CARDIFF UNIVERSITY KAZAKHSTAN ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES FOR THE 2027-2028 ACADEMIC YEAR

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1. PURPOSE AND APPLICATION

1.1 This Admissions Policy (hereafter referred to as the Policy) defines the principles governing undergraduate admission decisions at Cardiff University Kazakhstan (hereafter referred to as the University) and the procedures for their implementation. It covers application, assessment, selection, scholarship competition, fee-paying admission, offer issuance and acceptance, reserve lists, verification, enrolment and related admissions decisions.

1.2 This Policy applies to applicants to undergraduate programmes delivered by the University, including applicants to three-year undergraduate degree programmes and four-year undergraduate degree programmes incorporating a Foundation Year.

1.3 The University is committed to fair, transparent, consistent and internationally aligned admissions practices and to equality, diversity and inclusion in student recruitment and selection.

1.4 The University operates separate but connected admissions routes for (a) competitive State Scholarship admission and (b) self-funded admission. The applicable dates are set out in Annex 1.

2. SELECTION OF APPLICANTS (GENERAL ADMISSIONS)

2.1 Upon receipt of an application fee (see section 5) applications shall be assessed against the approved academic, English language and programme-specific requirements for the relevant admission route.

2.2 Scholarship admission is deadline-driven, competitive and ranking-based. Meeting minimum eligibility requirements does not guarantee a scholarship.

2.3 Self-funded admission is considered on a rolling basis until the deadline stated in Annex 1 or until programme capacity is reached, whichever occurs first.

2.4 All applicants who satisfy the minimum admissions requirements shall normally receive a self-funded offer at the earliest practicable opportunity, subject to verification, programme capacity and applicable approvals. Consideration for a State Scholarship shall operate as a separate, parallel process and shall not delay the issuance of an otherwise eligible self-funded offer.

2.5 The University may consider recognised national and international qualifications and, where approved for the relevant route, an internal Cardiff University entrance assessment as alternative evidence of academic readiness.

2.6 Applications may be assessed holistically, taking account of academic performance, English language proficiency, subject preparation, motivation, relevant achievements and the overall applicant profile where these factors form part of the approved selection criteria.

3. APPLICATION ROUTES AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Note: Programme-specific academic requirements for three-year undergraduate entry remain subject to Cardiff University equivalency guidance and programme approval.

3.1 Applicants from Regular Secondary Schools (Attestat / Certificate of General Secondary Education)

Applicants completing Grade 11 in a regular secondary school will be considered for a four-year undergraduate programme incorporating a Foundation Year.

- Recognised Certificate of General Secondary Education (Attestat) or equivalent.
- Overall average normally 4.0/5.0 or above, with Mathematics (or Algebra and Geometry where Mathematics is not separately awarded) normally 4.0/5.0 or above.
- Applicants with an overall Attestat average of 3.7–3.99/5.0 and Mathematics at 4.0/5.0 or above shall be referred to the designated academic decision-maker for individual academic review.
- Applicants with an overall Attestat average below 3.7/5.0, or Mathematics below 4.0/5.0, will normally be unsuccessful for admission to the four-year programme incorporating a Foundation Year.
- IELTS Academic 6.0 overall with no component below 5.5, or an equivalent English language qualification accepted by Cardiff University, or the Cardiff University Kazakhstan English Language Test.
- For applicants completing Grade 11 at the time of application, the preliminary GPA shall be calculated using the applicant's final Grade 10 results together with the available/current Grade 11 results. This GPA may be used for preliminary admissions and scholarship assessment.

Prior to enrolment, the applicant must submit the original Attestat and all required accompanying documents within the deadline communicated by the University. Failure to obtain the Attestat or to provide the required original documents may result in withdrawal of the offer and/or refusal of enrolment.

3.2 College Graduates

Applicants who have completed a recognised post-secondary college qualification will be assessed individually on the basis of the level, duration, curriculum and academic results of the qualification.

