

# **Pre-Doctorate: how to apply** Your path to a doctoral degree

kaplanpathways.com/pre-doc

Applying for a doctoral degree in Engineering can be complex, and often requires more information and time than applications for other levels of study. The Pre-Doctorate course includes step-by-step advice on how to make this application, so don't worry! In this guide, we will explain how to complete the application form for the Pre-Doctorate at the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Nottingham.

#### Your research area

It's very important to decide on your specific research area before you apply. Consult the University of Nottingham web site for a list of PhD supervisors and their research interests to help you identify a project supervisor whose expertise matches your own research interests: nottingham.ac.uk/engineering/ findaphdsupervisor

#### Consider the following:

- Will this research area sustain your interest over several years?
- Is it in an area in which there are currently gaps in knowledge or on-going debates?
- Does your research area complement the priority areas of the Faculty of Engineering?

#### **Your application**

As part of your application, you will need to submit a 500-to-1,000-word description of your proposed research area. This doesn't need to be a detailed piece of work, as we are looking just for your insight and understanding of your specific study interest.

#### Here are a few suggestions on what to include in this section:

- Why are you pursuing your research area?
- Are there certain aspects of this area that are important or of interest to you?
- Why do you wish to pursue this research area at the University of Nottingham?
- If you are proposing a specific research project, how would this contribute to the general area of study?
- What previous experience do you have in your proposed research area?
- What else would make you a suitable candidate for a doctoral degree and the Pre-Doctorate?

We also ask that you attach any previous research proposals you may have from earlier doctoral degree applications. This will help us clearly identify the type of support you will need during your Pre-Doctorate.

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Once you have completed your Pre-Doctorate, we guarantee you an interview for a doctoral degree where your research area matches the priority areas of the Faculty of Engineering.



## **Pre-Doctorate** application process

#### Step-by-step guide to applying to the Pre-Doctorate

Complete all sections of the application form which is available from your Kaplan representative, a local Kaplan International Pathways office, or online at: kaplanpathways.com/pre-doc

Gather the required documents. Please note, you can still apply even if you do not have your academic transcripts or UKVI IELTS results. We can make you a conditional offer, the conditions of which you will need to meet before applying for your visa:

- Secure English Language Test (SELT) results or other accepted evidence of your level of English language - see below right for details.
- Your academic transcripts and exam results.
- 500-to-1,000-word description of your proposed research area, establishing a clear link with a current research interest of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Nottingham.
- Your own insurance policy if you do not wish to purchase EduTravel.
- Certified translations if the originals are not in English.

Read and understand the terms and conditions available at: kaplanpathways.com/uk-terms

Sign the application form to confirm that you have provided the correct details and that you agree to the terms and conditions.

Send your application and additional documents to one of the following:

- The Application and Admissions Centre
- Your local Kaplan Pathways country office
- Your local Kaplan representative
- See the contact details opposite.

We will contact you within a few days to confirm an admissions decision.

Find out more online: kaplanpathways.com/pre-doc

### **Contact us**

**Contact our Application and Admissions Centre** Our London-based centre is home to a great team of education experts. They can tell you about available course options, guide you through your application, and provide useful pre-arrival information.

🍠 +44 (0)20 7045 4925

kaplanpathways.com/ nottingham-contact

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Find your local country office For advice close to home, contact one of our country offices. We also have a network of trusted education agents in 100+ countries around the world, so help is never far away.

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#### **SELT results**

As defined by UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI), you need a SELT (Secure English Language Test) result, unless you're from a majority English-speaking country or qualify for another exemption. For a list of exemptions, please visit the UKVI website.



📐 www.gov.uk/student-visa

