



HPAT-ULSTER

Health Professions Admission Test

Information booklet 2021

Registration deadline – Friday 8 January 2021, 5pm GMT

Test dates – 22 and 23 January 2021

hpat-ulster.acer.org

IMPORTANT: Please read the LEGAL NOTICE at the end of this Booklet.

This Booklet, including the Legal Notice will form part of the binding agreement between you and the Australian Council for Educational Research Ltd (ABN 19 004 398 145) (“ACER”) if you register to take the HPAT–Ulster 2021 test.

You should make sure that you understand fully and are familiar with the contents of this Booklet (including the Legal Notice) before you register for the HPAT–Ulster 2021 test.

The Health Professions Admission Test (HPAT–Ulster) is used in the selection process by Ulster University.

All applicants for 2021 entry to the following courses at Ulster University:

- BSc Hons Dietetics
- BSc Hons Occupational Therapy
- BSc Hons Physiotherapy
- BSc Hons Diagnostic Radiography and Imaging
- BSc Hons Radiotherapy and Oncology
- BSc Hons Speech & Language Therapy

must, in addition to applying through UCAS in the normal way, register for HPAT–Ulster and take the test on either Friday 22 or Saturday 23 January 2021.

Note: Registering to take HPAT–Ulster does not constitute an application for admission to Ulster University.

In addition to registering for HPAT–Ulster you will need to submit an application to UCAS by 15 January 2021 in the usual way. Please refer to the back cover of this Booklet for university contact details. You are strongly advised to visit the website and/or obtain a prospectus from Ulster University.

ACER has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in this Booklet. However, ACER and Ulster University reserves the right to alter or amend test details and/or selection procedures outlined in this Booklet if it becomes necessary.

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CONTACT US

HPAT–Ulster is developed and administered by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) on behalf of Ulster University. ACER is an independent not-for-profit organisation.

All important information about HPAT–Ulster can be found in this Information Booklet and on the HPAT–Ulster website (<https://hpat-ulster.acer.org>). For all enquiries, please contact the HPAT–Ulster Office at ACER.

Email is the preferred means of communication on matters concerning HPAT–Ulster and all communications from the HPAT–Ulster Office will be via email, unless otherwise agreed by ACER. To ensure that your email provider does not flag important communication from the HPAT–Ulster Office as spam, please save the HPAT–Ulster email address (hpat-ulster@acer.org) to your list of safe senders. The HPAT–Ulster Office will not answer queries relating to the content of the test.

HPAT–ULSTER OFFICE

Email: hpat-ulster@acer.org

Email services are available:
Monday to Friday
All emails will generally be responded to within 24 hours.

Message: Candidates can also contact the HPAT–Ulster office through the HPAT–Ulster registration account messaging system. Please use this method of correspondence if your query includes personal data.

Mail: HPAT–Ulster Office at ACER
Private Bag 55
Camberwell VIC 3124
AUSTRALIA

Please note the HPAT–Ulster Office will not be held responsible for postal losses or delays.

ABOUT HPAT–ULSTER

Admissions testing for entry to degrees in the Allied Health Professions

Universities are increasingly moving to select students on the basis of a wider set of objective criteria than academic results alone. The use of a purpose-designed admission test assists in the process by providing evidence of skills and abilities that are not directly measured by academic results, but which are also very important to the work and effectiveness of a student and later practitioner in the health professions.

The use of a professionally developed and marked secure test, in combination with academic results, assists universities in selecting the most suitable students from a large pool of well qualified applicants.

Broadening the selection criteria to include performance on a test of reasoning and communication ability provides a means of recognising and valuing qualities and skills that are not specifically demonstrated in academic results. Skills in communication and understanding of people, as well as teamwork and information handling, are seen as essential attributes of a successful health practitioner.

Finally, the community expects that the health professionals of tomorrow will, in addition to having the necessary highly developed levels of skill within their field, be able to communicate effectively and relate to their patients.

The Health Professions Admission Test (HPAT–Ulster)

HPAT–Ulster is a professionally designed and marked selection test developed to assess aptitude for study in the Allied Health Professions. It has been designed in consultation with Ulster University to assess a range of attributes considered important to the study and later practice of the health professions. It is designed to complement academic achievement by providing assessment of skills in the areas of reasoning, understanding and working with people, and written communication. These skills have been identified as important for a competent health professional.

HPAT–Ulster is not based on any curriculum or body of knowledge and presumes no particular field or discipline of prior study.

HPAT–Ulster has a strong focus on general skills and personal abilities. It does not test knowledge of the basic sciences.