- Where the college qualification is assessed as equivalent to secondary education for University admission purposes, the applicant will normally be considered for the four-year programme incorporating a Foundation Year.
- An applicant who holds a recognised college diploma and has also successfully completed at least one year of undergraduate study at a recognised university may be considered for direct entry to a three-year programme where the university study is relevant to the proposed programme and the applicant has achieved an overall GPA of at least 4.0/5.0 (or approved equivalent), subject to Cardiff University equivalency guidance and programme-specific requirements, including Mathematics at least 4.0/5.0 (or approved equivalent). The individual-review provision in Section 3.1 may be applied where relevant.
- Applicants must satisfy the English language requirement applicable to the route offered.
- The University may request a full transcript, diploma, curriculum/module descriptions, evidence of university study, or other evidence to determine the appropriate entry point.

3.3 Secondary School or College Graduates with Subsequent Undergraduate Study

Applicants who have completed a recognised secondary school or post-secondary college qualification and have subsequently successfully completed at least one year of undergraduate study at a recognised university will be considered on an individual basis through academic assessment.

The appropriate entry route will be determined based on the applicant's previous qualification, overall academic performance, the level and content of the undergraduate study completed, the modules/courses studied, their relevance to the intended CUK programme, and the grades achieved.

Following academic assessment, the applicant may be considered for either:

- the four-year undergraduate programme incorporating a Foundation Year; or
- direct entry to Year 1 of the three-year undergraduate programme, subject to Cardiff University equivalency guidance and the relevant programme-specific requirements.

Completion of one year of undergraduate study does not automatically guarantee direct entry. The appropriate entry point will be determined through individual academic assessment.

The University may request the applicant's school certificate or college diploma and transcript, university transcript, module/course descriptions or syllabi, and any other academic evidence required to determine the appropriate entry route.

3.4 - A-level Applicants

Applicants holding or completing UK A-levels or recognised equivalent qualifications may be considered for direct entry to a three-year undergraduate degree where the relevant programme requirements are met.

Programme	Academic Entry Requirements
Computer Science (BSc)	GCSE Mathematics grade B/6 or equivalent; *or* A-level Mathematics (or equivalent), in which case GCSE Mathematics is not required. Core Maths may be accepted in place of GCSE Mathematics. A-level requirement: Minimum grades of BBC overall.
Civil Engineering (BEng)	A-level requirement: BBC, including grade B in A-level Mathematics (or equivalent).

Programme	Academic Entry Requirements
Exploration Geology (BSc)	GCSE Mathematics grade C/4 or equivalent; *or* A-level Mathematics (or equivalent), in which case GCSE Mathematics is not required. Core Maths may be accepted in place of GCSE Mathematics. A-level requirement: BBC with at least one science subject, *or* BCC with two science subjects. Acceptable science subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, ICT, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics.
Business Management (BSc)	GCSE Mathematics grade B/6 or equivalent; *or* A-level Mathematics (or equivalent), in which case GCSE Mathematics is not required. Core Maths may be accepted in place of GCSE Mathematics. A-level requirement: BBB

- IELTS Academic 6.5 overall with no component below 5.5, or an equivalent qualification accepted by Cardiff University, or Cardiff University Kazakhstan English Language Test.
- AS-Level subjects will not be accepted as a substitute for full A-Level qualification. Predicted grades may be used for preliminary assessment; final results must be provided by the deadline stated in Annex 1.

3.5 International Baccalaureate (IB) Applicants

Applicants holding or completing the full International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma may be considered for direct entry to a three-year undergraduate degree. IB Certificates alone are not accepted as a direct-entry qualification.

