

The MRes Clinical Psychology application Process

Applications can be made any time up until the **31st of March** in the year in which you wish to study. Selection will take place during April and May and you will be notified of an outcome by early June.

Selection

After the closing date, we rate and order all of the applications we have received using a number of criteria. These include academic performance, research experience, clinically relevant interest/ experience and your motivations for applying. If you have not completed your prior degree, it is important that you indicate explicitly what grade you are expecting to achieve and that this expectation is supported by evidence (for example referees opinions, prior module grades). Please note, it is not enough to indicate that you expect a 2:1, we would need to know whether you expect a low (60-64%), mid (65-67%) or high (68-69%) 2:1. Even if you have not completed your degree, it is essential that we have full transcripts for everything you have completed. Since the MRES is a research degree, we also look carefully at your performance in research methods modules that you have taken previously so it is important to make sure your grades for these modules are available.

We have around 15 places to fill each year, and offer telephone interviews to the highest-ranked applicants on our list in May. We will normally also keep a reserve list of applicants each year, and as we hear back from the recipients of our initial offers we are often able to make some further offers during June and July.

Completing the Application Form

First, prepare your 'summary document.' We require each application to contain an uploaded summary document, preferably as a pdf file. This document should include the following details in the following order:

1. Your name
2. Your Higher Education qualifications (for each one, please include: your degree title: your degree classification or predicted classification; your GPA, final graduating mark or predicted grade; and the University which you attended).
3. A statement summarising your prior research training and experience (including evidence of your academic performance in this training where relevant), and your current research interests (no more than 350 words please). We wish to assess your research aptitude and gain a sense of some general areas that you are interested in, and of how you see the role of research in clinical psychology.
4. A statement summarising any prior clinically relevant experience (no more than 350 words please). You don't need to repeat the material about research experience here, but you might like to tell us about, for example: voluntary work, work that you have done under the supervision of a psychologist, work that involves working in a clinical, therapeutic, supportive or caring role, or that involves working with people in a psychologically relevant way. Please tell us about what you have learned from any relevant experiences of working with people (generally) or in applied psychology (specifically).
5. A personal statement about what you hope to gain from the course (no more than 350 words please). For example, it would be helpful to know about why you would like to take the course, what

you expect to gain from it, how it fits into your long-term plans, and what you anticipate the challenges and opportunities to be.

Second, prepare your online application form via the University Portal: <https://sits.bham.ac.uk/> You will notice that there are some boxes in the online application form where you can just cut-and-paste your answers to the questions above from the 'summary document' that you've already prepared. Please do this, but if you decide to edit and change the content as you do so, then please make sure that you also change it in your 'summary document'.

You will need to upload various documents to support your application, and please make sure that the pdf of your 'summary document' is among these. Please include full transcripts of any prior degrees and/or of any degrees in progress (all modules completed to date).

Other Important Information

It is a requirement of the programme that you supply two references, at least one of which must be academic. As mentioned in the FAQ document, you don't need to name or make contact with a supervisor for your research, but we are interested in your ideas and try to accommodate these where possible. As you may have contact with vulnerable populations during your time on the programme, it is a requirement that all MRes students complete a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) and Occupational Health check. We will organise these for successful applicants who accept a place on the programme. For more information, please contact Michelle Cullen on clinpsyd-programmeadmin@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Actions required after submitting your application

When you submit your application, the first people to see it will be the University's central admissions team. This team does not have specific experience in the MRES in Clinical Psychology course, and are looking at a process level to verify that your application meets all of the essential criteria. If you are an international student and have to fulfil language and/or visa requirements, these may take the central admissions team longer to process. So it is in your best interests to apply well in advance of the deadline to ensure your application has passed all of the checks with central admissions before the MRES course team completes the selection process. The MRES course team will only receive applications after they have passed the initial checks and if this happens after selection has taken place, the programme will already be full.