Please note:

If you are applying to one of the medical schools (i.e. National University of Ireland Galway, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Trinity College Dublin, University College Cork, University College Dublin), you should be applying to sit HPAT – Ireland (which is a different test from HPAT–Ulster) at: hpat-ireland.acer.org

Structure and content

HPAT–Ulster consists of three sections, with a total test time of 3 hours. The first two sections are in multiple-choice format. The third section, Written Communication, is in the form of two essay tasks.

The following table shows the structure of HPAT–Ulster by section and time:

	Number of questions	Time in minutes
Section 1 Critical Reasoning	45	120
Section 2 Interpersonal Understanding	45	
Section 3 Written Communication	2	60

Critical Reasoning questions are drawn from a variety of general sources. The contexts in which questions are set include general interest, science and social science, with materials presented as text, diagrams, graphs and tables. Some questions may require basic mathematical skills. The emphasis is on the application of skills in reasoning and problem solving. Skills tested include the ability to work with and analyse stimulus material; pose and test hypotheses; interpret and extract information, and identify and evaluate evidence and lines of reasoning; identify a problem; analyse it to clarify key information; transform information into forms that can be applied to enhance problem solution, and identify, generate and evaluate possible solutions.

Interpersonal Understanding questions have a focus on working with and understanding people and consist of scenarios, narratives and dialogues with questions designed to assess the understanding of people; their motivations, behaviours and responses.

The two tasks in **Written Communication** consist of an exercise requiring synthesis of graphically presented information relating to social issues and a reflective essay. Each task is graded using a set of specifically designed assessment criteria. Assessment focuses on the way in which ideas are integrated into a purposeful and relevant response to the task.

You will not be assessed on the correctness of the ideas or attitudes you display. Each of your pieces of writing will be marked by at least two raters working independently.

BEFORE THE TEST

Eligibility for HPAT–Ulster

HPAT–Ulster is available to any candidate whose educational level at the time of sitting the test is final year of secondary schooling or higher and who is capable of meeting the academic entry requirements (including pre-requisite subjects at ‘A’ level or equivalent) set by Ulster University.

Candidates registering for HPAT–Ulster 2021 should have already completed their final year of schooling, or plan to complete it in 2021. Candidates whose current educational level is lower than final year of secondary schooling are NOT eligible to take HPAT–Ulster.

UCAS number

You must provide your UCAS number when you register for HPAT–Ulster. If you do not have a UCAS number at the time of registering for HPAT–Ulster, you should add it to your HPAT–Ulster registration later. If you do not provide your UCAS number, or if you give an incorrect number, this may affect the delivery of your HPAT–Ulster results to the University.

Creating an online account

You must create an online account before you can register for HPAT–Ulster or purchase the practice material. To create an account you should follow the link on the HPAT–Ulster website and enter your details. When entering your account details you should ensure that your name and date of birth match EXACTLY the identification document that you will present on the test day. These details will also be printed on your Admission Ticket and Statement of Results. To change the name, date of birth or gender on your account, you need to email or message the HPAT–Ulster Office. To create your online account you must provide a valid email address which will be maintained during the registration, test and reporting cycle. Once an account has been activated it can be used for any future registrations.

Registering for HPAT–Ulster

The only way to register for HPAT–Ulster is online via the HPAT–Ulster website: hpat-ulster.acer.org.

To register you need an online account with a valid email address and a credit card. This email address will be used for all communication from the HPAT–Ulster Office, including information on how to access your Admission Ticket and HPAT–Ulster Results. Select HPAT–Ulster as the test that you wish to register for, fill in the online registration form and submit the payment.

Details entered in the registration form can be amended through your online account at any time.

Before completing your registration you will be asked to confirm that you have read this HPAT–Ulster Information Booklet 2021 and specifically the Legal Notice, and that you agree and accept the terms and conditions of participation in the HPAT–Ulster test and specifically the Legal Notice. A copy of the information contained in this declaration can be found on page 14.

Upon successful completion of the registration, a registration confirmation and payment receipt will be sent to your registered email address. Please ensure that the spelling of your name listed in your confirmation email matches the identification document that you will present on the test day.
The status of your registration and personal information can always be checked through your online account.

Your Admission Ticket with details of your reporting time and test centre address will only be available one week before the test for security reasons. You will be notified by email when your Admission Ticket is available for download from your online account.

Registration date

Registrations for the HPAT–Ulster 2021 test open early November 2020. Your online registration and payment must be completed by:

5.00pm GMT 8 January 2021

Late registration date

Late registrations will be accepted up to 5.00pm GMT 11 January 2021, upon payment of the late fee in addition to the registration fee.

No applications for registration will be accepted after 14 January 2021 under any circumstances.

Payment

The fee to sit HPAT–Ulster in 2021 is £132 (all taxes and charges included). An additional late fee applies for registrations completed in the late registration period. Payment must be submitted online by credit card (Mastercard, Visa).