Programme-specific minimum requirements are:

Programme	IB Total Score	HL Grades	Programme-specific subject requirement
Computer Science (BSc)	30	5,5,4	Mathematics (Analysis and Approaches (AA) or Applications and Interpretation (AI)) at grade 5 at Standard Level*
Civil Engineering (BEng)	30	5,5,4	Mathematics (Analysis and Approaches (AA) or Applications and Interpretation (AI)) at grade 5 at Higher Level*

Programme	IB Total Score	HL Grades	Programme-specific subject requirement
Exploration Geology (BSc)	30-29	5,5,4- 5,4,4	One science subject for 30 points. Acceptable science subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Systems and Societies, Physics, Mathematics (Analysis and Approaches (AA) or Applications and Interpretation (AI)) at grade 5 at Higher Level. Two science subjects for 29 points. Acceptable science subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Systems and Societies, Physics, Mathematics (Analysis and Approaches (AA) or Applications and Interpretation (AI)) at grade 4 at Higher Level.
Business Management (BSc)	31	5,5,5	Mathematics (Analysis and Approaches (AA) or Applications and Interpretation (AI)) at grade 5 at Standard Level*

**In exceptional cases, where Mathematics (Analysis and Approaches (AA) or Applications and Interpretation (AI)) is required at Higher Level a high grade at Standard Level may be considered through Academic Review or by the Admissions Committee. The assessment may include an interview.*

- Predicted IB grades may be used for preliminary assessment; final IB results must satisfy the applicable programme requirements before unconditional admission as shown in Annex 1.

- IELTS Academic 6.5 overall with no component below 5.5, or an equivalent qualification accepted by Cardiff University, unless an accepted English-language exemption applies, or the Cardiff University Kazakhstan English Language Test.

3.6 - International Foundation Programmes

Applicants who have successfully completed a recognised International Foundation Programme may be considered for direct entry to Year 1 of a three-year undergraduate programme on an individual basis, subject to programme-specific requirements and Cardiff University recognition/equivalency guidance.

- Recognised routes may include the Cardiff University International Study Centre International Foundation Year, the NCUK International Foundation Year for programmes for which it is accepted, and other recognised UK or international foundation/pathway programmes accepted by Cardiff University.

- Completion of a foundation programme does not automatically guarantee entry. The University may request the transcript, module descriptors, syllabus, awarding/validating body information and evidence of Mathematics or science preparation where required by the intended programme.

- Where the qualification or subject preparation does not meet the requirements for entry, the application may be referred for academic review and the applicant may instead be considered for the University's four-year programme incorporating a Foundation Year.

- IELTS Academic 6.5 overall with no component below 5.5, or an equivalent qualification accepted by Cardiff University, unless an accepted English-language exemption applies, or the Cardiff University Kazakhstan English Language Test.

3.7 - NIS Grade 12

Applicants presenting the Nazarbayev Intellectual Schools (NIS) Grade 12 Certificate will normally be considered for direct entry to the three-year programmes where the qualification meets Cardiff University equivalency guidance and the relevant programme-specific requirements.

Programme	Required NIS Grade 12 Advanced Level Grade	Programme-specific subject requirement
Computer Science (BSc)	B, B, C	Mathematics at Advanced Level grade B or above, meeting the programme Mathematics requirement.
Civil Engineering (BEng)	B, B, C	Mathematics at Advanced Level grade B or above, meeting the programme Mathematics requirement.
Exploration Geology (BSc)	B, B, C, including at least one Advanced Level science subject; or B, C, C, including two Advanced Level science subjects	Mathematics at Advanced Level grade C or above, meeting the programme Mathematics requirement.
Business Management (BSc)	B, B, B	Mathematics at Advanced Level grade B or above, meeting the programme Mathematics requirement.

Subjects completed at Standard Level shall not count towards the required Advanced Level profile. Academic review may determine the suitability or equivalency of alternative evidence but shall not waive a mandatory programme-specific entry requirement unless such discretion has been expressly approved by Cardiff University.

Applicants must provide their final NIS Grade 12 Certificate, including the External Summative Assessment results and the level at which each relevant subject was completed. Predicted results may be used for preliminary assessment where permitted, but final results are required before unconditional admission.

Other international qualifications will be assessed against Cardiff University's published country/equivalency guidance and the programme requirements in this Policy. Where no published equivalency is available, the case may be referred for academic review.

IELTS Academic 6.5 overall with no component below 5.5, or an equivalent qualification accepted by Cardiff University, unless an accepted English-language exemption applies, or the Cardiff University Kazakhstan English Language Test.

