



# **PATHWAY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME:**

**Applying for the 2024 programme**





Are you interested in studying at  
Queen's University?

Are you in the first year of your A-  
Level course or other Level 3  
programme?

Would you benefit from a bit of  
extra encouragement and support  
to get to Queen's?

**THEN THE PATHWAY  
OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME  
COULD BE FOR YOU!**



# WIDENING PARTICIPATION:

At Queen's University Belfast, we are committed to ensuring that those most able but least likely to participate in Higher Education should have an equal opportunity to do so.



# STATISTICS SHOW LOW PARTICIPATION

- Parents did not attend university
- Low-income households
- Certain neighbourhoods
- Young carers
- Care experienced
- Refugees/ asylum seekers/  
newcomers

Queen's works to widen participation for these groups.



# WHAT IS THE PATHWAY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME?

Participants on the programme:

- Get the chance to study at Queen's
- Experience and learn a bit about University life
- Receive a Guaranteed Conditional Offer / Guaranteed Interview
- Potentially receive a grade reduction

Events from January – December 2024  
to aid progression to Queen's  
in a selected subject Pathway.



QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST



# WHAT SUBJECT PATHWAYS ARE ON OFFER?

1. Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
2. Biological Sciences
3. Business
4. Computer Science
5. Engineering
6. Law
7. Mathematics & Physical Sciences
8. Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Science
9. Natural & Built Environment
10. Nursing and Midwifery
11. Pharmacy
12. Psychology
13. Social Work



# WHAT IS THE PATH?

Apply (By 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023)

Welcome & Orientation – January 2024

Subject Skills Session – February 2024 (self-paced)

Academic Skills Session – Late February 2024

Subject Specific Session – March 2024

University Information Session – June 2024

Summer School - June or July 2024

Next Steps Session – September 2024

Celebration Event – December 2024



# WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- Guaranteed Conditional Offer / Guaranteed Interview
- Up to a 2 A-Level grade reduction \*
- £1000 Kilwaughter Minerals Bursary
- UCAS advice
- Experience university life
- Tailored support upon arriving at Queen's



\* Depending on performance on the programme and course applied for





## AS A SUMMARY:

- 6 x 1-day events
- 1 x Self-paced online coursework (February)
- 5 day Summer School



# THE PATHWAY SUMMER SCHOOL





# THE SUMMER SCHOOL

- Last week of June or Last week of July (depending on Pathway)
- Monday to Friday
- Meet your fellow Pathway students
- Experience studying like an undergraduate
- Attend lectures from your subject's top academics
- Work on group projects with current undergraduate students
- Complete Assessed Coursework



# SUMMER RESIDENTIAL

Staying at Elms Village

Individual *en suite* room

10 students per floor

15 mins walk to campus

All inclusive:

- Meals

- Social Activities

- Academic Sessions

- Employer engagement







# SUMMER SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

A guaranteed conditional offer / guaranteed interview from Queen's

1 grade reduction: 50 – 64% in the Assessment

2 Grade reduction –65% or above in the Assessment \*

\* For Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Biochemistry and Social Work: one grade reduction for 65%+

Plus Nursing & Midwifery has a first choice benefit



# WHAT IS REQUIRED FROM ME TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE PROGRAMME?

- ✓ Attend all events
- ✓ Complete all Online coursework
- ✓ Complete the Residential Summer School



# THE PATHWAYS

# WHAT COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE PATHWAY?

English and Linguistics

Sociology Music and Audio Production

Spanish and Portuguese Drama

Film and Theatre Making **English**

**Irish** Social Policy and Sociology Anthropology

Criminology and Social Policy History

Broadcast Production

Audio Engineering

International Relations

# AHSS Pathway

Philosophy

Criminology

Liberal Arts

Politics, Philosophy and Economics

Spanish English and Creative Writing **French**

**Music** Music and Sound Design

Film Studies and Production

**Criminology and Sociology**





# WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE PATHWAY?

Biochemistry

Marine Biology

Food Science and Nutrition

# BioSci Pathway

Environmental Management

Biological Sciences

Zoology **Microbiology**

# WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE PATHWAY?

**Business Economics**

Economics with Finance

Finance **Economics and Accounting**

**Accounting with a Language**

# Business Pathway

International Business with a Language

Economics with a Language

**Advanced Accounting**

**Business Management**

**Economics**

# WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE PATHWAY?

Computer Science

Computing and Information Technology

Software Engineering with Digital Technology Partnership

# Computer Science Pathway

Business Information Technology

Software Engineering

Data Science



# WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE PATHWAY?

Civil Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Aerospace Engineering

Electrical and Electronic Engineering

# Engineering Pathway

Structural Engineering with Architecture

Environmental and Civil Engineering

Chemical Engineering

Audio Engineering

Computer Engineering



WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE  
PATHWAY?

