



## **Important information to consider when choosing your course**

### **Gateway to Chiropractic/Master of Chiropractic MChiro (Hons)**

#### **Experience**

Experience of interacting with members of the public from a range of backgrounds in different settings is highly desirable when applying to study chiropractic. It is important to be able to understand and explain how your experiences relate to the activities and qualities which are required of chiropractors. Chiropractors work in primary care settings and so it is important that they demonstrate the right values to ensure the delivery of excellent patient care. The values we would expect chiropractors and applicants to display are:

- Working together for patients
- Respect and dignity
- Commitment to quality of care
- Compassion
- Improving lives
- Everyone counts

For further information on the standards required of students in chiropractic please take a look at the General Chiropractic Council (GCC) 'Becoming a Chiropractor' webpage:

<https://www.gcc-uk.org/education-and-registration>

There are many ways you can gain experience - this might be as part of a programme of study or in a paid or voluntary capacity and doesn't always need to be within a care or chiropractic setting. Interacting with people with different life experiences will help you develop a deeper level of understanding of the diversity of the population who seek chiropractic care. In your personal statement please reflect upon your learning from any of these experiences demonstrating an understanding of the chiropractic profession and a genuine, reasoned commitment to studying the chiropractic course.

#### **Professional requirements**

Before enrolling you must fully declare on the forms provided during the admissions process:

- Unfiltered criminal convictions, cautions, reprimands or warnings. For further information on unfiltered offences please see the Disclosure and Barring Service website.
- Involvement in disciplinary proceedings during paid or voluntary employment or within education establishments
- Involvement with safeguarding proceedings, social services or related organisations
- Enrolment on a health or social work professional course at another University

## **In addition**

### **Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Criminal Record Check**

- You must undertake an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) criminal record check once you have accepted the offer of a place on the course and prior to enrolment week.
- If you have lived outside of the UK for more than six consecutive months in the last five years you must provide an overseas criminal record check.
- If your DBS Enhanced Disclosure certificate contains any recorded information you must present this to the Admissions and Immigration Compliance Manager.

### **Occupational Health Screening**

You must undertake occupational health screening to determine your suitability to undertake the course.

At AECC University College, offers are subject to satisfactory screening in terms of your health and welfare before the start of your course.

This is to ensure that you are physically and mentally suited to a career in health. If you have any concerns about your medical suitability, you are advised to discuss this with your General Practitioner (GP) or local healthcare provider.

#### **Immunisations:**

Before you come to the University College you should have been vaccinated against certain diseases and you will be required to demonstrate that you have undertaken these immunisations before your first clinical placement experience. Students who choose not to comply with the vaccination requirements of the course will not be permitted on clinical placement and will not be able to complete the academic requirements of the course.

#### **The required vaccinations are:**

- Tuberculosis (TB)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella
- Chickenpox.

We also recommend you consider being immunised against meningitis prior to commencing your studies. We also recommend vaccination against Covid-19 please read the [Government guidance for healthcare workers and COVID vaccine](#). Please be aware that some clinical placements/settings mandate Covid-19 vaccination.

If you are not vaccinated against tuberculosis (TB), Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Chickenpox please speak with your GP or local healthcare provider to ensure you are up to date with the vaccinations required to start your course in September.

If you are unable to obtain all your vaccinations prior to starting your course, please do not worry as NHS Dorset Healthcare (who deliver our occupational health checks) will provide appointments and immunisations once you are here in Bournemouth.

The link to the Occupational Health questionnaire from NHS Dorset Healthcare University Foundation Trust will be emailed in April/May, if you have chosen us as your firm (first) choice. This forms the basis of the health screening so it is vital that all questions are answered as fully and honestly as possible. The questionnaire covers the issue of vaccinations and it is important that students are aware that they will need to have the required immunisations before they start in a clinical environment. Applicants must meet the costs of this check (approx. £22) and any subsequent immunisations that are required, price list will be sent with pre-clearance information.

### **Immunisations**

Before you come to the University College you should have been vaccinated against certain diseases and you will be required to demonstrate that you have undertaken these immunisations before your first clinical placement experience. Students who choose not to comply with the vaccination requirements of the course will not be permitted on clinical placement and will not be able to complete the academic requirements of the course. The required vaccinations are tuberculosis (TB), Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Chickenpox. We also recommend you consider being immunised against meningitis prior to commencing your studies.