Exceptionally, applicants may be considered for the four-year programme incorporating a Foundation Year where recommended by the Admissions Committee following individual academic review.

3.8 - Applicants from American or Canadian Schools

Applicants from American or Canadian school systems may be considered for direct entry on the basis of the recognised qualification framework applicable to the school and country of award.

- United States: applicants should normally hold a High School Diploma with a minimum GPA of 3.0, together with three qualifying elements selected from: AP tests, dual-enrolment/honours classes, or an approved equivalent combination meeting Cardiff University requirements. An SAT score of 1350 or ACT score of 27 may substitute for one qualifying element but does not replace a programme-specific subject requirement. An Associate Degree or one or more years of undergraduate study may be considered case by case.

- Canada: applicants will be assessed according to the province/territory, qualification awarded and Cardiff University equivalency guidance. The University may request the final secondary-school diploma, transcript and evidence of required subjects/grades.

- In all cases, programme-specific Mathematics/science requirements and the IELTS Academic 6.5 overall (no component below 5.5), or an equivalent English-language qualification accepted by Cardiff University, including the Cardiff University Kazakhstan English Language Test. The English language requirement does not apply where an accepted English-language exemption applies (e.g. medium of prior instruction or nationality-based exemption).

3.9 - SAT Results

SAT results are not accepted as a standalone entry qualification. Applicants must hold an appropriate school-leaving qualification meeting the general academic entry requirements.

SAT total scores may be considered as supplementary academic evidence. Where an applicant's school qualification does not include a sufficient Mathematics component, or the Mathematics grade does not meet the relevant programme-specific requirement, the SAT Mathematics score may be considered as supplementary evidence of mathematical attainment through individual academic review for:

- self-funded admission to the relevant programme; and

- a Merit or Provost Scholarship, where permitted by the applicable scholarship eligibility and assessment criteria.

Acceptance of SAT Mathematics as supplementary evidence is subject to Cardiff University equivalency guidance and the relevant programme-specific requirements. Consideration of SAT results does not automatically guarantee admission or scholarship eligibility. Applicants must meet all other applicable academic, English language and programme-specific requirements.

3.10 – Merit and Provost Scholarship

Applicants to eligible undergraduate programmes, including both citizens of Kazakhstan and international applicants holding recognised international qualifications, may apply for a Merit Scholarship and Provost Scholarship in accordance with the eligibility criteria stated in a Merit and Provost Scholarship Award Policy.

To be considered, an applicant must:

- have submitted a complete application for admission to an eligible undergraduate programme by the applicable deadline;
- meet, or be expected to meet, the academic and English language entry requirements for the programme;
- submit the Scholarship Application Form and all required supporting evidence; and
- meet any additional academic, achievement, leadership, research, portfolio or other assessment criteria applicable to the relevant scholarship.

Applicants holding a conditional offer may be considered for a scholarship; however, any scholarship award remains conditional upon the applicant satisfying all conditions of admission and successfully enrolling on the relevant programme.

Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis and are subject to the number of awards available. Meeting the minimum eligibility requirements does not guarantee a scholarship.

The application deadlines, assessment period and decision dates for each scholarship round are specified in Annex 1.

4. STATE SCHOLARSHIP ADMISSION AND SELECTION

4.1 - State Scholarships are available only for four-year undergraduate programmes incorporating a Foundation Year. State scholarships are available exclusively to citizens of Kazakhstan. Direct entry to three-year undergraduate programmes is available on a self-funded basis or with a Merit or Provost Scholarship, subject to the applicable scholarship eligibility criteria.

4.2 – State Scholarship applications shall open and close on the dates stated in Annex 1. Applications received after the scholarship deadline will not be considered for the main scholarship competition.

4.3 – State Scholarship selection shall be competitive. Academic, English language and programme-specific requirements shall be assessed to determine eligibility. Applicants shall be ranked according to their verified scores in the Cardiff University Kazakhstan Entrance Test for State Scholarship. All applicants wishing to be considered must register for and complete the test within the published assessment period.