You will receive a payment confirmation/tax invoice by email once the payment transaction is completed. The online payment option operates through ACER's e-commerce facility via the ACER website. Credit card details are not recorded or stored by ACER but are encrypted at point of capture and transmitted directly to the bank, without entering ACER information systems.

Please note that your credit card statement may list ACER as the recipient, and a specific reference to HPAT–Ulster may not be mentioned. If you (as the person registered to sit the HPAT–Ulster 2021 test) or any other person wrongfully dispute the amount charged to the credit card provided to complete the registration, your registration may be cancelled, your results may be withheld or you may be blocked from taking further ACER administered tests.

Test delivery

In 2021 HPAT–Ulster will be delivered by remote proctoring.

What is remote proctoring?

Remote proctoring involves sitting the test under live supervision using your own computer in a suitable location i.e. at home with internet connectivity.

How to book your test session?

ACER will provide all registered candidates comprehensive instructions and further information as soon as is practicable. This information will include:

- How to book your HPAT test session?
- What to expect?
- How to complete technical checks prior to your test?

Technical specifications

To sit the HPAT–Ulster in 2021 via online proctoring, you will need to use a desktop computer or laptop. iPads, tablets or mobile phones are not suitable. All candidates are required to have a camera connected to their computer.

Computer Requirements:

- macOS X 10.5 or higher, Windows Vista or higher. Linux or Chrome OS can be difficult to support so should be avoided.
- Desktop computer or laptop (tablets, Chromebook and cell phones do not meet the technical requirements)
- A working built-in or external webcam and microphone
- Internet speed must be at least 2 Mbps download and 2 Mbps upload. Hot spots are not recommended
- Browser with pop-up blocker disabled

Dual screens or monitors are not permitted when sitting HPAT–Ulster online test. When completing the pre-test checks the Proctor will make sure you only have a single screen operating. Which means that if you are using a laptop then it is the laptop screen only that you are permitted to use. If you are using a laptop or desktop computer with more than one screen connected, you should remove the second screen in advance of your test session booking. It is recommended that candidates using a laptop utilise the keyboard on their laptop or a wired keyboard and a wired mouse. For desktop systems it is recommended that a wired keyboard and mouse be used to complete the HPAT–Ulster online test. Candidates will be required to show the Proctor their computer set up prior to beginning their online test.

Whilst it is not explicitly forbidden to use a wireless keyboard or mouse, candidates that choose to do so should understand that ACER is aware that these technologies can be manipulated to facilitate cheating in online exams. It is for this reason those people

utilising this technology will undergo additional scrutiny post-test session – and risk the cancellation of test results if suspicious behaviour is observed.

There will be a limit to the technical support that can be provided during the test. Issues with your internet connection will likely be out of the scope of support that can be provided by ACER. All candidates must make a decision for themselves as to whether they have the technical set up to be able to complete the test. ACER will endeavour to provide an opportunity for candidates to re-sit if they have technical difficulties, however this will be limited time-wise by the sitting window.

If you feel that you cannot be confident in your technical set up, then we would advise you to contact the HPAT-Ulster office. Please provide a detailed outline of your concerns in order for a suitable solution to be considered.

Downloading the ACER online test application

To sit the HPAT Ulster test by remote proctoring, you are required to download and install the ACER online test application. Instructions will be provided to all candidates prior to the test days.

You must install the application on the computer that you intend to sit the HPAT Ulster with. It is important that you download and install the application prior to your test session, as you will not be able to sit the test without having the application ready to use on your test day. To check that the installation was successful, launch the HPAT Ulster Test application. You should see the HPAT Ulster test log in page.

Please note you will NOT be able to log in to the ACER online test application until your scheduled test session(s).

Applying for reasonable adjustments

If you have a disability or other health-related needs which might interfere with your ability to sit the test in the standard manner, you are advised to apply for reasonable adjustments as soon as possible after registration. Please note if you require access to food, medication, medical equipment or other devices during testing time, due to a medical condition, you must submit a reasonable adjustments application. All requests are assessed on a case-by-case basis and all

reasonable efforts are made to provide appropriate testing conditions for your needs.

All requests must be submitted no later than 5.00pm GMT 8 January 2021. If you require reasonable adjustment accommodations due to a condition that occurred after the application deadline, please contact the HPAT–Ulster Office for advice.

