Congratulations...

ON RECEIVING AN OFFER FROM IMPERIAL.

We’re delighted you’re considering joining us. This guide lets you know what to expect over the next few months.

We’ve also included a taster of the academic and social opportunities that await you at one of the world’s best universities, alongside practical information on preparing for life in London.

8TH BEST UNIVERSITY IN THE WORLD
3RD IN EUROPE
The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2018

370+ student-led clubs, societies and projects

Most international university in the UK (and 5th in the world)
Times Higher Education 2017

No.1 for employability
The Guardian University Guide 2018

No.1 for graduate starting salaries
The Times/Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018

No.1

for research impact – Imperial has the greatest concentration of high-impact research of any major UK university
Research Excellence Framework 2014
About your offer

If you are holding a conditional offer from Imperial, it means that your place will only be confirmed once you have met all the conditions specified in your offer on our online system, Student e-Service.

REPLYING TO YOUR OFFER
You need to respond to your offer online within 28 days of the full conditions being available on Student e-Service:

- Log in to Student e-Service (www.imperial.ac.uk/studenteservice) – you need the CID (College Identifier) and username we emailed to you.
- Click on the ‘My Applications’ pencil icon.
- Click on the “Applications” tab.
- Click on the “Respond” link under the ‘Action’ heading.
- Enter your response using the drop-down menu under the heading ‘Offer Response’.

If you have any problems with e-Service, please contact:

registry.systems@imperial.ac.uk

Requests to extend the offer deadline may be considered in exceptional circumstances. Please contact the appropriate Admissions team – see right.

PAYING THE DEPOSIT
If you accept your offer for Master’s study, we will send you an invoice for the deposit by email. The amount you need to pay is 10% of the tuition fee for the first year of the course. You should receive your invoice within ten days of replying to your offer.

You have 30 days to pay the deposit to secure your place. If you miss the payment deadline, your offer may be withdrawn.

If you do not receive a deposit invoice within ten working days of accepting your offer, or you have any questions, please contact the Student Fees team (see right).

MEETING YOUR OFFER CONDITIONS
You need to meet all the conditions set out in your offer before you can register for your course, pay your tuition fees or receive a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) (if you need one). We advise that you aim to do this by 10 August 2018.

Find out how to submit your offer conditions at:

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/after-you-apply/conditions

DEFERRING YOUR OFFER
We try to accommodate all requests to defer to the next academic year, but sometimes this isn’t possible. If you wish to defer, please contact the relevant Admissions team as soon as possible.

CONTACT ADMISSIONS
For questions about your offer, please contact the appropriate Admissions team.

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/contact

CONTACT STUDENT FEES TEAM
For questions about your fees, including paying your deposit, please contact our Student Fees team:

tuition.fees@imperial.ac.uk

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/after-you-apply/conditions
What happens next?

**The essentials**

### ADVICE FOR APPLICANTS
Find out more about what happens next, including information about meeting your offer conditions.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/after-you-apply](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/after-you-apply)

### EXPLORE ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS
See our private housing webpages to help prepare for your accommodation search – also see page 10 for details on our purpose-built postgraduate halls.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/accommodation/privatehousing](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/accommodation/privatehousing)

### MAKE SURE YOU’RE FINANCIALLY PREPARED
Budget for student life before you arrive to make sure financial issues are not a barrier to you getting the most out of your experience.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/managing-your-money](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/managing-your-money)