4.4 - State Scholarships shall be awarded on a competitive basis, with applicants ranked according to their scores achieved in the Cardiff University Kazakhstan Entrance Test for State Scholarship. Scholarships shall be allocated in descending order of test scores, subject to the number of available scholarship places and the approved selection criteria.

4.4.1 - Subject to formal academic and governance approval before implementation, the Cardiff University Kazakhstan Entrance Test for State Scholarship selection will comprise a Mathematics assessment and a Critical Thinking assessment. It consists of mainly multiple-choice questions, with 1 open question in each assessment. It will be delivered during two sittings across major cities in Kazakhstan, invigilated by Cardiff University Kazakhstan staff. Test booking, a Mock test, marking, and suggested resources to prepare for the assessment will be communicated when the test registration opens.

4.4.2 - Successful applicants shall receive a conditional State Scholarship offer, subject to meeting all applicable academic and English language entry requirements and providing valid Unified National Testing (UNT) results with a minimum overall score of 80.

The relevant UNT profile subjects are: Business Management – Mathematics and Geography; Computer Science – Mathematics and Informatics; Exploration Geology – Mathematics and Physics; Civil Engineering – Mathematics and Physics.

4.4.3 – A State Scholarship offer shall only be confirmed once the applicant has provided evidence of meeting the minimum UNT requirement of 80 points and all other applicable admission and scholarship conditions.

4.4.4 – Applicants who fail to meet the minimum UNT requirement or other conditions of their scholarship offer by the published deadline shall not be eligible for final scholarship allocation. Any resulting vacancies may be offered to eligible applicants from the reserve list in accordance with the approved ranking and allocation procedures.

4.4.5 – All State Scholarship selection and allocation decisions shall be subject to the applicable requirements and procedures of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

4.5 – State Scholarship assessment may be conducted in three stages:

Stage 1 - Applicants' documents are reviewed to determine whether they meet the initial admission requirements. Eligible applicants receive a conditional or unconditional offer for self-funded study, as applicable. This offer does not constitute an award of a State Scholarship. State Scholarship consideration remains subject to Steps 2 and 3.

Stage 2 - Eligible applicants sit the Cardiff University Kazakhstan Entrance Test. Applicants are ranked based on their entrance test scores, in accordance with the established ranking criteria.

Stage 3 - The UNT results of ranked applicants are verified to ensure that they have achieved the minimum required UNT score. Applicants who meet both the entrance test ranking criteria and the minimum UNT score requirement are confirmed as eligible for the state scholarships.

4.6 - Scholarship results shall normally be announced by the date set in Annex 1. The Admissions Committee may approve a revised announcement date where required by the release schedule of external qualifications or by government scholarship arrangements.

4.7 - Applicants who are ranked based on the Cardiff University Kazakhstan Entrance Test scores but do not receive a scholarship may be placed on a scholarship reserve list and may also be considered for a self-funded offer.

4.8 - Following scholarship selection, any State Scholarship places becoming available due to refusal or withdrawal shall be reallocated to eligible candidates from the approved reserve list in rank order, subject to verification of eligibility, University approval and the applicable procedures and deadlines of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Such reallocation may take place both before and after formal enrolment, where permitted by the Ministry's procedures.

Reserve-list candidates shall normally have two weeks to accept an offer, unless a shorter period is required to meet applicable deadlines.

5. APPLICATION FEE AND DEPOSIT FEE

5.1 Submission of an undergraduate application is subject to a mandatory non-refundable application fee of KZT 10,000, unless an exemption is approved by the University.

5.2 Applicants who receive an offer of admission shall be required to pay a deposit to secure their place at the University as follows:

- Self-funded applicants: KZT 150,000.
- State Scholarship applicants: KZT 50,000.

5.3 For self-funded students, the deposit shall be deducted from the total tuition fee payable. For students awarded a State Scholarship, the deposit shall be refunded following formal enrolment at the University, provided that the student has completed at least two weeks of study.

