

This information applies to the following Chiropractic courses:

- **Master of Chiropractic, including Foundation Year**

Important information about your course

Relevant experience and professional conduct

Experience working with the public in different settings is strongly recommended for applicants to the chiropractic course. This experience does not have to be in healthcare or chiropractic, but it should show that you can work well with people from different backgrounds.

Chiropractors work in primary care and must demonstrate strong values, including respect, compassion, teamwork, and a commitment to high-quality patient care. In your personal statement, you should explain what you have learned from your experiences and how they have helped you understand the chiropractic profession and your reasons for wanting to study it.

Further information about chiropractic professional standards can be found on the General Chiropractic Council's *Becoming a Chiropractor* webpage: <https://www.gcc-uk.org/education-and-registration>

Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

To join this course, you must complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before you enrol. If you have lived outside the UK for six months or more in the last five years, you will also need to provide a police check from the relevant country or countries.

Having a criminal record does not automatically stop you from studying at the university. However, the university is legally required to check that students who will take part in regulated activities, such as placements involving children or vulnerable adults, are suitable to do so, and also has a duty to protect the wider HSU student, staff and patient community.

Any unfiltered criminal convictions that you declare, or that are found through these checks, will be reviewed under the university's Criminal Convictions Procedure. You will be told the outcome. The university may withdraw an offer if a conviction is not considered suitable for the course, or if you do not take part in the checking process.

You should tell the university as soon as possible about any unfiltered convictions, cautions, reprimands, or warnings to avoid delays. More information about unfiltered offences is available on the DBS website.

You will need to pay for the Enhanced DBS check yourself. This cost is non-refundable. You are also required to subscribe to the DBS Update service for the duration of your studies so that your DBS status can be checked as required.

Further details and instructions will be sent to you before enrolment.

If you are subject to any cautions, reprimands, warnings, charges or conviction during your time as a student you must declare these to the university immediately.

Pre-enrolment Health and Vaccination Screening

You will be required to complete a Pre-enrolment Health and Vaccination Screening prior to enrolling for this course. This is to protect the health and safety of the HSU community, including the patients you will be working with, and to ensure the university can adequately support you in your studies.

The screening involves an initial triage assessment with our approved independent Occupational Health provider. You will need to pay for the cost of your screening. Any follow-up appointments required for the purposes of placement will be covered by the university, but missed appointments, second opinions or recommended/mandatory vaccinations will need to be covered by yourself.

If the screening highlights any health concerns which may impact your ability to participate in your course or chosen career, we will contact you to discuss this. In limited circumstances it may be necessary to withdraw your offer.

Guidance for Applicants with a Disability or Health Condition

We are keen to support students who wish to share a disability or health condition and encourage you to discuss this with us at the earliest opportunity so we can support you throughout your enrolment and student journey. At this time, our buildings have certain areas that may pose challenges for students with mobility needs. If you have any specific accessibility requirements or would like information or guidance, please contact us at studentservices@aecc.ac.uk. Please see our [Student Services pages](#) for more information.

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 declarations

You should also share with us- ideally within your application – if any of the following apply:

- 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.

Ongoing declaration of Fitness to Practise

Once enrolled on the Master of Chiropractic, students are required to confirm their ongoing Fitness to Practise status at least annually. This declaration confirms that there have been no changes to their health, conduct, character, or professional suitability that may affect their ability to meet the programme's Fitness to Practise requirements. Students must also inform the University promptly of any relevant changes that occur between annual declarations.

Practical teaching

In practical classes, students practise examination and treatment skills on each other in mixed-gender groups. This involves physical contact with other students. You will need to wear suitable practical clothing, such as shorts and a sports or tank top. If you prefer, you can also wear a treatment gown.

We recognise that some students may have preferences regarding physical contact or working with students of the same gender, for example for religious, cultural, personal, or other reasons. Where possible, the University will consider reasonable arrangements to support these preferences.

If you have any concerns about participation in practical classes, you should contact the University before applying or accepting an offer. If your concerns relate to religion, disability, or another protected characteristic, the University will discuss reasonable adjustments where possible. Any adjustments must still allow you to meet the course requirements, competencies and professional standards.

For more information, please contact: admissions@hsu.ac.uk

Course delivery and clinical placements

Over the course of study, students will complete a minimum of 1,000 hours of clinical placement. Placement learning is an essential component of the course and is designed to ensure students meet the required professional competencies before graduation.

The overall pattern of placement activity will vary across the course. In the earlier stages of study, placement activity may be scheduled within the standard academic year structure. In the later stages of the course, particularly at Level 7, placement blocks will extend to run outside the standard semester teaching weeks. This means students may be required to engage in clinical learning at times that differ from typical on-campus teaching patterns.

Specific dates, structures, and detailed placement requirements will be confirmed ahead of each academic year and may be updated as part of ongoing course development and quality assurance processes. Students should be aware that standard academic-year accommodation

contracts may not align with the placement requirements in the final calendar year of the course. Any associated additional accommodation or living costs should be considered and planned for in advance.

During clinical placement, students will be expected to:

- Attend allocated placement sessions and complete all required clinical hours or weeks of attendance.
- Work scheduled clinical shifts, which may include morning, afternoon, evening, and occasional weekend sessions depending on service need.
- Participate in academic teaching or supervision sessions that may take place outside clinical hours.
- Discuss any known commitments that could affect placement availability with the course team as early as possible.
- Seek approval from the appropriate course or clinical lead for any period of absence beyond normal sickness reporting processes.

Students should also be aware that holiday periods during placement blocks may differ from standard university vacation dates, and opportunities for extended leave will be limited to ensure clinical hours can be completed.