Law

Law with Politics

**Law Pathway**

Law with Spanish

Law with French

# WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE PATHWAY?

Mathematics with Finance

Physics with Astro-Physics

Mathematics with a Language

Applied Mathematics and Physics

MPS Pathway

Chemistry

Physics Mathematics and Statistics & Op Research

Mathematics and Computer Science

Mathematics Physics with Medical Applications

Physics with a Language

Medicinal Chemistry

Theoretical Physics



**WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE  
PATHWAY?**

Medicine

Human Biology

**MDBS Pathway**

Biomedical Science

**Dentistry**

WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE  
PATHWAY?

Architecture

European Planning

Archaeology with a Language

Geography with a Language

Geography

**NBE Pathway**

Archaeology-Palaeoecology and Geography

Planning, Environment and Development

Archaeology and History

Archaeology-Palaeoecology

Archaeology



# WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE PATHWAY?

Adult Nursing

Learning Disabilities Nursing

## Nursing & Midwifery Pathway

Children and Young People's Nursing

Mental Health Nursing

Midwifery





**WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE  
PATHWAY?**

Pharmacy (Mpharm)

# Pharmacy Pathway

Pharmaceutical Biotechnology

Pharmaceutical Sciences

**WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE  
PATHWAY?**

Psychology

# Psychology Pathway

Psychology

Psychology



WHICH COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE  
PATHWAY?

Social Work  
**Social Work Pathway**  
Social Work  
Social Work

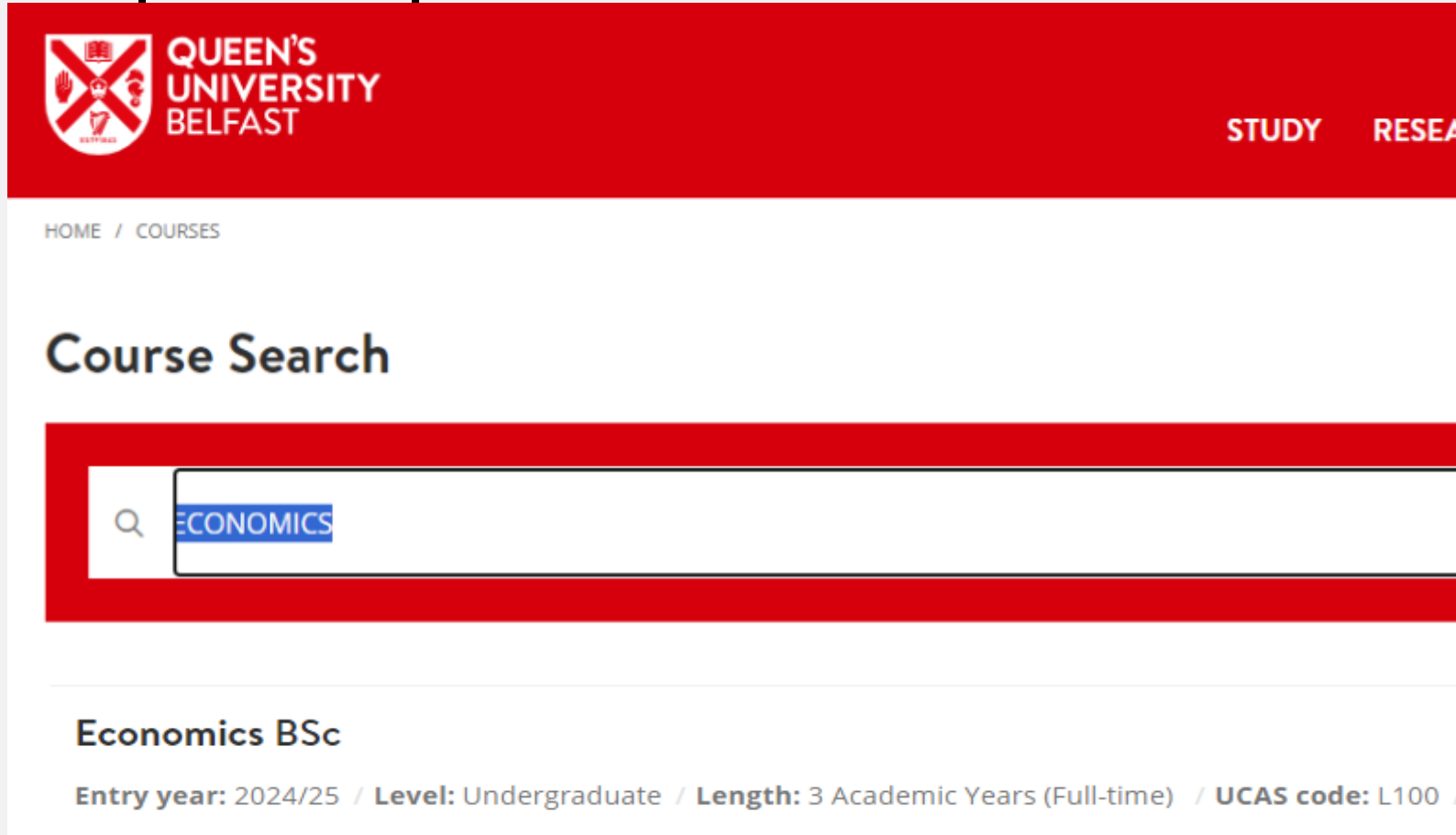
# HOW DO I PICK A COURSE?

