



Queen's University
Belfast

We are exceptional

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY
BELFAST
WELCOMES
STUDENTS FROM
THE USA



Queen's University Belfast has a long and proud tradition of welcoming students from the USA.

The University combines the best of tradition with a progressive outlook. Students from the United States have a wonderful opportunity to experience life in an exciting and vibrant city.

This leaflet is designed to provide you with information on reasons to choose Queen's, our entry requirements for American students, living in Belfast and Northern Ireland, accommodation, tuition fees, sources of funding and key contacts. You should read it alongside Queen's undergraduate or postgraduate prospectus and our website, which include further details of individual degree programs.

We hope that you will pursue your interest in studying at Queen's University Belfast and look forward to hearing from you.

Contact us:

International Officer with responsibility for the USA:

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Why Study at Queen's?

There are many reasons why international students choose to come and join us at Queen's. These include:

- Queen's has an international outlook. In 2012, the University welcomed record-breaking numbers of international students from over 80 countries and a high proportion of our faculty and staff are from outside Northern Ireland.
- Queen's academic staff are undertaking world-class research across the full range of disciplines; our students are taught by people extending the frontiers of knowledge in their subjects.
- International students are guaranteed a place in Queen's university accommodation for their first year.
- We offer transport from the airports on arrival and a free, three-day Orientation programme for international students.
- Queen's offers lower tuition fees and living expenses than many other similarly well-regarded UK universities. Annual tuition fees are fixed for the duration of the course.
- Queen's is located in safe area in a vibrant, compact city with easy access to some of the most spectacular scenery in the Ireland and good links to the rest of the UK.

An Russell Group University: one of the UK's leading research-intensive Universities in the UK

Ranked 25 in the UK (Complete University Guide 2012, April 2012)

Ranked in the UK top 20 in 17 subject areas (Times Good University Guide 2013)

Teaching and Research in the front rank of UK universities (Guardian University Guide 2012)

77% of students gain a graduate-level job immediately, ranking Queen's in the top 30 overall (Sunday Times University Guide 2012)

Four consecutive Times Higher Education Awards (2008-2011), including Entrepreneurial University of the Year 2009

Belfast has the lowest cost of living in the UK (Mercer.com 2012)

The University offers three general study abroad opportunities for students from North America:

Undergraduate Studies (Full Degree)

- There are many advantages to pursuing an undergraduate degree at Queen's. There is a wide range of courses to choose from, and the majority of them are only three years in length (unless they include a placement year). This can make studying in the UK a very cost effective option for American students.

Graduate Studies (Masters and PhDs)

- The majority of our students from the US decide to pursue graduate work at Queen's. The university offers Masters Degree programs that are generally one year in duration. Most of these include a combination of coursework and research. Students are also welcome to apply for PhD programs, which are research intensive and last three to four years.

Study Abroad

- Over 50 visiting students from the USA come to study at Queen's each year on the Study Abroad program. Visiting students spend either an academic year or semester studying at Queen's, where they can choose from a broad range of courses. We work with a number of partners in the US, but students from any accredited university can apply.



Entry requirements for Students from the USA

Study Abroad Program

The Study Abroad programme offers the opportunity for students, who are already enrolled at a university overseas, to take time out from their own institutions and spend either one semester or a full academic year at Queen's.

Applicants normally should have completed one year of University undergraduate study at the time of application and should hold a CGPA of 3.0. Study abroad students are allowed to take modules (classes) across the whole range of university courses (there are some exceptions – medicine, etc.) as long as they meet the pre-requisites for the given course.

Where possible, students should discuss their plans to study abroad with the International Office/Study Abroad Office at their home institution to ensure transferability of credit, etc. Applications and enquires can be sent directly to studyabroad@qub.ac.uk.

Undergraduate (Full Degree)

In contrast to the US system, UK undergraduate applications are handled through a centralized clearinghouse.

Therefore, application for admission to full-time undergraduate courses at the University should normally be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). Full information can be obtained from the UCAS website (www.ucas.com).

With the exception of Medicine (where the closing date is 15 October) applications from international students are considered up to 30 June through the normal scheme. After that enquiries should be directed to the Admissions and Access Service (admissions@qub.ac.uk).

