



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
School of Biological Sciences

Guide for Chinese students applying for a degree with the School of Biological Sciences through the 2+2 Programme

2022 entry

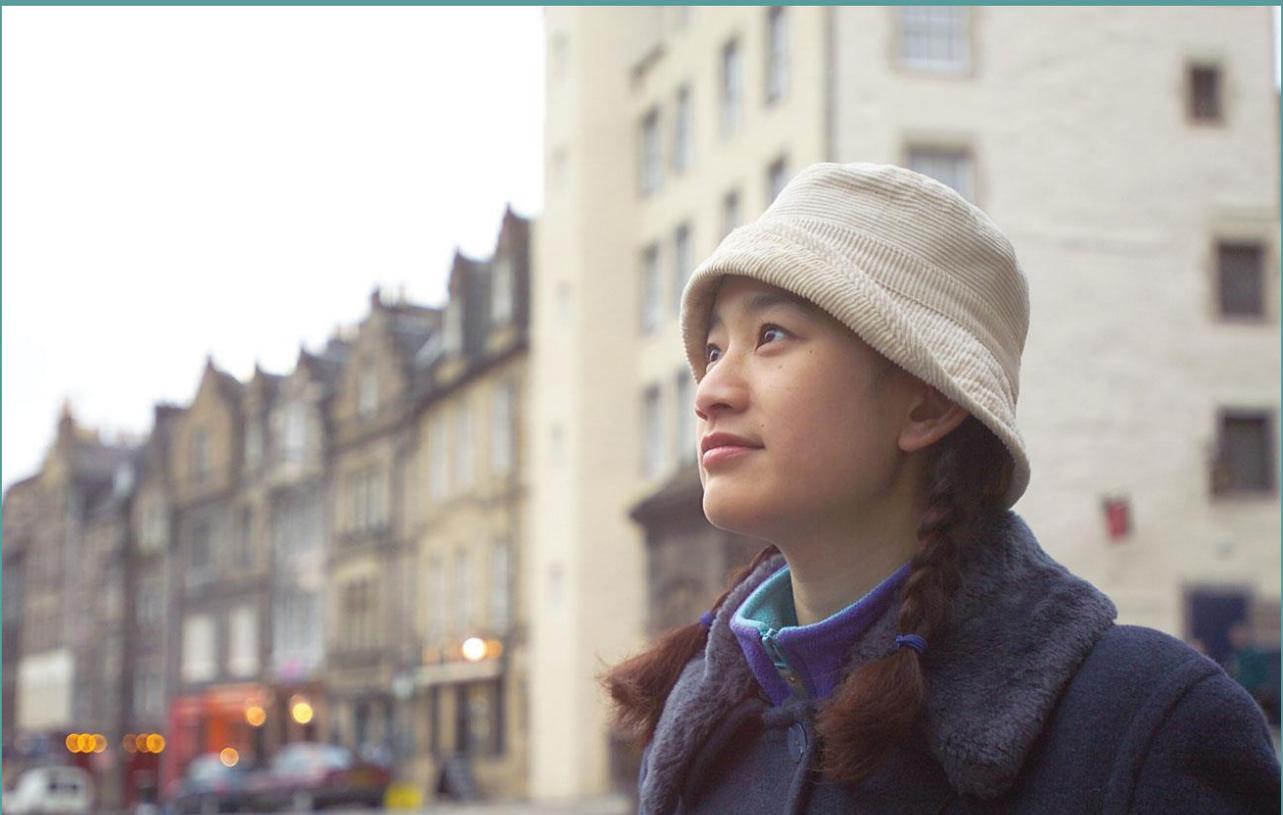




Table of Contents

1	Introduction	2
2	Where is Edinburgh and what is it like there?	3
2.1	Scotland	3
2.2	City of Edinburgh	3
2.3	Accommodation	3
3	Why should I study at the University of Edinburgh?	3
3.1	Reputation of the university	3
3.2	Reputation of the School of Biological Sciences	4
3.3	Prospects after you graduate	4
4	What can I study at the University of Edinburgh?	5
5	How much will it cost?	5
5.1	Pre-sessional English course and accommodation	5
5.2	University fees	6
5.3	In-sessional accommodation	6
5.4	Living expenses	6
6	I am thinking of applying. What do I need to do now?	7
6.1	Programmes for which we have 2+2 agreements	7
6.2	Scores needed in 1 st and 2 nd year courses in China	7
6.3	English language requirements	7
6.4	Start planning now	7
7	How do I apply to study at Edinburgh?	8
7.1	Applying for the 2+2 programme	8
7.2	What information do I need to send?	8
7.3	Interviews	8
7.4	After your interview	9
7.5	English Language Qualification	9
7.6	Receiving an offer	9
8	What do I do after I have been offered a place?	10
8.1	Visa	10
8.2	English language courses	10
8.3	Accommodation during the pre-sessional English language course	10
8.4	Studying	11
8.5	Academic guidance	11
8.6	Accommodation during semester	11
8.7	Fees	11
9	Further Information	12
9.1	Useful websites	12

9.2 Checklist	12
9.3 Contact details	13
9.4 Key staff members	13

1 Introduction

The School of Biological Sciences at the University of Edinburgh has an agreement with several Chinese universities which allows you to study Biological Sciences.

At Undergraduate level you can study for two years in China and then transfer to the University of Edinburgh to complete a further two years of study, entering in year 3.

On successful completion of year 4 at Edinburgh, you will graduate with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree awarded by the University of Edinburgh. You may also be eligible for the award of a Bachelor degree from your University in China. This is known as a “2+2” agreement.

This agreement is currently in place with the following 5 universities, but more may be added in due course:

- China Pharmaceutical University, Nanjing
- Dalian University of Technology, Panjin
- South China University of Technology, Guangzhou
- Southern University of Science and Technology, Shenzhen
- Zhejiang University, Hangzhou





2 Where is Edinburgh and what is it like there?

2.1 Scotland

Scotland, together with England, Wales and Northern Ireland, makes up the United Kingdom. It is 600 kilometres north of London (approximately 1 hour by plane or 4.5 hours by train). There are easy flight connections to China via London, Frankfurt, Doha and Amsterdam.

