applicants hold a deferred entry offer for a programme that is later suspended or withdrawn we will notify relevant offer holders accordingly at the earliest opportunity. Where we are able to offer a suitable alternative, we will do so, but an applicant is under no obligation to accept this. Where no suitable alternatives are available, or where an applicant does not wish to accept a suitable alternative, the deferred offer of admission will be withdrawn.