

# Health Economics and Health Policy MSc/Postgraduate Diploma

- [View video transcript \(/accessibility/transcripts/mds/msc-health-economics-policy-005.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)

Aimed at health care professionals and managers, as well as new graduates, this programme provides an introduction to the central issues in health economics and health policy involved in the management of primary health care.

**[Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)**

## Course fact file

**Type of Course:** Continuing professional development, taught

**Study Options:** Full time, part time

**Duration:** 1 year full-time; 2 years part-time. This programme is delivered via block sessions of 3 or 5 days.

**Start date:** September. There is no official closing date for applications but where possible you are advised to apply by the end of June for admission in September. However, later applications will be considered if places are available.

## Related courses

**[Health Economics and Econometrics MSc/PGDip \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/health-econometrics.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/health-econometrics.aspx)**

## Contact

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**[School of Health and Population Sciences \(/schools/haps/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/haps/index.aspx)**

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**[Contact us on Facebook \(http://facebook.com/collegemds\)](http://facebook.com/collegemds)**

## Details

This programme is suitable for people currently working in the health care sector (in both the public and private sectors, including the pharmaceutical industry) who wish to improve their understanding of and skills in health economics. It may also be of interest to new graduates who wish to pursue a career in health economics and/or health services research.

The course does not require a first degree in economics. Students who do have a first degree in economics may be interested in our **[MSc in Health Economics and Econometrics \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/health-econometrics.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/health-econometrics.aspx)**.

## Why study this course

The MSc Health Economics and Health Policy course:

- brings together professionals from a vast array of work environments, locations and backgrounds offering the benefit of knowledge and experience sharing
- does not ask for an economics first degree
- has a wide variety of module options creating a flexible degree to suit your needs
- offers modules on a block basis (3 or 5 days) making it easier for you and your employers to manage your study leave

## Modules

The programme consists of taught modules (120 credits), plus a dissertation (10,000 words) on an agreed topic in an area of health economics or health policy (60 credits). Students must select either Core 1 or Core 2, as follows:

### Core 1

There are six core modules totalling 100 credits:

- **[Introduction to Health Economics \(20 credits\) \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/introduction-to-health-economics.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/introduction-to-health-economics.aspx)**
- **[Statistics for Health Economics 1 \(10 credits\) \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/statistics-for-health-economics-I.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/statistics-for-health-economics-I.aspx)**
- **[Statistics for Health Economics 2 \(10 credits\) \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/statistics-for-health-economics-II.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/statistics-for-health-economics-II.aspx)**

- [Economic Evaluation in Health Care \(20 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/economic-evaluation-in-health-care.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/economic-evaluation-in-health-care.aspx>)
- [Modelling for Health Economics \(20 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/modelling-for-health-economics.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/modelling-for-health-economics.aspx>)
- [Policy and Economics of Healthcare Delivery \(20 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/policy-and-economics-of-healthcare-delivery.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/policy-and-economics-of-healthcare-delivery.aspx>)

## Core 2

There are five core modules totalling 110 credits:

- [Introduction to Health Economics \(20 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/introduction-to-health-economics.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/introduction-to-health-economics.aspx>)
- [Econometrics \(30 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/econometrics.aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/econometrics.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/econ/postgraduate-modules/econometrics.aspx))
- [Economic Evaluation in Health Care \(20 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/economic-evaluation-in-health-care.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/economic-evaluation-in-health-care.aspx>)
- [Modelling for Health Economics \(20 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/modelling-for-health-economics.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/modelling-for-health-economics.aspx>)
- [Policy and Economics of Healthcare Delivery \(20 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/policy-and-economics-of-healthcare-delivery.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/policy-and-economics-of-healthcare-delivery.aspx>)

Students taking Core 2 also attend Statistics for Health Economics II as a non-assessed pre-requisite for Modelling for Health Economics.

Students then have the freedom to select the modules for the remaining 10 or 20 credits from the range offered by the School of Health and Population Sciences or, with departmental agreement, by other departments within the University.