Scotland enjoys mild winters and warm summers, and has some of the most unspoiled scenery in Europe. With only 10% of the UK population and 33% of the land, there are plenty of wide open spaces to explore.

2.2 City of Edinburgh

Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland, and has a population of around 500,000. It attracts over 2 million tourists every year, because of its history and beautiful location. It is situated on the River Forth in the east of Scotland, and it is easy to visit the beaches and mountains for which Scotland is famous. Edinburgh is regularly voted one of the top places to live in the UK.

2.3 Accommodation

The University guarantees a place in university accommodation for all students from outside of the city for the first year of study, provided that you apply by the deadline.

There are many choices of university accommodation, from student self-catering flats to fully catered residences. All of the accommodation is either a short walk or bus ride from the city centre and the University. You will spend most of your two years studying on the Science and Engineering campus, King's Buildings, which is about 10 minutes by bus from the city centre, but there is plenty of student accommodation nearby.

You may also choose to find your own accommodation in the city.

3 Why should I study at the University of Edinburgh?

3.1 Reputation of the university

The University of Edinburgh, located in the capital city of Scotland, is one of the six "ancient" universities in the UK. It was officially opened in 1583 and is consistently ranked as one of the top universities in the world*. It is also one of the largest universities in the UK, with a vibrant student community of just over 40,000. The University has attracts students from all over the world and currently has more than 18,000 international students, including just over 3,500 students from mainland China.

*QS World University Rankings



The University of Edinburgh offers over 300 degree programmes, from Arts and Humanities, Science and Engineering, to Law and Medicine. It also has over 60% of all Scotland's top researchers. A degree from the University of Edinburgh is recognised across the world.

3.2 Reputation of the School of Biological Sciences

The School of Biological Sciences is part of the University's College of Science and Engineering. We are based at the King's Buildings campus near the city centre. As an undergraduate in the School, you will learn from academics who are world-leading in their research fields. Biological Sciences at the University of Edinburgh was ranked 20th in the world and 6th in Europe in the 2021 QS World University Rankings by subject.