To apply complete the following steps:

1. Create an online account and register for HPAT–Ulster (see page 4).
2. Once your registration is complete you can apply for testing conditions for candidates with specific additional needs through your online account. Please fill in the online form and give details about your condition and requested accommodations.
3. Attach the supporting documentation for your request for review. The supporting documentation provided must be from a registered health practitioner. The documentation must be no more than one year old

Applicants with dyslexia or other specific learning difficulties should submit a copy of an appropriate educational psychologist's report, no more than three years old, for consideration. If your report is more than three years old, it will still be accepted, as long as it is accompanied by a recent letter from a psychologist stating that the information in the report is still applicable to you as you are today.

4. Once your application is received, a confirmation email will be sent to your registered email address. The HPAT–Ulster Office will contact you if further documentation or information is required for the assessment of your request.
5. All applications will be processed after the closing time of registrations and you will be informed of the outcome shortly after. If approved, you will be able to view your approved accommodations through your online account and you will be required to bring a printout of that page with you on the test day.

Proctors on the test day will be informed of the accommodations provided to you, but not of your condition. If you wish that proctors be alerted to the nature of your condition, please indicate this in the application process.

Note: There is no possibility of special consideration being given to test results. In no circumstances will scores be adjusted to account for any perceived disadvantage.

Refund terms

PLEASE NOTE: To the fullest extent permitted at law, except as expressly provided herein, all moneys paid as part of a registration to sit the HPAT–Ulster test are non-refundable if you change your mind about sitting the HPAT–Ulster test due to personal circumstances.

Registration fees for the HPAT–Ulster test will be refunded up to 5pm GMT 15 January 2021 unless otherwise required by law. An administration charge of £35 will be deducted unless a full refund is required by law. Requests must be submitted online through your account and a confirmation email will be sent to your registered email address if your request has been submitted successfully. The fee will be refunded to the credit card used for payment.

Admission Ticket

The Admission Ticket will tell you exactly what time to report for your test session. It will also contain your personal details and log in information to access the ACER test app. This ticket is your permission to attend your test session, and you must have either a copy saved to your desktop or a printout ready to show your proctor before you session begins. If you present for your session without an admission ticket ready, you will not be permitted to start your test.

Notification will be sent to your registered email address when **the Admission Ticket is available through your online account approximately one week before the test window begins.** If your identification document details have not been entered in the registration form you will NOT be able to access your Admission Ticket.

Please check your Admission Ticket carefully and contact the HPAT–Ulster Office immediately if there are any errors. The details on your Admission Ticket must match the details on the identification document that you will use on the test day. Only your first and last names are required to match and it is not necessary for your other names (including middle names) to appear on the Admission Ticket. Your other names, if provided when you created your account, will however be provided via your ACER account to the proctors so that they can be checked on the day, should there be any issues matching your Admission ticket and identification document.

Before you print the Admission Ticket, check that both sides of the print paper are blank; there should not be any marks on your Admission Ticket. Admission Tickets may be printed in black and white; you do not need a colour printout. **Please fill in your identification document number beforehand and have it ready with you for your test session.**

Do not write anything else on your Admission Ticket at any time before or during the test.

If you have issues accessing your Admission Ticket, you should email the HPAT–Ulster Office by 21 January 2021. **Please do not leave this to the last minute.** Remember that you will only be able to download the Admission Ticket once you have entered your identification document details in the registration form.

Preparing for HPAT–Ulster

The purpose of HPAT–Ulster is to assess your ability in a range of general skills. HPAT–Ulster measures skills acquired over time, including the ability to understand and analyse written and graphically presented material; to reason, make logical deductions and form judgements. The test does not draw on any particular body of knowledge or curriculum. However, some familiarity with the question types typically presented in HPAT–Ulster is an advantage.

Please note: Neither the HPAT–Ulster office nor Ulster University recommend or endorse any particular texts or preparation courses. Nor do they support any commercially available preparation courses or have any association with commercial courses. Thus the HPAT–Ulster office is unable to comment on their relevance or usefulness. It is possible that some commercial preparation courses might provide misleading information or advice to candidates. Neither ACER nor Ulster University conduct HPAT–Ulster preparation courses.

HPAT–Ulster preparation materials

ACER produces the only official HPAT–Ulster preparation materials.

Free sample questions for each section of HPAT–Ulster are provided on the website: hpat-ulster.acer.org/prepare

Alternatively, you may wish to purchase the HPAT–Ulster *Practice Test* which is available in the form of an e-book. Hard copies are not available. The *Practice Test* is equivalent to half a test but contains the

same balance of question types found in a full test. The *Practice Test* is designed to give examples of the types of question, skills and knowledge contained in HPAT–Ulster. Answers are given for all questions. The content of the *Practice Test* does not change from year to year unless otherwise specified.

Self analysis of your performance on the *Practice Test* will give you an indication of your strengths and weaknesses and be a guide to further preparation.