Queen's also offers a direct entry option for students not considering other UK universities. If you plan to only apply to Queen's, you can download our direct application form at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/StudyatQueens/InternationalStudents/Howtoapply/>.

Generally, applicants for undergraduate (Bachelors) degree programs should hold:

- A US High School Diploma with a minimum CGPA of 3.0.

- An ACT test with a minimum score of 27 OR an SAT I test with a minimum score of 1800 (600 Critical Reading, 600 Writing and 600 Mathematics).
- A minimum of at least two Advanced Placement (AP) tests at Grade 4 OR two SAT II subject tests at 600 or above. In both cases, these should be in relevant subjects if there are specific course requirements.

The standards required for individual degree programs vary with higher requirements for the very competitive degree programs, for example, Medicine, Law and Pharmacy.

International Baccalaureate entry requirements are listed in the Queen's undergraduate prospectus and range from 27-37 points overall depending on the degree program.

Students may be expected to submit additional application materials and those interested in Medicine are advised that they should make arrangements to undertake the UK Clinical Aptitude Test (www.ukcat.ac.uk) during the summer prior to application.

Applicants should check with the Admissions Office at intl.student@qub.ac.uk for further guidance.

STUDENT PROFILE



As an American student, I've experienced first-hand how diverse Queen's is. I've made friends for life from various countries, who I met through classes, societies and events organised by the University. Being a student at Queen's is preparing me for an amazing career and my experience living in Belfast has enriched my life.

Making the decision to study at Queen's was the smartest move of my life. I'm getting a world-class education and the experience of a lifetime.

My three years here will open so many doors in my future.



To watch Lauren's full video interview, log on to: <http://go.qub.ac.uk/ugstudy>

Lauren Louisa Halstead

Course: Archaeology (Second year)
School: Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology
From: Bristol, Virginia, USA



I love Belfast! It is the perfect size for a student: small enough to not need a car and big enough to ensure you don't get bored. The city centre is in close proximity to the University area, and the social side of the city is very connected to University life. Attending a well-established and highly-accredited university was also very important to me.

Through my role as the Biomedical Society Treasurer and work on the peer-mentoring programme, I am hoping to benefit from the Degree Plus initiative, which recognises students' extra-curricular skills for future employers. This employability initiative is not available in the USA.



To watch Shannon's full video interview, log on to:
<http://go.qub.ac.uk/ugstudy>

Shannon Harkins

Course: Biomedical Science (Second year)
School: Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences
From: USA



Postgraduate (Graduate)

Holders of a four-year Bachelor's degree with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.8 will be considered for direct admission to postgraduate (graduate) diploma or taught Master's course, although most courses will require a 3.3 GPA. The taught Master's Degree refers to a program that combines academic instruction as well as the completion of a written dissertation.

For most courses, your major subject or content of your Bachelor's degree may also be considered.

Holders of a good four-year Bachelor's degree and, normally, a good Master's degree may be considered for admission to postgraduate research programmes (MPhil/PhD).

If English is not your native language, you will need to demonstrate a minimum level of English. Queen's University requires the equivalent of 6.0 IELTS or 550/213 TOEFL. Some courses, however, have higher requirements (please check with the International Office).

Scholarships for Students from the USA

A list of sources of funding available for international students can be found at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/StudyatQueens/InternationalStudents/InternationalScholarships/>. There are some limited scholarships available for US students. Additionally, it is important to check with your proposed School of study as they may have funding opportunities available.

Information concerning university postgraduate scholarships can be found at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/Research/PostgraduateCentre/>.

There are also a number of prestigious scholarships for US students which may be used for postgraduate study at Queen's:

Mitchell Scholarships
Marshall Scholarships
Fulbright Postgraduate Student Awards

US Federal Loans

Many US students who are unable to secure a scholarship opt to finance their studies at Queen's through US Federal Loans. Queen's is approved by the US Department of Education for participation in the Federal Direct Loan program. Our School Code is G22736.

Federal Direct Loans are generally available to eligible students who will be undertaking Bachelors, Masters or PhD programmes at Queen's, except for programmes in Medicine. They are also not available to students on postgraduate diploma or certificate courses.