3.3 Prospects after you graduate

A degree from the University of Edinburgh is recognised throughout the world. The skills gained from our degrees are highly valued across many career pathways. Many of our graduates go on to do higher degrees, such as an MSc or PhD before entering research careers. Other destinations are varied, and the wide range of analytical and scientific skills learned through our programmes ensures that our graduates are in demand in other fields outside of Biological Sciences research.





4 What can I study at the University of Edinburgh?

Before choosing one of our Bachelor of Science (BSc) programmes of study, you should find out if the programme of study you are taking in China fits in with ours. If you are in doubt, please ask our Recruitment Officer, Rona Lindsay, bto.recruitment@ed.ac.uk.

The links below will take you to the Degree Programme Table (DPT) for each programme. These show the courses our students take on each one, you can click on the course name for more information. Please note, the DPTs are correct for the current academic year 21/22. Individual courses within programmes for the 2022/23 academic year and beyond may change.

- Biological Sciences (Biochemistry): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbsbch.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Biotechnology): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbsbte.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Cell Biology): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbsbcb.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Development, Regeneration and Stem Cells): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbscsdrs1f.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Ecology): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbseco.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Evolutionary Biology): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbsevb.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Genetics): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbsgen.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Immunology): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbsimm.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Molecular Biology): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbsmol.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Molecular Genetics): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbsbmg.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Plant Science): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbspls.htm>
- Biological Sciences (Zoology): <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/21-22/dpt/utbszoo.htm>

5 How much will it cost?

5.1 Pre-sessional English course and accommodation

There is an intensive pre-sessional English language course called Preparing for Undergraduate Study 1 (PUGS1) provided by the English Language Education team which is compulsory for nearly all China 2+2 year 3 entry students. Your IELTS score will decide if you need to take this course or not (see section 8.2). The course begins about 4 weeks before the start of the academic teaching semester. The cost for summer 2020 was £1340, but will likely increase for 2022 entry.

The course usually takes place in Edinburgh, so students will need accommodation in Edinburgh to attend. If you are given and have accepted an offer of a place of study, we will



advise you on how to book and pay for accommodation for the pre-sessional English language course.

Some students may be required to do a second English language course which runs during the academic year and is called Preparing for Undergraduate Study 2 (PUGS2). The cost for this course in September 2020 was £290. This will likely increase for 2022 entry.

For more information on entry requirements of pre-sessional courses, see section 8.2.

5.2 University fees

Tuition fees are published on the University's website and are subject to annual revision:

Students entering year 3 studies on the China 2+2 programme in September 2022 pay the same fee rate in both of their years of study at Edinburgh as 2020 entry continuing overseas/international band 2 (laboratory) students. This is £27,550 and information on this can be found within the link below.

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/tuition-fees/find/undergraduate/2022-2023/full-time-current-students>

It is also important to remember that compared to other overseas students you will only have to pay fees for two years rather than for four.

5.3 In-sessional accommodation

Students on the 2+2 programme arrange and are responsible for paying their own in-sessional accommodation costs in both years of study at Edinburgh.

Accommodation costs vary depending on the type of accommodation you choose. You can find out information on university accommodation through the following website:

www.accom.ed.ac.uk/for-students/undergraduates

5.4 Living expenses

Information on the cost of living in Edinburgh for a typical academic year can be found on our University website: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/finance. Of course, these calculations will vary according to your lifestyle.

5.5 Scholarships

All students on our 2+2 programme are given a scholarship of £3,000 in each of their two years of study in Edinburgh (approximately £1 = 8.5 Yuan). This will be provided during semester 1.

In the first year of study at the University of Edinburgh the cost of the PUGS course(s) will be deducted from your scholarship.

6 I am thinking of applying. What do I need to do now?

6.1 Programmes for which we have 2+2 agreements

You should check that what you are studying in China matches with one of our Biological Sciences degree programmes at the University of Edinburgh. It is highly recommended to enrol in the maximum number of Biology courses in your University in the first two years of your undergraduate degree studies in China.

If you would like more information about the structure of our degrees or required courses for our Honours programmes, please contact our Undergraduate Recruitment Officer, Rona Lindsay, by emailing: bto.recruitment@ed.ac.uk.