The purchase of the HPAT–Ulster *Practice Test* e-book entitles you to:

- Make 2 hard copies of the e-book which will be imprinted with your name and identifying details.
- Unrestricted access to the e-book you have purchased for 12 months commencing on the date the e-book is made accessible to you for the sole purpose of reading the e-book.

As a condition of purchasing the HPAT–Ulster *Practice Test* buyers will be required to complete a declaration expressly confirming their acceptance of the limited licence agreement granted to them to access and use the specific HPAT–Ulster *Practice Test*.

Purchasing the preparation materials

In order to purchase any HPAT–Ulster preparation materials you will need to create an account. This is not a registration for the HPAT–Ulster test. Please note that you cannot purchase the preparation materials without an online account and you can purchase the preparation materials without being registered for HPAT–Ulster. The preparation materials will be accessible online as soon as your payment is successfully received.

All HPAT–Ulster preparation materials are copyright works protected by copyright law both in Australia and outside Australia.

As a condition of purchasing any HPAT–Ulster preparation materials you will be required to complete a declaration expressly confirming your acceptance of the limited licence granted to you to access and use the specific HPAT–Ulster preparation materials.

For any HPAT–Ulster preparation materials purchased, You (being the individual in whose name the online account to purchase the materials has been opened, and no-one else) will be granted a limited licence to access and/or download and print up to 2 copies of the preparation materials in an unaltered form only for your personal non-commercial use. You are not permitted to

otherwise copy or reproduce any preparation materials, in whole or in part, by any means whatsoever. Further, under no circumstances whatsoever can you distribute, make available, give or communicate the preparation materials (in whole or in part) to any other person under any arrangement howsoever described, whether or not for monetary consideration, and whether or not any copying or reproduction of the HPAT–Ulster preparation materials is involved. The limited licence granted runs, in respect of any HPAT–Ulster preparation materials, for a period of 12 months from the date of purchase (as evidenced by ACER’s records).

Except as otherwise required by law, or as otherwise provided in this document, no refunds will be given for the purchase of any HPAT–Ulster preparation materials.

Please note that as the materials are accessible as soon as the payment is received, you agree that any cooling off period does not apply for any change of mind.

The limited licence granted to you in respect of any HPAT–Ulster preparation materials is subject only to any non-excludable rights or entitlements granted to you at law, including but not limited to the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) (as amended).

Test taking strategy for multiple-choice sections

Questions in the HPAT–Ulster test are in multiple choice format. It is advantageous for you to develop your own strategies for answering this type of question. Each test section is separately timed. You are advised to work steadily through each section. It is not advisable to spend too much time on any one question. Read through all the alternative answers to a question, even if you think the first one is correct, before marking your chosen response. If you think you know the answer to a question, mark it, even if you are not certain. Go on to the next question and come back later if you have time.

Please note the following:

- All questions have the same value, therefore by attempting as many questions as possible you stand the best chance of maximising your score.
- No marks are deducted for a wrong answer.
- All questions are of equal value, but may vary in difficulty.
- Answers should be marked by clicking on the radio button next to the answer you wish to select.
- You may do rough work on the 2 pieces of permitted scrap paper.

ON TEST DAY

Test date

The HPAT–Ulster 2021 test is held on

**Friday 22 January and
Saturday 23 January 2021**

This is the only opportunity to sit HPAT–Ulster in 2021 for 2021 admission to Ulster University Allied Health Professional courses.

Test session

Your Admission Ticket will be available through your online account approximately one week before the test (see page 6). It will contain the username and password required to access the ACER test app.

You must report for your test session at the appointment time you selected with Examity. It is not necessary to arrive more than a couple of minutes beforehand. The test itself will start as soon as all pre-testing procedures are completed including technical, ID and admission ticket checks and room scans.

Candidates must follow the proctors instructions at all times and ensure they have prepared a suitable space in which to undertake the test session.

Your space must be private, quiet, with a suitable desk and chair. You must have a clean and clear workspace, that does not have notes or books or any clutter on, or around your work area.

Timing and order of the test

The HPAT–Ulster test consists of 3 hours testing time. In addition, pre-testing procedures will take some time to complete. **Therefore, it is not possible to guarantee start and finish times. You should anticipate your test session taking up to 4 1/2 hours.**

HPAT–Ulster is a high stakes test administered under secure test conditions. **You may not leave the test session before the full testing time has elapsed.** Candidates leaving early will not receive their HPAT–Ulster scores. **You may use the bathroom during testing time, but you must advise your proctor before you leave.** No additional time will be granted for bathroom breaks.

Identification on the test day

On the day of the test you will be required to show one form of photo-bearing identification. The only acceptable forms of ID are:

- a current passport
- a current photo-bearing driver's licence
- an Electoral Identity Card
- an Irish Public Services Card

The photograph in your identification document must be recognisable as a likeness to you as you are on the day of the test.