<https://www.qub.ac.uk/courses/>



# VISIT OUR COURSE FINDER

<https://www.qub.ac.uk/courses/>



The screenshot shows the Queen's University Belfast website's course finder interface. At the top, there is a red navigation bar with the university's logo and name on the left, and the words 'STUDY' and 'RESEARCH' on the right. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb 'HOME / COURSES' is visible. The main heading is 'Course Search'. A search bar with a magnifying glass icon contains the text 'ECONOMICS'. Below the search bar, the results for 'Economics BSc' are displayed, including the entry year '2024/25', level 'Undergraduate', length '3 Academic Years (Full-time)', and UCAS code 'L100'.

- Find out more about the Pathway courses on offer
- Check that you meet any individual course requirements for your chosen Pathway subject **prior to your application**



[← Back](#)

BSc | Undergraduate

## Economics

**Entry year**

Academic Year 2024/25

**Entry requirements**

ABB

**Duration**

3 years (Full Time)

**UCAS code**

L100

[Apply via UCAS](#) [Overview](#)[Course content](#)[Modules](#)[Entry Requirements](#)[Careers](#)[Fees and Funding](#)[Apply](#) Applications for 2023 entry are still open for some programmes. [View courses](#)[Register your interest](#)

A BSc Economics degree allows students to analyse in-depth how economies function (macroeconomics) and how individuals make decisions (microeconomics). The models used by economists combine qualitative and

**i** Applications for 2023 entry are still open for some programmes. [View courses](#)

[Register your interest](#)

## Entrance requirements

### A-level

ABB + GCSE Mathematics grade A/7

A maximum of one BTEC/OCR Single Award or AQA Extended Certificate will be part of a portfolio of qualifications with a Distinction\* being equated to a grade A at A-level or a grade B at A-level.

### Irish Leaving Certificate

H3H3H3H3H3H3/H2H3H3H3H3 + if not offered at Higher Level then Ordinary L

### Access Course

Successful completion of Access Course with an average of 70% + GCSE Mathematics grade A/7 or equivalent in Access Course.

### International Baccalaureate Diploma

33 points overall, including 6,5,5 at Higher Level. If not offered at Higher Level then Standard Level grade 6 in Mathematics or GCSE Mathematics grade A/7.

### BTEC Level 3 Extended/National Extended Diploma

QCF BTEC Extended Diploma (180 credits at Level 3), with overall grades D\*DD + GCSE Mathematics grade A/7.

RQF BTEC National Extended Diploma (1080 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) at Level 3), with overall grades D\*DD + GCSE Mathematics grade A/7.

# Entrance requirements

## A-level

## ABB + GCSE Mathematics grade A/7

advice on your journey to university.



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# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS



# Section A Criteria

You must meet all of the following:

- You must be ordinarily **resident in Northern Ireland** and be in full-time attendance at a **school or college in Northern Ireland**.
- You must currently be in **year 1** of an acceptable (to the University) **two-year Level 3 qualification** such as A-Levels, BTEC etc.
- **Neither of your parents have attended university** nor obtained an undergraduate degree (or equivalent) in the UK, Ireland or abroad.
- You must have at least **6 GCSEs** (or equivalent) at grades A\*-C, **including English Language**, of which **5 must be at grade B** or above.