**Optional Modules** - please select 20 credits (Core 1) or 10 credits (Core 2)

- [Advanced Statistical Methods \(10 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/advanced-statistical-methods.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/advanced-statistical-methods.aspx>)
- [Clinical Trials \(20 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/clinical-trials-(mph).aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/clinical-trials-\(mph\).aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/clinical-trials-(mph).aspx))
- [Health Care Evaluation and Commissioning \(10 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-care-evaluation-and-commissioning-.aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/health-care-evaluation-and-commissioning--.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-care-evaluation-and-commissioning-.aspx))
- [Health Information and Health Informatics \(10 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-information-and-health-informatics.aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/health-information-and-health-informatics.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-information-and-health-informatics.aspx))
- [Health Promotion](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-promotion-(mph).aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/health-promotion-\(mph\).aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-promotion-(mph).aspx)) (10 Credits)
- [Health Protection 1 \(10 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-protection-1.aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/health-protection-1.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-protection-1.aspx))
- [Health Protection 2 \(10 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-protection-2.aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/health-protection-2.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-protection-2.aspx))
- [Principles of Health Technology Assessment](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-technology-assessment-principles-and-practices.aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/health-technology-assessment-principles-and-practices.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-technology-assessment-principles-and-practices.aspx)) (10 credits) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/health-technology-assessment-principles-and-practices.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/health-technology-assessment-principles-and-practices.aspx))
- [Public Health in Low and Middle Income Countries \(10 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/public-health-in-low-and-middle-income-countries.aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/public-health-in-low-and-middle-income-countries.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/public-health-in-low-and-middle-income-countries.aspx))
- [Sociology and Social Policy \(10 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/sociology-and-social-policy.aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/sociology-and-social-policy.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/sociology-and-social-policy.aspx))
- [Systematic Reviews and Evidence Synthesis](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/systematic-reviews-evidence-synthesis.aspx) ([/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/pg-modules/systematic-reviews-evidence-synthesis.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/systematic-reviews-evidence-synthesis.aspx)) (20 credits) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/methodological-basis-of-health-technology-assessment.aspx>)
- [Qualitative Research Methods \(20 credits\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/qualitative-research-methods.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/med/pg-modules/qualitative-research-methods.aspx>)

Please note: programmes evolve continually to keep them up to date so please check the website regularly for any changes

## Fees and funding

### 2015/16 course fees

#### UK/EU students

MSc - £6210/PGDip £4140 (plus living expenses/hotel costs)

#### Non UK/EU students

£14,140 (plus living expenses/hotel costs)

Learn more about [fees and funding](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/pgt-fees/fees.aspx) ([/postgraduate/pgt-fees/fees.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/pgt-fees/fees.aspx))

### Scholarships and studentships

Scholarships may be available. International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government. Visit our website for information about [scholarships for international students](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/finance/scholarships/index.aspx) ([/International/students/finance/scholarships/index.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/finance/scholarships/index.aspx))

For further information contact the School directly or email [sfo@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:sfo@contacts.bham.ac.uk) (<mailto:sfo@contacts.bham.ac.uk>)

## Entry requirements

The normal entrance requirement for our Masters programmes is a good Honours degree (upper second-class or above), or an equivalent professional qualification and professional experience.

Appropriate career experience may also be taken into account. It is hard to give general rules on these matters, since each case is considered on individual merit. However, the factors which tend to count in your favour are suitable health services managerial experience, favourable reports from academic referees, or proven ability in research or publication. You should give as much evidence as possible of your capabilities in these areas.

Learn more about [entry requirements](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/requirements-pgt/index.aspx) ([/postgraduate/requirements-pgt/index.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/requirements-pgt/index.aspx))

### International students:

### Academic requirements

We accept a range of qualifications, our [country pages \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/students/country/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/students/country/index.aspx) show you what qualifications we accept from your country.

## English language requirements

You can satisfy our English language requirements in two ways:

- by holding an [English language qualification to the right level \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/index.aspx)
- by taking and successfully completing one of our [English courses for international students \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/english-courses.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/english-courses.aspx)

English to IELTS 7.0 (with a minimum of 6.5 in each component).