If you do not possess a current passport, a driver's licence, an Electoral Identity Card or an Irish Public Services Card you must obtain a certified letter of identification from your school or other educational institution. The letter must be on official letterhead and must contain your name; date of birth; a passport photo glued to the letter with institution stamp *overlapping*; signature and title of the official verifying the identification; and your signature. A sample letter of identification is provided on the HPAT–Ulster website and you are strongly advised to use this template to avoid any problems on the day.

If you do not have one of these forms of identification, please allow enough time to organise one before the test date as you will not be able to enter the test centre without an approved form of identification. Some of these identification documents can take approximately a month to obtain.

Digital formats of identification, student cards and/or documents that have expired will NOT be accepted under any circumstances. Photocopies of identity documents are also not acceptable forms of ID.

Your date of birth, first and last name in your identification document must match your Admission Ticket details.

If you do not present one of the above identification documents, together with your printed Admission Ticket, you will NOT be able to sit the HPAT–Ulster test and your registration fee will be forfeited.

Items needed for your test session

For your test session you will need:

- Your Admission ticket which will need to be open and visible on your desktop for checking by your proctor.
- Acceptable current and photo-bearing identification document
- A clear water bottle (no labels attached)
- Mirror or other reflective device
- Scrap paper and pencil
- Pencil sharpener
- Eraser

Candidates are permitted to have two sheets of scratch paper i.e. 2 sheets of blank A4 sized paper. Before your session starts you will be required to show both sides of your paper to the proctor. At the completion of your test session, the online proctor will ask you to show your rough work to the webcam and then instruct you to dispose of the paper by ripping it up. You will be monitored throughout by the online proctor.

As there is a timer built into the test delivery platform there should be no need for additional timers. Mobile phones, digital, analogue and smart watches are prohibited. Candidates are not permitted to wear hats unless it is for religious reasons.

These should be no other items on your desk during the test session.

Mobile phones must be switched off, and placed in a location away from your workspace. Proctors will monitor where you store them during your session. **Please note:** accessing or using your mobile phone during the test session will be deemed an act of misconduct. You risk the cancellation of your results.

These will be the only items allowed on your desk during the test. **Mobile phones must be switched off.**

Note: All other items, including but not limited to calculators, pagers, stopwatches, audio or recording devices of any kind, MP3 players, digital watches, smart watches, activity trackers, pencil cases, and rulers are not permitted.

Access to food (including sweets and nuts), earplugs, medication or other medical equipment (e.g. support cushion) during the test will only be permitted due to a medical condition and can only be allowed if you have been granted testing conditions for candidates with specific additional needs (see page 5).

It is recommended you have a meal before beginning your session, and take a snack to eat during the check procedures if you think you cannot wait to eat until after your test.

To avoid being too cold or too hot, it is recommended you wear layers, which will allow you to adjust your own comfort level.

Answer format

Sections 1 and 2 of HPAT–Ulster are in multiple-choice format. You will mark your answers by clicking on the radio button corresponding to your chosen answer. It is very important that you record your answers carefully. If you decide to change an answer simply click on the radio button corresponding to your new choice.

Test day issues

Should you wish to query a particular test question, please alert the proctor of your concern and email the HPAT–Ulster office after your test session. Your query will be reviewed by the HPAT–Ulster office and you will be notified of the outcome. Similarly, any complaints relating to your test session or physical discomfort suffered should be reported immediately to the proctor on the day so the issue can be addressed without delay.

Security

The HPAT–Ulster test is a high stakes test. Therefore ACER, in conjunction with Ulster University, has established security procedures which will be strictly enforced at all times.

Misconduct

ACER and the University of Ulster view any misconduct in respect to the HPAT-Ulster test seriously.

Consequences of misconduct may have significant personal consequences for the individual involved.

To be clear: as ACER is a service provider to the University of Ulster in respect of its administration of the HPAT-Ulster test, ACER may seek the input of the University of Ulster in respect any misconduct and any consequence to be applied.

