

Pharmacy Zoom Webinar Q&As

Q: Do you have opportunities abroad?

A: We don't have specific overseas learning opportunities, but we have an active British Pharmaceutical Students Association who have a strong link with the European Pharmacy Students Association. Students can participate in exchange programmes taking place over the summer through these associations. Students are also supported and encouraged to go to international pharmacy students conferences.

Q: How do you apply for accommodation?

A: You can go on the [Accommodation website](#) where you will find an application form. You can also find information about all the halls of residence and select one that is appropriate for your preferences (catered/self-catered; shared bathroom or en-suite).

Q: What would happen if a student didn't achieve the grades they require due to cancelled exams?

A: A-level exam grades will be allocated this year based on a number of criteria which can be found online. For those who are studying at home or independent studiers (e.g. resitting their A-levels) we are still waiting for advice and further guidance. Any updates will be added to the [FAQs on the University website](#) as soon as they become available.

Q: Will you increase the intake of students for 2020?

A: The confirmed intake (submitted and approved before lockdown measures) is 130 home students and 29 international students. The government only allows for an increase of 5% in the agreed targets, which is a decision across all programmes and universities.

Q: When do we find out which accommodation we are allocated to after applying?

A: Once your application status turns to unconditional, you will be allocated to one of the halls of residence.

Q: What advice would you give to us for starting our first year of this course?

A: You should try to enjoy the first year. This will be an adjustment period because you are moving away from home, you are meeting new people and you are studying in a different format. Try to get involved in as many activities as you can.

Q: What would happen to private candidates who cannot get the result?

A: Keep in contact with the University for further information.

Q: How much does every year contribute to the final mark of the degree?

A: Year 1 contributes 6% to the overall grade, Year 2 is worth 19%, and Years 3 and 4 are worth 37.5% each.

Q: Can placements be arranged nearer to home for commuting students?

A: Yes, students fill in a questionnaire before the placements, which takes commuting into consideration.

Q: If I find that pharmacy is not suitable for me after studying for one year and would like to change my course, is it possible to do so?

A: Yes, but it depends on the course you want to transfer to. It also depends on your grades and you may be required to start from Year 1 in the course you are transferring to.

Q: Is there anything I could be doing at the moment to help me prepare for the start of this course?

A: You can look at the [MPharm course page](#) to find indications to what reading sources you could look at. Keep up to date with the news regarding healthcare.

Q: Will the health questionnaire to send to the University Occupational Health service be sent out to us soon, as the deadline for it being received back is 10 July and I haven't received it yet?

A: We are sending them out weekly. If your status is conditional firm, or you have accepted the conditional offer as an insurance choice and you haven't received it yet, email us.

Q: How can students get a visa?

A: All the visa centres are now closed, so you need to keep an eye out to when they open. For updates, please have a look at the [government's UK visas and immigration webpage](#).

Q: If international students still aren't able to travel to the UK due to COVID-19 related restrictions, will online studying be possible?

A: Yes, our university is preparing for all of these situations, so we are ensuring that we have different types of learning available.

Q: As someone who's interested in industrial pharmacy, how likely is it that I can get a place for the placement in Year 3?

A: It is an optional opportunity and generally the majority of students who apply for it are allocated a place.

Q: As the IELTS exams have also been cancelled, will you give us any extra time to send the IELTS results?

A: We need candidates to fulfill the language requirements before the term starts, so there are options available outside the IELTS. The alternative proposed by IELTS is called Indicator, but the University does not consider it as meeting the requirements, so we will not be accepting it. One of the alternatives that is accepted is TOEFL IBT. Some more may be considered and further information will be provided on the [FAQ pages on the University website](#).

Q: Do most students live in dorms or do some get private accommodation? Also, are the dorms available for second and third year?

A: All Year 1 students are guaranteed a place in the halls of residence provided that they apply by 31 August. There are private options available, but it is usually recommended that students who are in their first year live in university halls of residence. You can also apply for

accommodation in university halls of residence in later years, but you are not guaranteed a place.

Q: Are you able to do a placement year in Year 3?

A: No.

Q: How do assessments differ from A-level to degree (in format)?

A: Assessments in higher education are different. The end of year mark is approximately 50% coursework (e.g. lab reports, essays, YouTube videos, presentations) and we also have exams for the other 50%. One of the types of exams is called a consolidated exam (learning from the patients/public) and it comprises short answer questions. There is also one big end of year exam which is called an integrated exam – we pull together learning from everything.

Q: Does Manchester offer any postgraduate courses e.g: Independent prescribing course

A: Yes. For more information, visit our [postgraduate study page for pharmacy](#).

Q: Do you have to do a Mathematics and English exam at the beginning of the course to see your level?

A: We don't do a Mathematics exam, but we do an English screening test. This is to support students who need help with their academic writing style.

Q: Do transactions include medicine if grades are suitable for the course?

A: It depends on different factors. You need to contact the Medicine admissions team and ask for further information.

Q: If I wanted to do a PhD, would I do it before the year of pre-reg training or after?

A: After the pre-registration training.

Q: Are there any opportunities to specialise?

A: You have options in your final year that focus on areas you may want to specialise in.

Q: Does Manchester offer scholarships for their international students?

A: The University of Manchester sets the tuition fees. Within Pharmacy, we can offer a small bursary each year. This bursary is worth £2,000 per annum and is applicable to all international students.

Q: If lockdown is still in place by September, will the University still be open for first years and how will it integrate social distancing in lecture halls?

A: If we are still in lockdown, the course will likely take place online. It depends on how the situation has evolved by then.

Q: When would we get a confirmation from the University regarding whether we have been accepted or not?

A: This depends on when the grades are awarded.