## How to apply

When clicking on the Apply Now button you will be directed to an application specifically designed for the programme you wish to apply for where you will create an account with the University application system and submit your application and supporting documents online. Further information regarding how to apply online can be found on the [How to apply pages \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx)

[Apply now \(https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/MDS024.htm\)](https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/MDS024.htm)

## Related links

[Health Economics and Health Policy brochure \(/Documents/college-mds/courses/postgraduate/flyers/HealthEconomicsandHealthPolicy.pdf\)](/Documents/college-mds/courses/postgraduate/flyers/HealthEconomicsandHealthPolicy.pdf)

[Interview with Former Programme Director of the MSc Health Economics and Health Policy programme \(/Audio/college-mds/courses/postgraduate/health-economics-roberts-tracy-0111.mp3\)](/Audio/college-mds/courses/postgraduate/health-economics-roberts-tracy-0111.mp3)

## Related news and events

[Birmingham excels in world rankings \(/news/latest/2014/08/birmingham-excels-in-world-rankings.aspx\)](/news/latest/2014/08/birmingham-excels-in-world-rankings.aspx)

## Learning and teaching

As a Birmingham student, you will be joining the academic elite and will have the privilege of learning from world-leading experts, as well as your peers. From the outset you will be encouraged to become an independent and self-motivated learner. We want you to be challenged and will encourage you to think for yourself.

This programme is delivered via block sessions of 3 or 5 days. You will participate in a range of teaching styles such as lectures, small group tutorials, presentations, peer group learning, self-study etc.

You will have access to a comprehensive support system that will assist and encourage you, including personal tutors and welfare tutors who can help with both academic and welfare issues.

## Our facilities

The College of Medical and Dental Sciences houses state-of-the art facilities to support a range of teaching, learning and research activity.

Our facilities ensure that students receive the best possible learning experience by working in a modern environment. Among our most recent developments include a refurbishment of the Medical School foyer, Barnes library and Wolfson Centre for Medical Education.

Explore our facilities and take a tour by moving around our 360-degree panoramas:

ERROR:

Adobe Flashplayer 10.1 (or higher) or a  
HTML5 Browser with CSS 3D Transforms or WebGL support are required!

## Assessment methods

Each module is assessed independently. The compulsory modules on MSc Health Economics and Health Policy are all assessed by either assignment, examination or a combination of both.

### Related staff

[Professor Tracy Roberts \(/staff/profiles/haps/HealthEconomics/roberts-tracy.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/haps/HealthEconomics/roberts-tracy.aspx)

[Dr Pelham Barton \(/staff/profiles/haps/HealthEconomics/barton-pelham.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/haps/HealthEconomics/barton-pelham.aspx)

## Employability

Please have a look at the profile below to give you an idea of what our students think about the MSc Health Economics and Health Policy programme.

[Bill Malcolm \(/university/colleges/mds/alumni/our-alumni/profiles/postgrad/bill-malcolm.aspx\)](/university/colleges/mds/alumni/our-alumni/profiles/postgrad/bill-malcolm.aspx) - Alumnus

[Find out more about where our postgraduate students go \(/Documents/college-mds/courses/postgraduate/employability-info/employabilityinfo-haps-jan2014.pdf\)](/Documents/college-mds/courses/postgraduate/employability-info/employabilityinfo-haps-jan2014.pdf)

### Careers Support for Postgraduates

#### Careers Network – We can help you get ahead in the job market and develop your career

We recognise that as a postgraduate student you are likely to have specific requirements when it comes to planning for your next career step. Employers expect postgraduates to have a range of skills that exceed their subject knowledge. Careers Network offers a range of events and support services that are designed for all students, including postgraduates looking to find their niche in the job market. Here are just a few ways in which we can help postgraduates to get ahead:

- Careers Networking opportunities
- Effective careers strategy toolkit
- Year planner for all postgraduate students
- Masters Career Coaching Workshops
- One to one careers guidance

The Careers Network also have subject specific careers consultants and advisers for each College so you can be assured the information you receive will be relevant to your subject area. They also have a dedicated careers website for [international students \(http://www.as.bham.ac.uk/careers/international/index.shtml\)](http://www.as.bham.ac.uk/careers/international/index.shtml) where you can find useful resources and information.

For more information visit the [Careers Network website \(http://www.intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/careers\)](http://www.intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/careers).

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