# Acceptable Level 3 Qualifications

**A-Level**

**A-Level**

**A-Level**

**A-Level**

**A-Level**

**BTEC Subsidiary  
Diploma  
(or other single award)**

# Acceptable Level 3 Qualifications

**BTEC Extended Diploma  
(Triple Award)**

**BTEC Diploma  
(Double Award)**

**A-Level**

**BTEC Diploma  
(Double Award)**

**BTEC Subsidiary  
Diploma  
(or other single award)**



# Not Acceptable

**A-Level**

**BTEC Subsidiary  
Diploma  
(or other single award)**

**BTEC Subsidiary  
Diploma  
(or other single award)**

**BTEC Subsidiary  
Diploma  
(or other single award)**

**BTEC Subsidiary  
Diploma  
(or other single award)**

**BTEC Subsidiary  
Diploma  
(or other single award)**

# Section B Widening Participation Criteria

You must meet ONE of the following:

- Be eligible for or are currently receiving free school meals (**FSM**) and/or Education Maintenance Allowance (**EMA**).
- Be the **main carer** for a family member or dependant.
- Have a permanent residence postcode that is classified as being in a "**disadvantaged neighbourhood**" by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.
- Be a **Newcomer**, a **Refugee** or an **Asylum Seeker**.
- If you are **care experienced** or currently **in the care** of a Health and Social Care Trust, you are **automatically offered a place** on the programme provided you meet the requirements of Section A: Northern Ireland resident, 1st year of a 2 year Level 3 programme and GCSE (or equivalent) grades.



**ON YOUR APPLICATION FORM PLEASE SELECT ALL SECTION B CRITERIA THAT APPLY TO YOU.**

# APPLYING?

**We expect about 500 applications for 300 places on the programme: 20-30 places in each of the 13 Pathways.**

[go.QUB.ac.uk/QUBPathway](http://go.QUB.ac.uk/QUBPathway)

Or Google “Queen’s University Pathway”

**APPLICATIONS OPEN**  
**MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER 2023**





## **PATHWAY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2024 PROGRAMME**

To Apply:

- Check the eligibility requirements (Section A and Section B) for the programme - download the Postcode Checker at the Media tab.
- Choose your preferred Pathway.
- Research the courses on your preferred Pathway to ensure that you meet the entry requirements of at least ONE of the courses on that Pathway.
- Ask a teacher to do your "Technical Reference" - this will usually be a Careers Teacher or Head of Year.
- Review the online application form and collect the necessary information (GCSE grades, full A-Level subject titles, etc.) and prepare your two statements.
- Return to the online application and complete it in one sitting (it cannot be saved) and "Submit Application".



**[THE ONLINE APPLICATION IS AVAILABLE HERE!](#)**

Section 1: Personal Information

### Notes on completing the form

Please complete all sections of this form accurately. All fields with **bold** titles are mandatory. Please submit the form once and only once. The form cannot be saved and must be submitted in a single attempt. It will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Incomplete forms will not be considered by the Applications Panel.

Queen's University Belfast is committed to protecting the privacy of participants in our programmes. Our Widening Participation Unit Privacy Policy offers a clear explanation of how we treat your information - how we collect it, process it, and use it. We invite you to review the Privacy Policy [here](#).

**First name**

**Last name**

**Address Line 1**

**Address Line 2**

**City/Town**

**Postcode**

**Home Phone**

**Mobile Phone**

**Date of Birth**

**Gender**

**Primary Email**

**Secondary Email**

# 1. Personal Information

Note: Application cannot be saved!

## Section 2: School and Reference Information

Please select your school from the list below. Please check the list carefully; if your school is not on the list, please contact us for more information. Once you have submitted your application and you will have to wait until you receive an email from us (which could take on average 2-3 weeks).

**School**

## 2. School / Reference

Note: Technical Reference not  
Personal Reference

We will be requesting a "technical" reference (not a "personal" reference) from a staff member at your school to validate details on your application such as your address, meeting criteria A and B and subjects/grades, etc.

This will usually be your Careers teacher or your Head of Year. Please provide their details below.

**Referee First Name**

**Referee Last Name**

**Referee Email**

**What is their job role?**

**I confirm that this person is aware that I am applying for the Pathway Opportunity Programme and that they are willing to provide a technical reference**

## Section A

I am ordinarily resident in Northern Ireland and I am in full-time attendance at a school or college in Northern Ireland

Please select ▼

I am currently in year one of a two-year Level 3 qualification such as A-Levels, BTEC etc.