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**KEY DATES**

- **1 March 2018** – applications open for Imperial’s pre-sessional English courses (see page 14)
- **25 May 2018** – application deadline for 12-week pre-sessional English course for Master’s students
- **June–July 2018** – Imperial begins issuing CAS numbers to students requiring Tier 4 (General) student visas and starting in September–October
- **2 July–21 September 2018** – 12-week pre-sessional English course dates
- **6 July 2018** – application deadline for 6-week pre-sessional English course
- **10 July 2018** – advisory deadline for meeting your offer conditions for students starting a course at the end of August
- **3 August 2018** – application deadline for 3-week pre-sessional English course for Master’s students
- **10 August 2018** – advisory deadline for meeting your offer conditions for students starting a course at the end of September
- **13 August–21 September 2018** – 6-week pre-sessional English course dates
- **30 August 2018** – start date for MSc courses in Business Analytics; Finance and Accounting; and Investment and Wealth Management
- **31 August 2018** – start date for MSc courses in Economics and Strategy for Business; Finance; Management; and Risk Management and Financial Engineering
- **1 September 2018** – earliest date you can move into GradPad accommodation. You can move in on the day your contract starts (either 1, 15 or 29 September), or on any day after, but not before – see page 10
- **3 September 2018** – start date for MSc courses in Climate Change, Management and Finance; Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Management; International Health Management; and Strategic Marketing
- **3–21 September 2018** – 3-week pre-sessional English course dates
- **29 September 2018** – start of Welcome Week

**IMPERIAL TERM DATES**

- **Autumn term** 29 September–14 December 2018
- **Spring term** 5 January–22 March 2019
- **Summer term** 27 April–28 June 2019
Visas and immigration

Most students from a country that’s not in the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland require a Tier 4 (General) student visa to study at Imperial. The earliest you can apply for this visa is three months before your course start date.

ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY APPROVAL SCHEME (ATAS)
If you require ATAS for your course and visa application, this will be specified as a condition of your offer.

- Apply for the certificate online (see below) – you will need your course’s JACS code (which your department will supply).
- Applications can take up to 30 working days to process.
- Once issued, certificates are only valid for six months so make sure you apply for your visa before it expires.
- You need to submit evidence of ATAS clearance to our Admissions team as soon as you receive it.

Find out more about your responsibilities online: [www.imperial.ac.uk/study/visas](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/visas)

WORKING WHILE YOU STUDY
Tier 4 visa students may only work for a maximum of 20 hours in any one week during term-time – you cannot average this over a longer period. Other working restrictions apply. We recommend that you do not work part time during term-time if you are studying full time. If this is unavoidable you should aim to work no more than 10–15 hours per week, which should be mainly at weekends and not within normal teaching hours.

CONTACT INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT
Our International Student Support team can provide specialist advice on a wide range of visa and immigration issues, even before you arrive.

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/visas
Completing a postgraduate qualification requires a sustained commitment to your studies right from the start. We recommend budgeting for student life well in advance to make sure that you can get the most out of your experience.

**TUITION FEES**
Tuition fees for postgraduate study vary per course. You can find the fee for your course on our Study website.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/tuition-fees/2018-19](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/tuition-fees/2018-19)

**LIVING COSTS**
Students applying for a Tier 4 visa for study in London need to prove to the Home Office that they can cover living costs of £1,265/month for up to a maximum of nine months.

This figure is useful as a guide for all Imperial students budgeting for the year to cover accommodation, utilities like internet and electricity bills, food, travel and personal/leisure costs. It does not cover tuition fees and any additional course costs. Actual costs will vary according to your lifestyle and how good you are at sticking to a budget.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/managing-your-money](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/managing-your-money)

**POSTGRADUATE MASTER’S LOANS**
Government-funded loans are available to help EU nationals with their tuition fees and living costs. You can get up to £10,609 for Master’s study in the 2018–19 academic year. Whether you qualify depends on your course, age, and nationality or residency status. The earliest you start repaying the loan is the first April after you leave your course and when you’re earning over £25,000 per year. You have to pay this loan at the same time as any other student loans you have.

[www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan/overview](http://www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan/overview)

**SCHOLARSHIPS**
Use our scholarships search tool to search all of our scholarships.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/scholarships-search](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/scholarships-search)

A growing number of external organisations offer scholarships to Imperial students. You can search what’s currently available at:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/scholarships/further-funding-opportunities/external](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/scholarships/further-funding-opportunities/external)

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→ **Paying your fees**
If you’re paying your own fees see what this involves:

[www.imperial.ac.uk/students/fees-and-funding/tuition-fees/payment-terms/postgraduates](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/students/fees-and-funding/tuition-fees/payment-terms/postgraduates)
Finding accommodation

London is a large city with lots of types of accommodation. Here is an overview of what’s available. Our Student Hub can also offer help and advice, even before you join the College.

