

Teesside University uses a three stage application process for research degrees:

1) Initial enquiry

You should first indicate your interest in applying to study for a research degree by submitting an initial enquiry form. Please download a copy of the **Initial Enquiry Form** [UTRD ENQ] from the website: http://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/research/pg_researchopp.cfm

On the initial enquiry form you are asked to give an outline of your proposed research topic(s) which will enable the University to assess if it has the appropriate academic and supervisory expertise to supervise your research programme. Information about the research areas of staff may be found on the relevant research institute websites: <http://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/research/institutes.cfm>

The normal minimum entry requirements to a research degree are a UK upper second class honours degree (2:1) or higher, or an international qualification deemed by the University to be equivalent, in a subject relevant to the desired subject of research. Students for whom English is not the first language should normally have, or expect to achieve an IELTS English Language test score with no individual grade below 6.5; or 250 in the computer-based TOEFL test and a score of at least 5.0 in the Test of Written English.

2) Formal application

Once we have processed your initial enquiry we will make a decision on whether we can take your application further. If so, you will be sent an **Application Form** [UTRD APP] which you will need to complete in discussion with a potential supervisor and/or postgraduate tutor. A full application form cannot be accepted if you have not submitted an initial enquiry form as information contained on both forms is required to offer you a place.

You can submit a formal application at any time of year. However, we have three enrolment periods each year for new research programmes, in early *October*, early *January*, and early *May*. You should have submitted your full application *at least two to three months* prior to the enrolment month in which you would like to start your research degree. Non-UK/EU (international) applicants should allow *at least four months prior* because of extra steps for immigration requirements. Applications received late will automatically be considered for the following enrolment period.

3) Offer of a place

After considering your full application, you will be interviewed (either on campus or remotely) in order to complete your application. If your application has been successful, you will then be issued with an offer of a place which will give you full details of the conditions of your degree programme and enrolment date. In some cases, you may be offered a conditional place subject to payment of a fee deposit (for international students), completion of a previous degree programme, or other entry requirements. Once you have received an offer of a place, you will then need to respond by a specified date to inform us of your intention to take up the place. You can defer an offer of a place to a later enrolment period within a year.