There are three types of US Federal Direct Loans - Subsidized, Unsubsidized and Plus Loans. Graduate students, or undergraduate students and their parents, can normally borrow up to the full cost of attendance of their programme (including tuition, subsistence and airfare).

Questions concerning the US Loan process can be directed to usloans@qub.ac.uk. Additionally, more information can be found at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/StudentPlus/MarketingRecruitmentandAdmissions/InternationalOffice/USLoans/>.

Tuition Fees and Living Costs:

The most accurate and up-to-date fee costs can be found on the Tuition and Fees website

(<http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/TuitionFeesandStudentSupportArrangements201112/InternationalTuitionFees201112/>).

The tuition fees for new students in the academic year 2012-2013 will be as follows:

Study Abroad courses

One semester: £5,070 (\$8,171)

Academic Year: £10,140 (\$16,342)

Undergraduate courses

Classroom-based courses: £11,266 (\$18,157)

Courses with a laboratory or workshop component: £14,460 (\$23,305)

Pre-clinical elements of medical course: £14,768 (\$23,804)

Clinical elements of medical course: £27,860 (\$44,906)

Dentistry: £22,624 (26,466)

Postgraduate courses and research

Classroom-based courses: £11,266 (\$18,157)

Courses with a laboratory or workshop component: £14,460 (\$23,305)

Medical or dental courses involving clinical provision: TBD

All students are expected to pay their fees in British Pound Sterling. The USD equivalents are given as guidance only and were calculated on 9/6/2011 at an exchange rate of:
£1 GBP = \$1.61

Exchange rates vary daily and can be checked at www.xe.com/ucc.

Accommodation

International students at Queen's University are guaranteed a place in University accommodation for at least their first year at Queen's if they apply by the closing date. The Queen's Elms Village and other student houses are located within easy walking distance of the University in a pleasant residential area. All accommodation is self-catered with en suite options. Internet access is available in all Elms Village self-catering accommodation. Several residences are reserved for postgraduate students only.

To apply online and to see an online copy of the Student Accommodation handbook, and information on accommodation fees, please visit the Queen's Student Accommodation Service website at: <http://www.stayatqueens.com>.

Visa Requirements for Students from the USA

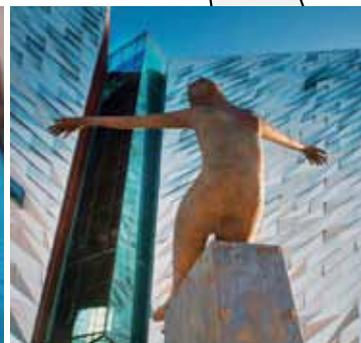
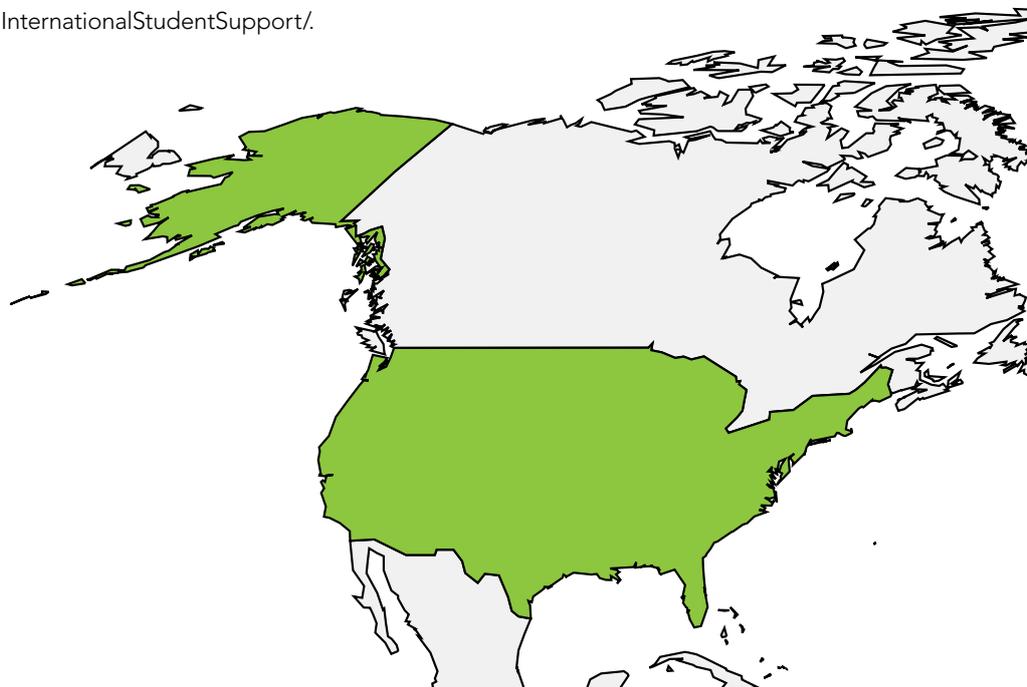
Information regarding immigration issues is available by contacting the International Student Support Office or visiting their website at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/AcademicStudentAffairs/InternationalStudentSupport/>.