5.4 Payment deadlines, collection arrangements, refund conditions, including those applicable where an applicant declines an offer or does not enrol, and any exemptions shall be set out in the University's approved Tuition Fee Policy and communicated to applicants before payment.

6. SELF-FUNDED ADMISSION

6.1 Self-funded applications shall be considered on a rolling basis throughout the admissions cycle and may remain open until the date set in Annex 1, subject to programme capacity and any earlier deadline required for international applicants requiring immigration or visa arrangements.

6.2 Eligible self-funded applicants may receive conditional or unconditional offers as soon as the required assessment and document verification have been completed.

6.2A Scholarship applicants who meet admission requirements shall be informed of their self-funded offer while scholarship selection continues. Applicants not awarded a State Scholarship shall be informed of the scholarship outcome and reminded of their self-funded offer and other applicable funding opportunities.

6.3 Applicants who participated unsuccessfully in the scholarship competition may continue to be considered for self-funded admission without submitting a new academic application, unless additional information is required.

6.4 The University may close applications to an individual programme before the published deadline where programme capacity has been reached.

6.5 The University may set a minimum cohort size. Where the programme does not meet the minimum number required to run, the University may postpone or cancel delivery and will communicate available options to affected applicants.

7. PRE-SESSIONAL COURSES

7.1 Applicants with IELTS Academic 5.5, no less than 5.0 in each section (or an accepted equivalent) may be considered for a Foundation pre-sessional English course, subject to holding a conditional offer and meeting the applicable course entry requirements. Application dates, course dates, duration and fees will be published separately in accordance with the approved annual schedule and financial regulations.

7.2 Applicants for direct entry who hold IELTS Academic 6.0, no less than 5.5 in each section (or an accepted equivalent), but do not yet meet the direct-entry English language requirement, may be considered for an approved direct-entry pre-sessional English course, subject to holding a conditional offer and meeting the applicable course entry requirements.

7.3 Where further English language development is recommended by the English Language Programmes (ELP) team following successful completion of a pre-sessional course, applicants progressing to their academic programme may be required or offered the opportunity to undertake additional English language modules alongside their studies. Any applicable fees for such modules shall be determined in accordance with the University's approved financial regulations.

8. VALIDITY AND VERIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS

8.1 English language qualifications shall be assessed in accordance with Cardiff University's published English language requirements for undergraduate study.

8.2 The University reserves the right to verify qualifications, test results and supporting documents directly with awarding bodies, schools, colleges, test providers or other relevant organisations.

8.3 Applications supported by forged, invalid, altered or materially misleading documents will be rejected, and an offer or enrolment may be withdrawn.

8.4 Applicants must provide original documents or appropriately certified copies by the deadlines communicated by the University.

8.5 Where an offer is issued on the basis of predicted, interim or current school results, the applicant must provide the final school-leaving qualification and required original supporting documents before enrolment. Failure to obtain the required school-leaving qualification or to provide the required original documents by the applicable deadline may result in withdrawal of the offer and/or refusal of enrolment.

8.6 Applicants who have obtained an educational qualification from an institution outside the Republic of Kazakhstan must, where required under Kazakhstan law, provide an official document confirming recognition of that qualification (nostrification or an equivalent recognition document) at the enrolment stage. The document must be submitted by the enrolment deadline communicated by the University, unless an exemption or alternative procedure applies under the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Failure to provide the required evidence of recognition may prevent enrolment.

9. ADMISSION DECISIONS

9.1 The outcome of an application may include an unconditional offer, a conditional offer, a request for further information, an alternative study route, or notification that the application is unsuccessful. The outcome of a scholarship application may include the award of a scholarship, placement on a scholarship waiting list, or notification that the scholarship application has been unsuccessful.

9.2 Applicants shall normally be considered first for their first-choice programme. Where an applicant is not selected for the first-choice programme, the University may consider the applicant for their second-choice programme, subject to eligibility, programme capacity and any applicable selection requirements. Before enrolment, the applicant must confirm a single programme choice.

9.3 Applicants must accept or decline an offer by the deadline stated in the offer letter. Failure to respond may result in withdrawal of the offer or loss of a scholarship/reserve-list position.