PRIVATE POSTGRADUATE HALLS
Imperial has a partnership with GradPad, which offers two postgraduate-only halls for Imperial students and students studying at other universities in London. Both locations offer convenient access to public transport for travel to and from campus, though don’t forget to factor this cost into your budget:

- GradPad Griffon Studios – Battersea
- GradPad Wood Lane Studios – White City/Shepherd’s Bush

For further details, including price, facilities and how to book, see the GradPad website:

www.gradpadlondon.com

PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION
Many postgraduates find accommodation in shared houses, flats or studio flats. London has a wide range of privately rented properties. The majority is usually advertised no more than one to two months before it is available for you to move in. If you start looking earlier than this, estate agents may expect you to start paying rent immediately.

For advice on navigating London’s huge choice of property and more information on the most popular areas for Imperial students, see our private housing webpages:

www.imperial.ac.uk/accommodation/privatehousing

IMPERIAL HOME SOLUTIONS
Landlords, estate agents and private halls providers use the Imperial Home Solutions website to advertise their properties. This website is exclusive to the Imperial community and is also useful for connecting with potential flatmates and accessing housing advice.

www.imperialhomesolutions.co.uk

HELP WITH YOUR SEARCH
We know that searching for accommodation in a big city can seem daunting. That’s why our Student Hub team is here to help. Get in touch with any questions you may have about finding your home away from home:

By email: student.hub@imperial.ac.uk
By phone: +44 (0)20 7594 9444
Facebook: www.facebook.com/imperialstudentaccommodation
Twitter: @icstudenthub
If you choose to study at Imperial, here’s what to expect from the first few weeks.

REGISTERING AT THE COLLEGE
You need to register for your course online before the start of term through our Student e-Service. International students need to upload details of their passport, and visa (where it applies). You also have the option to upload a photo to be printed on your ID card for collection on arrival.

If you’re from a country that’s not in the European Economic Area (EEA) you will also need to register in person at the College.

YOU MAY ALSO NEED TO REGISTER...
with the police after arriving in the UK with a visa, or after getting permission to stay for longer in the UK. In central London the registration is completed at the Overseas Visitors Records Office (OVRO). At the start of term, our International Student Support team will make special arrangements with OVRO for you to do this and you will receive further information when you start at the College.

GRADUATE SCHOOL
All Imperial postgraduates enjoy automatic membership of the Graduate School. We recommend connecting with the School as soon as you arrive to find out more about their services, which include professional skills training (see page 14) and a year-round programme of events to bring together students from across the College.

WELCOME WEEK AND IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION
Welcome Week (also known as Freshers’ Week) takes place during the first week of term. This is our official welcome for all new students and covers a wide variety of events to help you get to know the College and people studying and working here a bit better.

One of the highlights of the week is the Freshers’ Fair. This is a chance for you to meet representatives from over 370+ student-run clubs, societies and projects supported by Imperial College Union. This is one of the largest ranges of any Students’ Union within the UK.

Also look out for our annual welcome event for international students, organised by our International Student Support team.

www.imperial.ac.uk/students/new-students/welcome-week

STUDENT HUB
The Student Hub provides a one-stop shop on campus for student enquiries. Drop in for support on issues including student finance, accommodation, admissions, exchange programmes, student admin and general wellbeing enquiries.

www.imperial.ac.uk/student-hub

Imperial College Union’s Freshers’ Fair gives you the chance to discover more than 370 clubs, societies and projects that you could get involved with over the coming year.
Reaching your potential

The academic and personal wellbeing of our students is really important to us. That’s why you’ll find a comprehensive network of people and resources you can turn to for support, help and advice, throughout your time with us.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Professional skills training forms an integral part of postgraduate study at Imperial via the Graduate School’s professional development programme. Integrating feedback from students, course organisers and graduate employers, this free programme covers study and professional skills including interview preparation, note taking, writing a literature review, networking, presenting skills and project management.