Misconduct (whether occurring prior to, during or after the HPAT-Ulster test session) means any unacceptable conduct or any conduct that might result in unfairness or inaccurate results such as, without limitation:

- breach of any of the security arrangements for the HPAT-Ulster test
- impersonation
- a candidate reproducing, copying, plagiarising responses to HPAT-Ulster from another person's work
- attempting to copy a test question or any part of the test, via screen sharing, or any other means
- attempting to remove scrap/note paper or part thereof, or any notes, from the testing room
- failure to follow a proctor's instructions at all times
- giving or receiving assistance during the test
- creating a disturbance
- using prohibited aids (e.g. notes, calculator, mobile phone, audio/recording device opening a web browser etc.)
- copying your screen and sharing with others, receiving information about the test from another party
- copying another candidate's work
- using the test questions, their content or information about them for purposes other than your sitting of the HPAT-Ulster test is prohibited. This includes: publishing the HPAT-Ulster questions or any of their content or information about them on the internet, any digital format or otherwise; and/or passing the HPAT-Ulster questions, any of their content or information about them to third parties

- the giving of false or misleading information at any stage in connection with your participation in the HPAT-Ulster test
- infringement of the "ACER" or "HPAT-Ulster" trade marks. Trade mark infringement includes performing any act which only a trade mark owner or a person authorised by the trade mark owner may do
- infringement of copyright. Copyright infringement includes: performing those rights or authorising the performance of those rights which are granted at law exclusively to the copyright owner. These rights include the exclusive right to reproduce the copyright work in a material form and to communicate that work to the public
- in any way breaching (as determined by ACER in its absolute discretion) any of the terms and conditions of (a) your registration to participate in the HPAT-Ulster test; or (b) your purchase of any HPAT-Ulster preparation materials
- infringement of any rights (including but not limited to intellectual property rights) whatsoever relating to or subsisting in the HPAT-Ulster test or any part or element of it, including but not limited to the concept, structure, administration or conduct of the HPAT-Ulster test, the HPAT-Ulster trade mark and any HPAT-Ulster preparation materials prepared or published by or on behalf of ACER or the University of Ulster
- any act or omission by you which ACER, in its absolute discretion, renders you to be unfit to participate in any HPAT-Ulster test, whether or not you are registered to participate at the time of ACER's determination
- inappropriate, abusive or aggressive communication in any form with the HPAT-Ulster office.

CONSEQUENCES for misconduct may include cancelling your registration to sit the HPAT-Ulster test without any refund, withholding of your HPAT-Ulster test results or disqualification from sitting any HPAT-Ulster test (whether it is the test for which you have registered or otherwise).

It is also possible and you consent to the misconduct being referred to any educational institution (not limited to the University of Ulster) or professional

body or other third party to whom such misconduct might be of interest.

YOU ARE PUT ON NOTICE that except as expressly provided at law, there is no right to challenge, appeal or seek review of any determination by ACER that misconduct has occurred or in relation to any consequences imposed by ACER for any misconduct. You should also be aware that your misconduct might also give rise to liability on your part to third parties, including but not limited to the University of Ulster.

ACER and the University of Ulster reserve the right to take legal action and claim any remedies available to them at law in respect of any incident of misconduct or where Your conduct (whether or not it constitutes “misconduct”) infringes any of their rights.

Whilst ACER will make every effort to ensure the HPAT Ulster Online test will run as scheduled. We make no guarantees, given the current global epidemic. If for any reason the test is cancelled ACER will notify candidates via email. Any such cancellations will be at the discretion of ACER and the University of Ulster.

AFTER THE TEST

HPAT–Ulster results

HPAT–Ulster results will be available in late March 2021.

You will be notified via email when results are available through your online account. You can only access your Statement of Results online and are advised to save and print a copy of the Statement of Results for your records. Statements of Results are accessible for two years in your online account. Statements of Results include your date of birth and name used at the time the HPAT–Ulster test was taken. Replacement Statements of Results will not be provided to accommodate a subsequent change of name. No hard copies of the Statement of Results will be sent to candidates. Ulster University will verify the results used for applications with ACER.

The HPAT–Ulster scores

You will receive four scores; one for each test section (with a separate score for each of the Written Communication tasks), and an Overall Score that is an average of the three section scores. To assist you in evaluating your test performance, you will also be given a percentile ranking for your Overall Score.

Please Note: The overall score is calculated to several decimal places and then rounded. It is not possible for candidates to replicate this process.

Scores are reported as scaled rather than raw (number correct) scores. Scores are scaled by ACER to make them directly comparable from test to test. The scores provide sufficient discrimination between candidates to enable Ulster University to rank applicants in a meaningful and reliable way.

Ulster University will set their own HPAT–Ulster cut-off scores each year. These will be the minimum HPAT–Ulster scores acceptable for consideration by Ulster University.

Candidates will not be provided with any additional information on scores or the scoring process. All information remains the property of ACER and no right of inspection will be deemed to be vested in a candidate.

Withholding of results

You will only receive your HPAT–Ulster test scores if you have complied with the HPAT–Ulster test policies and procedures and these terms and conditions. Your scores may be withheld or cancelled if ACER learns, either on or after the test day, that you have violated the HPAT–Ulster test policies and procedures and these terms and conditions.