9.4 Acceptance of an offer does not constitute enrolment. Enrolment is completed only after all applicable academic, English language, documentary, contractual and financial requirements have been met.

10. APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITY

10.1 Applicants are responsible for providing accurate, complete and timely information, maintaining current contact details and responding promptly to University requests.

10.2 Applicants are responsible for meeting the conditions and deadlines applicable to their admission route.

10.3 Submission of false or misleading information may result in rejection, withdrawal of an offer, cancellation of enrolment or other action permitted under University regulations.

11. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

Applicants may request feedback on an admissions decision and may submit a complaint or appeal. Academic judgement shall not normally constitute grounds for appeal, except where there is evidence that the published criteria or procedures have not been applied correctly or consistently.

12. ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

12.1 The Admissions Committee oversees undergraduate admissions decisions, scholarship selection and the consistent application of this Policy.

12.2 Members and the Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Provost or nominee.

12.3 The Admissions Committee shall meet regularly throughout the admissions cycle to approve rankings and reserve lists, resolve exceptional cases and monitor the progress of scholarship and self-funded recruitment. Working groups for recruitment/marketing and admissions logistics may be established where approved. The Admissions Committee shall be responsible for the following functions:

- approving admissions selection criteria and the annual Admissions Timeline;
- approving scholarship rankings, reserve lists and exceptional admissions decisions;
- monitoring consistency, fairness, programme capacity and admissions risks;
- considering complex, borderline or exceptional applications where referred;
- ensuring accurate admissions communications and appropriate governance of decisions; and
- liaising with relevant University bodies and public authorities where required.

13. APPLICATION DATES

13.1 The annual application, scholarship, discount, decision and enrolment dates are set out in Annex 1.

13.2 The Admissions Committee may recommend amendments to the Admissions Timeline where operational, regulatory or qualification-release considerations require a change. Material changes shall be approved through the appropriate University governance process and communicated to applicants.

14. DEFERRAL AND CHANGE OF INTAKE

14.1 Admission is normally valid only for the intake stated in the offer. A request to defer may be considered only in exceptional cases for self-funded applicants, subject to programme availability, continued validity of qualifications, and formal approval by the Admissions Committee and the Provost.

15. FINAL PROVISIONS

15.1 This Policy enters into force upon approval and remains valid until formally amended or replaced. The Policy may be amended during the admissions cycle where necessary.

15.2 Where this Policy conflicts with a mandatory legal or regulatory requirement, the mandatory requirement shall prevail.

15.3 Programme entry requirements and qualification equivalencies may be updated where required by Cardiff University academic approval or published equivalency guidance.

ANNEX 1. ADMISSIONS TIMELINE FOR THE 2027-2028 INTAKE

Stage	Date
State Scholarship application deadline	15 January 2027
Early Bird Discount Period	6 November 2026 – 31 March 2027
Cardiff University Entrance Test	1–12 February 2027
Entrance Test marking and processing	15 February – 15 March 2027
Final scholarship qualifications / test evidence	12 March 2027
Scholarship selection and reserve list	16–18 March 2027
Final scholarship list verification	19 March 2027
Scholarship applicants notified	24–25 March 2027
Merit Scholarship / Provost Scholarship applications open	1 April 2027
State Scholarship offer acceptance deadline	7 April 2027
Reserve-list allocations commence	8 April 2027
Merit Scholarship / Provost Scholarship deadline	4 May 2027
Merit Scholarship / Provost Scholarship results	1 June 2027
Deadline for State Scholarship applicants to submit evidence of meeting all offer conditions	25 June 2027
Submit confirmed State Scholarship list to Ministry	6 July 2027
Deadline for meeting conditions – Self-funded applicants	30 July 2027
International visa applications deadline	30 July 2027
International non-visa applications deadline	16 August 2027
Home self-funded applications deadline	16 August 2027

Stage	Date
Self-funded enrolment	16 August 2027
Induction begins	16 August 2027
First day of teaching	23 August 2027
State Scholarship enrolment	23-25 August 2027