PRE-SESSIONAL ACADEMIC ENGLISH COURSES
Conditional offer holders who pass a pre-sessional English language course automatically satisfy the College’s English language requirement without having to retake an English language qualification like IELTS. Twelve- and six-week courses are available (plus a three-week option for applicants holding unconditional offers).

ACADEMIC LANGUAGE SUPPORT
The Centre for Academic English offers a wide range of free courses, interactive workshops, one-to-one consultations and online resources to help all Master’s and Research students studying science, engineering and medicine improve their academic and social English.

Support for International Students
We have a dedicated International Student Support team to help you adjust to life in the UK. They organise a range of events and trips throughout the year to help you meet people and explore London and beyond. They also offer a specialist visa and immigration advice service, which you can make the most of before you even arrive at the College. For more information about our visa and immigration service and other ways we support our international students, see the website below.

IMPERIAL MOBILE
Download the Imperial Mobile app for access to things like your course timetable, email and College services and facilities.

www.imperial.ac.uk/graduate-school
www.imperial.ac.uk/academic-english
www.imperial.ac.uk/academic-english/pre-sessional-english
www.imperial.ac.uk/academic-english
www.imperial.ac.uk/academic-english

Health and wellbeing
The UK has a publicly-funded healthcare system called the National Healthcare System (NHS). If you’re applying for a Tier 4 visa you will need to pay a healthcare surcharge (called the ‘immigration health surcharge’ or IHS) as part of your immigration application. The charge entitles you to free care through the NHS, though you may still need to pay for certain services. Students from the European Economic Area (EEA) do not need to pay the IHS but must have comprehensive sickness insurance (CSI). Find out more at:

www.bit.ly/ukcisa-csi

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/visas

All students should register with a local doctor (known as a GP) within the first few days of arriving. Depending on where you live, you may be able to register with the NHS Health Centre on our South Kensington Campus. All students can use this Centre during clinic hours. You should register separately with a dentist – there is a Dental Surgery next door to the Health Centre.
Living in London

With discounts on everything from clothes to travel, being a student at the College could be one of the most cost-effective times in your life to experience London living.

Like any big city, life in the capital can be expensive. But with sensible budgeting it is possible to enjoy much of what London has to offer. Many of the city’s best attractions are free to experience, or offer reduced rates for students, so living on a student budget doesn’t have to mean missing out on a social life. The biggest challenge may actually be deciding what you’re going to do...

300 languages spoken across the city – more than in any other in the world

17,000+ MUSIC PERFORMANCES a year across more than 300 venues

250 festivals a year including the Notting Hill Carnival and London Pride

200 THEATRE SHOWS running daily in London’s West End

170+ museums many with free entry

20% OF ALL UK CINEMA SCREENS are based in London

800 bookshops

Source of stats: www.london.gov.uk

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

Our South Kensington Campus is surrounded by three of the world’s most famous museums. A five-minute walk will take you to the door of the Science Museum, the Natural History Museum and the V&A, while exiting our Students’ Union by the back door will see you arrive at the Royal Albert Hall, where all of our students graduate.

Find out more about living and studying in London:

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/living-in-london

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Tube lines serve our neighbourhood (Circle, District, Piccadilly)

20 million visitors a year make South Kensington one of the world’s most popular cultural destinations. At the College you can enjoy the best of both worlds: freedom to enjoy the area on your own terms, as well as plenty of green space to escape the crowds, with Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens on your doorstep.
Got a question?

Contact Imperial

For general information about studying at Imperial, please contact our International Recruitment team: international-recruitment@imperial.ac.uk

For information about your offer, please contact the relevant Admissions team:

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/contact

The information in this guide is current at the time of going to press (March 2018). The finance figures provided are for guidance purposes only – the latest information is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/pg

Alternative formats of this guide are available on request from prospectus@imperial.ac.uk