Partnerships in the USA

One of the University's guiding principles is the recognition that knowledge knows no boundaries, and the forging of international partnerships is central to the realization of its Vision for the Future. Queen's University has links with universities around the world and is committed to enhancing these partnerships still further.

The university is currently engaged in high levels of cooperation with Georgetown University, Vanderbilt University, and the University of Massachusetts Lowell. There are also a number of significant research links with institutions all across the United States.

The University also encourages study abroad partnerships with many institutions in US, although we do allow free-movers to apply from universities where there are no formal links.



Visits to the USA

The International Officer for North America makes frequent visits to the USA, and is very willing to meet with prospective students.

Please check with the International Office (international@qub.ac.uk) regarding specific visits in your area. Additionally, if you would like to arrange a meeting with the International Officer, don't hesitate to contact the office.

Societies/Clubs

Queen's places a huge emphasis on its student experience and if you choose to attend Queen's, you will be able to experience this in a number of ways. Social activity plays a huge role in the delivery of the Queen's experience and is something all new and indeed current students should engage in. The University has a great sporting tradition and has provided this island with many of its greatest athletes across a broad range of sports. There are over 140 different student clubs and organizations – there is something for everyone!

Queen's University Association, United States (QUAUS)

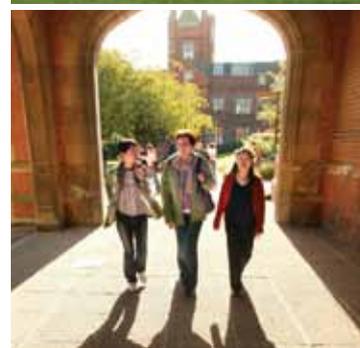
Additionally, Queen's has over 700 alumni in the USA and the Queen's University (Alumni) Association, United States, organises regular events.

Students currently studying at Queen's

If you would like to correspond directly with an American student currently studying at Queen's University Belfast, please contact the member of International Office staff named above. We will be pleased to put you in touch with current students, who will be able to give you first-hand information about studying at Queen's.

British Council

The British Council in the USA can offer helpful advice on studying in the UK. A useful resource is their Funding your Studies website - <http://www.britishcouncil.org/usa-education-study-in-the-uk.htm>.



Did you know that...

The new London 'Routemaster' busses were developed by local Northern Ireland company Wrightbus, in collaboration with Queen's.

The first topical anaesthetic cream was developed at Queen's, making painful injections a thing of the past for many young cancer patients.

Queen's is helping to solve the world's worst case of ongoing mass poisoning, by providing arsenic-free groundwater, using low-cost technology, to millions of people in South Asia.

Queen's is at the forefront of global information security - developing technology that counters cyber attacks and helps to make all our online transactions safer.

Queen's has one of the best renewable energy groups in the world, involved in Scotland in operating the world's only power-producing hydro-electric wave energy device - OYSTER.

Satellite devices developed at Queen's are being put into orbit by the European Space Agency to make global weather forecasts more accurate and help scientists better understand climate change.

55 new high technology spin-out companies have been established - including Andor Technology Plc, Kainos and Amphion Semiconductors Ltd - creating 1026 jobs and generating £116m annual turnover.

www.qub.ac.uk

For more information, contact:

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International Office**

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