6.2 Scores needed in 1st and 2nd year courses in China

We will make a decision to accept you, based on what you have studied, how well you have performed, how well your current programme matches to one of ours, and on your English language ability. We do not have a list of specific courses and required scores.

6.3 English language requirements

Before we can accept your application, you need to pass an **IELTS** test with a total score of at least **6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in each section** or **TOEFL iBT at 92 or above with 20 in each section**.

6.4 Start planning now

- If you are interested in applying for entry in September 2022, you should start planning now. Discuss everything with your parents and family, as well as your course tutors. The earlier you start planning, the easier it is to make all the arrangements in time.
- Ask for any further information you need by emailing bto.recruitment@ed.ac.uk.
- Concentrate on improving your English, as one of the staff from the School of Biological Sciences will interview you in April/May 2022.
- Contact your International Office for more information.





7 How do I apply to study at Edinburgh?

7.1 Applying for the 2+2 programme

If you want to apply for our 2+2 programme for September 2022 entry, the application process is different from the normal application to study in the United Kingdom.

If you are in 2nd year now, please visit our China 2+2 programme web page for details on how to apply: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/biology/study-with-us/undergraduate/degree-options/china-2-2>.

You should also inform your International Office that you would like to apply.

The closing date for applying for September 2022 entry is **Thursday 30th March 2022**.

7.2 What information do I need to send?

Your advisers and/or International Office will be able to help you send electronic copies of the items listed directly below. Please send these documents to bto.recruitment@ed.ac.uk.

- **Personal statement***
- **Official University transcripts (in Chinese)**
- **Official University transcripts (in English)**
- **List of courses currently being studied**
- **Copy of the photo page of your passport (with expiry date of 31st September 2022 or later)**
- **IELTS/TOEFL certificate (achieved after 31 August 2020)**

*The personal statement should be written in English and should be no longer than 300 words. You should explain why you want to study your chosen Biological Sciences programme at the University of Edinburgh; and you can also include your current knowledge of the subject, any relevant skills or experience and any personal qualities (interests or other skills) that you can demonstrate.

If you can't provide your English language certificate by **Thursday 30th March 2022**, but still wish to apply for this programme, then email our Undergraduate Recruitment Officer at bto.recruitment@ed.ac.uk. You may still be selected for interview and can send evidence of your English language qualification at a later date.

7.3 Interviews

We will ask for your application documents before the interview. Once you have sent the information mentioned in 7.2, the School of Biological Sciences will contact you to inform you if you have been successfully selected for an interview. The interviews will be conducted online and will take place sometime in April or May. This interview will be in English, and will test your Biological Sciences knowledge, as well as your language ability. It will be useful to practice speaking about biology in English and reading English-language textbooks to familiarise yourself with scientific English and the subject's vocabulary.

7.4 After your interview

If you are successful at the interview, we will inform you as soon as possible and our admissions team will start processing your application documents. Our admissions team will then send you a “Record of Prior Acceptance” (RPA). This means that we can give you an offer of a place, but note that if you are applying by this route you cannot apply for any other university in the UK. We may arrange a second interview if we would like to hear more from you about your previous study.

7.5 English Language Qualification

Remember that you must have achieved an **IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in each section** or **TOEFL iBT at 92 or above with 20 in each section**. This needs to have been achieved after 31st August 2020. If you cannot supply your test scores by the interview date then please let the School of Biological Sciences know when you’ll be taking the test by emailing bto.recruitment@ed.ac.uk.

7.6 Receiving an offer

If you meet all the requirements we will make you an Unconditional Offer. This means that we are offering you a definite place to study with us, and College Admissions Officers will send you an electronic offer letter to confirm your place. This letter allows you to start applying for a visa.

You will also be given a UCAS reference number. Normally, all students who want to study in the UK apply through UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service), and are given a UCAS number when they apply. As you are applying through us instead, we will send you your UCAS number. This will allow you to see your application on-line, and UCAS will contact you directly to give you a formal offer of a place.

