

# Research Degrees Equal Opportunities and Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) form

## What this form is for

This form must be submitted alongside any application for a research degree at The Open University. This information will not affect your registration with The Open University, but your application cannot be processed without it. We have a statutory obligation to report this information to the [Higher Education Statistics Agency \(HESA\)](#).

All questions in Sections A and B are mandatory, but there is the option to state 'I prefer not to answer' for most questions should you wish not to disclose specific information. There are additional sections for Northern Irish (Section C), Welsh (Section D), and Scottish (Section E) applicants and you must complete the relevant section if you are resident in one of these nations.

The information you provide also helps us to ensure support throughout your research degree, and to ensure we are offering suitable opportunities for widening access.

For further support, including requests for alternative formats, please contact [Graduate-School@open.ac.uk](mailto:Graduate-School@open.ac.uk)

## Section A: Applicant information

The information in this section is used to ensure that the information you provide is linked to the correct student record but will not be seen by staff involved in the selection process.

### A1. PERSONAL DETAILS

- a. Surname/Family name:
- b. Forename(s):
- c. Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy):
- d. Email address:

## Section B: Equality monitoring

### B1. DISABILITY

The Open University uses the statutory definition of disability; 'You're disabled under the Equality Act 2010 if you have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities'.

**a. Do you have a disability?**

- Yes       No       Prefer not to answer

**b. If yes, please select the most appropriate option:**

- Learning difference such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or AD(H)D
- Social/communication conditions such as a speech and language impairment or an autistic spectrum condition
- Long-term illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
- Mental health condition, challenge or disorder, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety
- Physical impairment (a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting or carrying)
- D/deaf or have a hearing impairment
- Blind or have a visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
- Development condition that you have had since childhood which affects motor, cognitive, social and emotional skills, and speech and language
- An impairment, health condition or learning difference not listed above
- Prefer not to say

**c. Do you require any accommodations to support you through the research degrees recruitment process?**

- Yes       No       Unsure

- d. If yes or unsure, please give as much information as you are able and a member of staff will be in contact with you.

- e. If you are a current or former OU student, please check the box below if you would like recruiting staff to consult an existing disability support profile.

Please be aware that we will not consult your record without your explicit consent.

Please check my existing disability profile for information about my disability and support needs

## B2. CARING RESPONSIBILITIES

A carer is defined as anyone who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem, or an addiction cannot cope without their support

- a. Are you a carer?

Yes     No     Prefer not to answer

- b. If yes, do you require any additional accommodations to support you during the research degrees recruitment process?

Yes     No     Unsure

c. If yes or unsure, please give as much information as you are able and a member of staff will be in contact with you.

**B3. ETHNICITY AND NATIONALITY**

a. What is your ethnic origin?

- Arab
- Asian - Bangladeshi or Bangladeshi British
- Asian - Chinese or Chinese British
- Asian - Indian or Indian British
- Asian - Pakistani or Pakistani British
- Any other Asian background
- Black - African or African British
- Black - Caribbean or Caribbean British
- Any other Black background
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Asian
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Black African
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Black Caribbean
- Any other Mixed or Multiple ethnic background

- White - British
- White - English
- White - Irish
- White - Scottish
- White – Welsh
- Any other White background
- Irish Traveller
- Gypsy or Traveller
- Any other ethnic background
- Not known
- Prefer not to answer

**b. What is your nationality?**

**B4. SEX AND GENDER IDENTITY**

**a. What is your sex?**             Male             Female

**b. Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?**

- Yes             No             Prefer not to answer

**c. Do you consider yourself to be trans, or to have a trans history?**

- Yes             No             Prefer not to answer

**B5. SEXUAL ORIENTATION**

**a. Please describe your sexual orientation.**

- Towards people of a different sex (straight)
- Towards people of both sexes (bisexual)
- Towards women of the same sex (lesbian)
- Towards men of the same sex (gay)
- Other (e.g. asexual)
- Prefer not to answer

**B6. RELIGION AND BELIEF****a. What is your religion or belief?**

- No religion
- Buddhist
- Christian
- Christian – Church of Scotland
- Christian – Roman Catholic
- Christian – Presbyterian Church in Ireland
- Christian – Church of Ireland
- Christian – Methodist Church in Ireland
- Christian – Other denomination
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Spiritual
- Other religion or belief
- Prefer not to answer

**B7. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

Parents include natural parents, adoptive parents, step-parents, or guardians involved in your upbringing. This question should be answered by all applicants, not just young people.

**a. Do any of your parents have any higher educational qualifications, such as a degree, diploma or certificate of higher education?**

- Yes       No       Prefer not to answer

**b. What is your highest level of educational attainment?**

**c. What type of educational institution did you attend prior to your application to The Open University?**

- UK state school
- UK independent school
- UK further education college
- UK university/higher education institution
- Non-UK institution

**B8. OCCUPATION**

**a. What is your current occupation status?**

- In full time employment/self-employed
- In part time employment/self-employed
- Looking after the family/home
- Retired from paid work
- Voluntary/unpaid work
- Unable to work due to long-term sickness or disability
- Unemployed and looking for a job
- Not in paid work for some other reason

**b. What is your current occupation type?**

- Modern professional occupations
- Clerical and intermediate occupations
- Senior managers and administrators
- Technical and craft occupations
- Semi-routine manual and service occupations
- Middle or junior managers
- Traditional professional occupations
- Never been in paid work

**c. What is (or was) the full title of your main job?**

## Section C: Additional questions for Northern Irish applicants

This section is mandatory for any applicants residing in Northern Ireland.

### C1. COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

**a. What is your community background?**

- Protestant community
- Roman Catholic community
- Neither community
- I prefer not to answer this question

## Section D: Additional questions for Welsh applicants

This section is mandatory for any applicants residing in Wales.

### D1. WELSH LANGUAGE AND EDUCATION

**a. Are you a Welsh speaker?**

- Yes – fluent Welsh speaker
- Yes – I speak Welsh but am not fluent
- No

## Section E: Additional questions for Scottish applicants

This section is mandatory for any applicants residing in Scotland.

### E1. DEPENDENTS

'Young people and children' are defined as people aged 17 or under who are financially or otherwise dependent on you.

**a. Do you have any dependents?**

- Yes – young people and/or children
- Yes – relatives and/or friends
- Yes – relatives and/or friends **and** young people and/or children
- No

## Submitting this form

This form must be submitted alongside any application for a research degree at The Open University and incomplete applications **will not** be accepted.

The relevant advertisement will state which email address your application should be submitted to. However, if you require any support or are unsure about how to submit your application, please contact [Graduate-School@open.ac.uk](mailto:Graduate-School@open.ac.uk).