

Deferment Policy: Postgraduate

Offer holders can request to defer their place on a programme for one academic year by writing to the appropriate [admissions team](#). 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.

The deadline for submitting deferment is no later than 3 months in advance of the programme start date. Where deferments request are made with less than 3 months to the course start date, these will not normally be considered.

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. If you defer entry and undertake another educational programme, your deferred entry offer will contain conditions to verify that you have successfully completed and/or de-registered from that, prior to commencing your course with Imperial. Additionally, we reserve the right to apply conditions of your deferred offer that request the attainment of a particular level of achievement in any educational programme undertaken within the period of a deferment. 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during a period of deferment will be treated as a materially important omission and can lead to a deferred offer being withdrawn.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 may also impact your eligibility for the deferred offer with Imperial in line with any immigration rules that apply at that time.

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 deferred offers are approved, applicants will be able to see that their status has been deferred in their applicant portal. However, the official details of the deferred offer will not be published or made available until the next admission cycle has opened. The conditions of a deferred offer may differ to the original offer made. Where applicants fulfil English conditions in the admissions cycle within which they apply, but where these results will expire prior to the deferred course start date, the deferred offer will contain a new English language condition.

Please note that where an applicant fulfils the College's English requirement in the admissions cycle within which they initially applied via passing the College's pre-sessional English programme, this won't be treated as fulfilling the English requirement for any deferred offer.

Where deferments are approved for programmes requiring ATAS clearance, the applicant will be required to obtain new ATAS clearance as part of their deferred offer conditions, as this will need to be valid at the point of making a visa application for your deferred entry of offer.

Where deferments are approved and applicants have already paid a deposit as part of their initial offer conditions, the deposit will normally be held by the College against your deferred offer and not refunded. Departments reserve the right to request that an applicant pay their deposit prior to considering or approving a request to defer.

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 was initially 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.

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.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Document Title: | Deferment Policy: Postgraduate | | |
| Version: | 1 | Date: | 22/09/2020 with immediate effect |
| Location and Filename: | R:\7.Quality Assurance \3. Policy Framework\2. Admissions, Registration & Withdrawal\ Deferment Policy: Postgraduate | | |
| Approved: | QAEC Oct 2020 | | |
| Effective from: | 2020 and updated annually | | |
| Originator: | Registry Admissions | | |
| Contact for Queries: | Director of Admissions and Student Support (Financial and International) | | |
| Cross References: | Postgraduate Taught Admissions Policy Postgraduate Research Admissions Policy Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) policy Policy for the recruitment of ex-offenders Applicant Complaints Policy General and Academic Regulations Privacy Notice for Students and Prospective Students Special Case Policy | | |
| Notes and latest changes: | | | |