Please select ▼

Neither of my parents have attended university nor obtained an undergraduate degree, or one or both parents are only currently studying or have only graduated within the last 5 years

Please select ▼

I have at least 7 GCSEs (or equivalent such as BTEC) at grades A\*-C, including English Language or above

## 3. Eligibility

## Section B

I am eligible or am currently receiving free school meals (FSM) and/or Education Maintenance Allowance

## Section A and Section B Criteria

I am the main carer for a family member or dependant

Please select ▼

My permanent residence postcode is classified as being in a "disadvantaged neighbourhood" by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Please select ▼

I am care experienced or currently in the care of a Health and Social Care Trust

Please select ▼

I am a Refugee

Please select ▼

I am an Asylum Seeker

Please select ▼

I am a Newcomer Student (when you started school in Northern Ireland you did not speak the same language as your teacher)

Please select ▼



## Section 4: Qualifications

Please complete this section as accurately as possible.

Please list all of your qualifications obtained as grade awarded. For example:

- CCEA GCSE Maths B
- AQA GCSE Spanish C\*

In fulfilment of the GCSE (or equivalent) which can, in itself, be the equivalent of the Princes Trust and the Open University's

an important aspect of both school and university education and students are encouraged to develop these whether or not it is through a formal qualification. However, this will not form part of the conditions of entry for the Pathway Opportunity Programme.

### 4. Qualifications

From Drop Down Boxes:  
CCEA GCSE Business B

WJEC A-Level Sociology General  
Pearson/Edexcel BTEC Subsidiary Diploma Travel & Tourism

### List of qualifications at GCSE (or equivalent)

Awarding Body	Qualification Type	Subject	Grade
CCEA	GCSE	Business	B
Pearson/Edexcel	BTEC Level 2 Diploma	IT	Distinction

Add another qualification

## 5. Pathway Selection

Primary Pathway

Secondary Pathway (if desired)

### Section 5: Pathway Selection

Please indicate which subject Pathway you wish to apply for. If you are interested in two Pathway subjects then indicate both first and second choices below. If your first choice is oversubscribed you may be selected for your second choice.



I wish to apply for the following subject Pathway

Please select



If the subject you chose is over-subscribed, would you be interested in selecting a second Pathway?

Please select



I have used the Course Finder on the Queen's University website to confirm that the subjects I am currently studying meet the requirements for the Pathway I am applying to

Please select



## Section 6: Personal Statements

Please explain why you have applied to be part of the Pathway Opportunity Programme: e.g. your education so far, how you feel the Pathway Programme will help you reach your goals (max 200 words).

Please explain **why you have applied to be part of the Pathway Opportunity Programme**: e.g. **what are your motivations, any hardship** you've experienced in your education so far, how you feel the Pathway Programme **will help you reach your goals** (max 200 words).

200

Please explain why you have applied for your chosen Pathway subject (and secondary Pathway subject, if applicable): e.g. your interest in that subject, your previous experience (work placement or education) in that subject area, career goals in that subject area (max 200 words).

Please explain **why you have applied for your chosen Pathway** subject (and secondary Pathway subject, if applicable): e.g. your **interest in that subject**, any previous **experience** (work placement or education) in that subject area, career goals in that subject area (max 200 words).

## 6. Personal Statements

Max 200 words each

# 7. Parents' Information

## Contact Details

### Section 7: Parent Information

Please provide details of a parent / guardian who can provide parental consent.

**Parent Name**

**City/Town**

**Home Phone**

**Email**

**Address**

**Postcode**

**Mobile Phone**



When all complete and checked hit  
“Check and Submit Application”

### Section 8: Submit Application

Check and Submit Application

So...

## If you...

- Want to study at Queen's University Belfast
- Meet the eligibility criteria (Section A and one from Section B)
- Want to receive a Guaranteed Conditional Offer / Guaranteed Interview to Queen's
- Want an opportunity to receive up to a 2 grade reduction in your offer.
- Want a £1000 bursary from Kilwaughter Minerals in your first year at Queen's
- Experience university life, make new friends, enjoy some challenges



**THEN APPLY NOW!**

# APPLICATION DEADLINE

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023



# QUESTIONS?

**Go online:**

[go.qub.ac.uk/QUBPathway](http://go.qub.ac.uk/QUBPathway)

**Telephone:** 028 9097 5020

**Email:** [pop@qub.ac.uk](mailto:pop@qub.ac.uk)