The letter also contains important information regarding your tuition fee rate, scholarships and Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS) information. Please read it carefully and make sure you follow the instructions in plenty of time. This web link below provides more information on CAS: <https://edin.ac/2qpAHv5>





8 What do I do after I have been offered a place?

8.1 Visa

You must apply for a visa to come and study in the United Kingdom. The electronic offer letter from our College Admissions Officers will enable you to start the application process. Your International Office will be able to advise you on how to do this. Further information relating to visa requirements can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visasimmigration>.

8.2 English language courses

After we have offered you a place, it is usually a requirement that you arrive in Edinburgh in August to attend the intensive English language course provided by English Language Education (ELE) team at the University of Edinburgh. This course, Preparation for Undergraduate Study 1 (PUGS1), focuses on Academic English skills that are essential for university study in the UK, it starts about 4-5 weeks before the start of semester 1.

Once you begin your Biological Sciences studies, you may also be expected to study an in-session English course designed for Biological Sciences students to ensure that your English is to a sufficient standard.

Entry criteria:

- TOEFL: All students, regardless of TOEFL score are required to take both courses. This is because staff at English Language Education can't gauge proficiency in English from TOEFL scores as they can with IELTS scores. Both tests are very different.
- IELTS overall score of 6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in each section: All students must take both English courses.
- IELTS overall score of 7.0 or above: Students are only required to take PUGS1.
- IELTS overall scores of 7.5 or above and 6.5 or above in each section - are exempt from taking both English language courses (PUGS1 and PUGS2).

In the first year of study at the University of Edinburgh the cost of the PUGS course(s) will be deducted from the scholarship.

8.3 Accommodation during the pre-session English language course

We will help you organise the accommodation for your pre-session course(s) once an offer for a place of study has been made and accepted.

8.4 Studying

It is important to remember that you will be expected to cope with all the lectures, tutorials and labs as soon as you start studying with us. You will have in-course assignments to

submit during semester 1 and you will have degree exams in December, so it is important to start studying hard as soon as you arrive. We do not make any extra allowances for overseas students in exams; you will be treated in exactly the same way as all other students.

8.5 Academic guidance

Every student will be allocated a Personal Tutor through whom personal and academic guidance will be provided.

8.6 Accommodation during semester

For your first year of study with us, you should apply for university student accommodation as soon as you have been given an unconditional offer. You can apply find out more online here: www.accom.ed.ac.uk/for-students/undergraduates. You will be guaranteed a place in accommodation, provided that you apply by the published deadline. Full details, including how to pay, are given on the website.

8.7 Fees

You must be prepared to pay the University fees at the start of semester.





9 Further Information

9.1 Useful websites:

- The University of Edinburgh: www.ed.ac.uk
- Information for International applicants: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international
- School of Biological Sciences: www.ed.ac.uk/biology
- Information on fees at the University of Edinburgh: www.registry.ed.ac.uk/fees
- English Language Teaching Centre: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/english-language-teaching>
- Edinburgh University Students' Association: www.eusa.ed.ac.uk

9.2 Checklist

- If you are thinking of applying, start to plan now
- Inform your international office of your interest
- Work out which degree programme you are interested in studying at the University of Edinburgh, ask for further information if you need it, bto.recruitment@ed.ac.uk
- Start preparing for and book your English language test
- Prepare to send the information required to apply
- Be prepared for an interview in April or May 2022 in English
- If successful at interview and made an offer of a place of study, apply for a visa as soon as you can
- Register for the pre-sessional English language course(s) at the University of Edinburgh (registration forms will be sent to you from bto.recruitment@ed.ac.uk)
- Book and pay for accommodation for during the pre-sessional English course(s) and for the start of University studies
- Prepare to pay fees for University studies

9.3 Contact details

Undergraduate Recruitment Officer
Biology Teaching Organisation
School of Biological Sciences
James Clerk Maxwell Building (Room 2105)
Peter Guthrie Tait Road
King's Buildings
Edinburgh EH9 3FD
Email address: bto.recruitment@ed.ac.uk

9.4 Key staff members



Dr Yuhua (Linda) Hu
International Coordinator



Rona Lindsay
Recruitment Officer

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this document before going to print (November 2022). It will not, however, form part of a contract between the University and a student or applicant and must be read in conjunction with the Terms and Conditions of Admissions which are published online. Photography by University of Edinburgh.