Students on placement are expected to behave professionally at all times and follow [General Chiropractic Council \(GCC\) guidance](#), as well as university placement and clinical procedures. Appropriate dress and good personal hygiene are required when attending classes and while on placement.

Attendance

Chiropractic is an intensive course of study which requires commitment. Students are expected to attend a minimum of 80% of clinical skills classes, seminars, and science laboratory sessions and 100% of their clinic placement shifts. 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 Personal Support Tutor (PST) under the School of Chiropractic's Student Support Framework to ask if they require any additional support.

Units and progression

The Foundation Year includes five core units shared with other HSU programmes and one Chiropractic-specific pathway unit.

At Levels 3–5, the course operates on standard 12-week semester blocks. A breakdown of units for each level can be viewed on the course website.

At Levels 6 and 7, students will complete substantial clinical placement activity. Placement blocks may run outside standard semester teaching weeks, and students will complete a **minimum of 1,000 hours of clinical placement** across the course.

From Years 1–4 of the Master of Chiropractic (Hons) degree all units are core and must be passed to progress. There is no opportunity to trail failed units.

Additional costs summary

Students should be aware that there may be other course costs in addition to course fees. Potential costs you may need to consider are provided in the table below, but please note that this is not an exhaustive list.

All fees are correct at the time of writing and may be subject to change.

Item	Cost
Accommodation & Living Costs Students are responsible for making their own accommodation and living arrangements while studying at the University. Limited student accommodation is available to Bournemouth students on a first-come-first-served basis. Find out more at Accommodation Health Sciences University HSU's Student Services team can provide information and guidance on finding suitable accommodation as an HSU student.	Costs vary depending on personal preferences, accommodation supplier and location.
Enhanced DBS Check and Police Checks You are responsible for covering the cost of your Enhanced DBS Check and any Police Checks required. These costs are non-refundable. You are also required to sign up for the DBS update service for the duration of your course so that your DBS clearance can be checked as required.	Enhanced DBS Check: approx. £58 Police checks: Subject to local charges. DBS update service: currently £16 per annum, plus a £5 admin fee.

Health Screenings and Vaccinations You will need to pay for the cost of your pre-enrolment health screening. Any follow up appointments required for the purposes of placement will be covered by the university, but this does not include vaccinations, missed appointments or any second opinions you wish to request. All chiropractic students are strongly advised to be immunised against Covid-19, occupational Hepatitis B and to ensure that your immunisations against Polio, TB, Tetanus, MMR, Diphtheria, and Varicella, and the seasonal flu are up to date.	Initial pre-enrolment health and vaccination screening provided by Innovate at a cost of £28.50. Additional costs may apply for vaccinations, second opinions or missed appointments without a valid reason.
Clinical equipment Purchase of a stethoscope costing upwards of £25. Other diagnostic equipment will be provided in teaching and placement sessions for students to borrow. Students may wish to purchase their own full diagnostic kit, but this is not required.	Costs depend on brand, but students should expect to pay a minimum of £25 for a stethoscope. UK students from low-income backgrounds may be eligible for the university's Diagnostic Instruments Bursary and be supplied with a stethoscope free of charge. For more information visit our Scholarships & Bursaries page.
Student Card You will be given an HSU Student Card at no charge at the point of registration. Replacement cards will be issued at cost to the student.	£10.00 (non-refundable) per replacement card.
Travel costs Students are expected to arrange and fund their own travel to and from university.	Costs vary depending on individual travel arrangements. UK students from low-income backgrounds living in Bulworth House accommodation may be

	eligible for the university's Halls of Residence Travel Bursary to assist with the costs of travelling between Lulworth House and the university campus. For more information visit our Scholarships & Bursaries page .
Placement costs Students may need to pay for additional travel and, if necessary, accommodation costs while attending placements. The amount of money involved will depend on the location, type, and length of placement.	Costs vary depending on individual placement and travel arrangements.
Teaching materials Teaching materials are 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 (see below). Core texts are available in the library but there are limited numbers, and most students buy some, but not necessarily all, textbooks. Applicants are advised not to purchase these in advance.	Costs vary depending on personal preferences.
Photocopying/printing Students must cover photocopying/printing costs except for necessary copying of patient records required in clinic.	
IT Equipment Students are advised to purchase their own laptop or tablet to support their studies.	Costs vary depending on personal preferences.
Gym membership Students may pay an annual fee to join our on-site gym (Bournemouth campus only). This is an optional cost but please note gym membership is a requirement for some HSUSU/Health Sciences University sports societies.	Current annual fee: £75

Social activities HSUSU organises social activities for HSU students. This includes a programme of activities during Welcome Week for new students to support the transition to university life, and other social events and activities throughout the year. Students are advised to allow a budget for social activity when budget planning.	Costs vary depending on personal interests and participation. UK students from low-income backgrounds may be eligible for the university's Welcome Week Social Events Bursary to assist with the social costs of Welcome Week. For more information visit our Scholarships & Bursaries page.
Lockers A limited number of lockers are available to rent from the University's Students' Union (HSUSU) for the storage of personal belongings.	Current cost £10 (non-refundable)
Graduation Students who successfully complete their course are invited to attend a graduation ceremony. This is optional. Graduates can attend the ceremony free of charge but must hire a gown from our approved supplier. Guest tickets for friends and family may be subject to a fee. Graduates will be notified of the cost and the number available to purchase ahead of the event. Any travel or accommodation costs associated with attending the ceremony must be covered by the graduate/guest.	Gown hire: approx. £39. Graduate tickets: Free Guest tickets: approx. £20 – 25. Travel/accommodation: Costs vary depending on personal preferences.