**If you are not vaccinated against tuberculosis (TB), Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Chickenpox please speak with your GP or local healthcare provider to ensure you are up to date with the vaccinations required to start your course in September, otherwise there may be a delay in enrolling on to the course.**

### **Disability support**

We strongly recommend that you tell us about any long-term health conditions, learning difficulty or disability you may have. This is so we can assess whether we can deliver the course in such a way that you can meet the GCC Education Standards and take part without disadvantage both in University and on placement.

You may also wish to read the GCC webpage 'Studying Chiropractic' for further information:

<https://www.gcc-uk.org/education-and-registration/studying-chiropractic>

### **Other Important Information**

When students are considering applying for the Gateway to Chiropractic and Master of Chiropractic (Hons) courses they should be aware of the following:

- During practical classes students will be expected to practice physical examination and therapy skills using other students in their year group as subjects, and to act as a subject for other students. These are mixed gender groups. You will be required to have physical contact with other students in your cohort. During your practical skills classes you will be required to wear appropriate practical attire. You will need to dress down into shorts and sports/tank top (short lycra shorts may be worn). Students may purchase a treatment gown to wear, if they are uncomfortable wearing only their shorts and sports/tank top.

Students should discuss any concerns about this with us before making an

application for the course or accepting an offer of a place. If the concerns relate to issues covered by the Equality Act 2010 (such as religion, disability, gender reassignment) we will be pleased to discuss with the student how reasonable adjustments can be made to enable them to study on the course; however the University College can only make adjustments where this will not interfere with the student's ability to demonstrate that they have met the learning outcomes for the course, and meet the requirements of relevant Professional Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs). For more information please contact [admissions@aecc.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@aecc.ac.uk)

- Students are required to declare any criminal records and changes in their criminal record as soon as they occur, i.e. if they have been cautioned, reprimanded, warned, charged or convicted in relation to **any** criminal activity.
- The course does not run to standard term/semester dates. The Gateway to Chiropractic and Master of Chiropractic years 1- year 3 have 2 semesters per year totalling 29 weeks per year. Classes are normally between the hours of 9am and 6pm.

Year 4 MChiro is a full calendar year of clinical placement during which there are approximately 6 weeks of holiday staggered through the year. Students are required to complete a minimum of 44 weeks on clinical placement during this time. Students may begin their placement at different times depending on when they successfully complete their year 3 assessments. Therefore, some students may be required to start their placement in the summer and others in the Autumn but all students must meet the minimum number of weeks for their placement before being eligible to complete the course.

During the clinical placement period students' time will be divided between clinical placement and academic study. Students will work in shifts and are expected to be available throughout the duration of their shift to manage patients and related clerical work. Students will have classes scheduled outside of their placement shifts and are expected to attend these throughout the placement period. We understand that some students may have personal or work commitments and we aim to be as flexible as possible. Any absence required for an extended period can be discussed with the MChiro Course Lead and Clinical Lead for Chiropractic.

- We expect students on this professionally-based course to maintain professional standards of behaviour at all times, and to act in accordance with the GCC's ['Professionalism in Action' document which provides guidance for chiropractic students on being fit to practice.](#)

<https://www.gcc-uk.org/education-and-registration/students>

- Students on placement are expected to work in accordance with [The Code](#), published by the GCC, the University College Placement Manual and Clinical

Procedures documents.

- Students will be expected to dress appropriately for classes and when representing the University College in the local community and on placements. It is also expected that students maintain high standards of personal hygiene when studying in practical classes and on placement.
- Students are expected to attend 80% of clinical skills classes, seminars and science laboratory sessions and 100% of their clinic placement shifts. Chiropractic is an intensive course of study which requires commitment in order to successfully complete. Student attendance is monitored to identify indicators on non-engagement which may result in poor academic or clinical performance. Should there be a concern, students may be contacted by their Academic Personal Tutor under the School of Chiropractic's Student Support Framework to ask if they require any additional support.

- There are a number of items which students will be required or are recommended to purchase in order to get the maximum benefit from the course; see below under 'additional costs'.
- Students are responsible for making their own accommodation arrangements while enrolled at the University College.

The Student Services team can offer advice and assistance in finding private rented accommodation in the area.

- The pass mark for each unit is 40% for work at levels 3-6 and 50% (or grade C) for work at level 7
- All units on the Gateway to Chiropractic and Masters of Chiropractic (Hons) are core units and all units in a year must be passed before students can progress to the following year. There is no opportunity to trail failed units.

### **Additional costs**

Additional costs are mandatory or optional costs which students will need to meet in order to fully participate in and complete their course. Students will need to budget for these costs separately as they are not included in the overall Tuition Fee they are charged.

### **Essential**

- Purchase of a diagnostic kit (approximate cost £300 - £550 depending on the kit option which is chosen). These are not required to be purchased before joining the course and you will be advised what equipment you need to purchase for each stage of your training.

- Attendance at placements may incur costs and students need to plan for this in their annual budget. Typically, these costs are for travel and, if necessary, accommodation to access placement. The amount of money involved will depend on the site of the placement, distance from home, and the type and length of placement.
- There are no photocopying or printing credits provided apart from in the clinic if copying or printing for patient records is required.
- Should a student fail any assessments and be offered an opportunity to repeat a unit or units there will be a fee payable as set out below (fees quoted at 2022-23 prices): \*
  - Home students: £1,540 per unit (20 credits)
  - EU/Overseas students: £2,500 per unit (20 credits)
- If a student is only sitting elements of unit due to exceptional personal circumstances, accepted by the Assessment Board, this is not considered a Repeat Unit and fees do not apply. This may impact maintenance loans from the Student Loan Company and students are advised to contact the Student Finance team on [studentfinance@aecc.ac.uk](mailto:studentfinance@aecc.ac.uk) for further information.
- UK-domiciled applicants are required to undergo an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. Further information will be sent to those who accept our offer. Applicants must meet the costs of this check (£45 in 2022). Applicants who do not enrol at AECC UC will not be eligible for a reimbursement of this cost.
- Non-UK domiciled applicants are required to provide a satisfactory National Police check. Applicants must meet the costs of this check, which will vary from country to country.
- **All applicants are required to undergo an Occupational Health Check**, this is to ensure that you are physically and mentally suited to a career in health. If you have any concerns about your medical suitability, you are advised to discuss this with your GP. The link to the questionnaire from NHS Dorset Healthcare will be sent out in April/May, this forms the basis of the health screening so it is vital that all questions are answered as fully and honestly as possible. The questionnaire covers the issue of vaccinations and it is important that students are aware that they will need to have a full range of immunisations before they start in a clinic environment. Applicants must meet the costs of this check (approx. £20) and any subsequent immunisations that are required. Applicants who do not enrol at AECC UC will not be eligible for a reimbursement of this cost.

### Recommended

- It is recommended that students purchase a tablet or computer/laptop for their personal use, as this will enhance their learning by giving them immediate

access to our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

- It is recommended students have a good quality Broadband internet connection when studying at home.

### **Optional**

- Teaching materials are made available in electronic format on the Virtual Learning Environment. If students wish to have a printed copy they may print these materials at their own cost.
- Core texts are available in the library but there are limited numbers and most students buy some, but not necessarily all, text books.
- We are unable to offer any storage facilities for personal belongings of students, except for a limited number of lockers. Students can rent a locker from the AECC Students' Union (ASU) on payment of a single fee of £10.
- There may be other costs for activities which will enhance students' time here but are not directly related to their course. For example, there is an annual fee (currently £70) to join our gym (gym membership is a requirement to join some ASU/University College sports societies). Some ASU-organised social events and activities organised through ASU Societies will be at an additional cost.
- On successful completion of the course students have the option to attend the graduation ceremony. Students choosing to attend must meet the cost of hiring academic dress for the ceremony; wearing of academic dress at the ceremony is compulsory. The academic dress is provided by an external company. In 2022 the hire cost was £38. There are no other charges to the graduate for the graduation ceremony. However, additional tickets for family members and friends are chargeable per head, you will be advised of the price before you graduate.
- You will be provided with transcripts for each year of study along with a diploma supplement and degree certificate upon completion of your course of study. If you require a replacement of any of these documents there will be a fee payable as set out below:
  - Transcript (per academic year): £10
  - Degree Certificate: £40
  - Diploma Supplement: £10
  - IRMER certificate: £25

**Where 2022-23 prices are quoted these costs are not expected to increase by any substantial amount for 2023-24.**