Validity of results

HPAT–Ulster scores are valid for two years. This means that candidates may apply for admission to Allied Health Professional courses at Ulster University up to two years after the date on which they sit the test. For example, results from the 2021 test will be valid for the purpose of application for admission to Ulster University in 2022 and/or 2023, but not in 2024.

There is no restriction on the number of times you may sit HPAT–Ulster.

Appeals

ACER will not enter into appeals against HPAT–Ulster results. Candidates are advised that HPAT–Ulster results are released only after careful calculation and extensive checking. Requests for remarking will not be considered.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSION COURSES

Admission to the programmes

Applicants are selected for admission to the programmes on the basis of:

- **Academic results** – refer to

Diagnostic Radiography & Imaging	School of Health Sciences	https://www.ulster.ac.uk/courses/202122/diagnostic-radiography-imaging-21560	Undergraduate
Dietetics	School of Biomedical Sciences	https://www.ulster.ac.uk/courses/202122/dietetics-21618	Undergraduate
Occupational Therapy	School of Health Sciences	https://www.ulster.ac.uk/course/bsc-occupational-therapy-ft-jn	Undergraduate
Physiotherapy	School of Health Sciences	https://www.ulster.ac.uk/course/bsc-physiotherapy-ft-jn	Undergraduate
Radiography and Oncology	School of Health Sciences	https://www.ulster.ac.uk/course/bsc-radiotherapy-and-oncology-ft-jn	Undergraduate
Speech and Language Therapy	School of Health Sciences	https://www.ulster.ac.uk/course/bsc-speech-and-language-therapy-ft-jn	Undergraduate

AND

- **HPAT–Ulster scores**

with offers being made on the basis of HPAT–Ulster scores.

UCAS application

You must apply through UCAS in the usual way, including Ulster University among your choices.

Course codes

B460 C BSc Hons Dietetics
B930 J BSc Hons Occupational Therapy
B160 J BSc Hons Physiotherapy
B821 J BSc Hons Diagnostic Radiography and Imaging
B822 J BSc Hons Radiotherapy and Oncology
B632 J BSc Hons Speech & Language Therapy

The closing date for UCAS applications is 15 January 2021.

Please note: You must provide your UCAS number when you register for HPAT–Ulster. If you do not have a UCAS number at the time of registering for HPAT–Ulster, you should add it to your HPAT–Ulster registration later. If you do not provide your UCAS number, or if you give an incorrect number, this may affect the delivery of your HPAT–Ulster results to the University.

Timeline for application to the programmes in 2021

Application to the Allied Health Professional programmes at Ulster University will follow the steps set out in the Timeline below.

TIMELINE

By 8 January 2021

Complete HPAT–Ulster online registration

By 15 January 2021

Submit UCAS application

22 or 23 January 2021

Sit HPAT–Ulster

By late March 2021

Receive HPAT–Ulster results

HPAT–ULSTER DECLARATION

IMPORTANT: Please read the **LEGAL NOTICE** at the end of HPAT–Ulster Information Booklet 2021.

That Booklet, including its Legal Notice, as well as any instructions issued from time to time regulating candidates' sitting of the HPAT–Ulster and this declaration will form the binding legal agreement (“**the Agreement**”) between You and The Australian Council for Educational Research Ltd (ABN 19 004 398 145) (“**ACER**”) for administering your registration for, undertaking of and all consequent activities regarding the HPAT–Ulster test provided digitally in a HPAT–Ulster testing centre and or from another location by remote proctoring in 2021.

You should make sure that you understand fully and are familiar with the contents of this Booklet (including the Legal Notice) before You submit Your registration for a HPAT–Ulster test in 2021.

The declarations below signify You **AGREE**:

1. To the terms and conditions contained in the HPAT–Ulster Information Booklet 2021 applying to Your sitting of HPAT–Ulster in 2021 and all matters consequent thereon;
2. For logistical reasons and in ACER’s sole discretion, to being allocated a date, time and testing venue then available in respect of your undertaking of the HPAT–Ulster test i.e. you will not have a choice of date, time and venue;
3. In the event of a HPAT–Ulster sitting in 2021 being compromised or having to be cancelled due to circumstances beyond ACER’s reasonable control it may be necessary for You to, and at ACER’s sole discretion:
 - a. re-sit HPAT–Ulster:
 - (i) on a date;
 - (ii) at a testing venue; and
 - (iii) with a remote proctoring service;
 - b. other than that originally specified by ACER; and undertake further action in finalisation of those alternative arrangements;
4. To comply with any direction, guideline or policy issued by ACER concerning compliance with public health orders or regulations applicable to your undertaking of the HPAT–Ulster test;
5. That to sit HPAT–Ulster in 2021 You have read and understood the entrance requirements of the courses at Ulster University are a bona fide prospective applicant to a course for which HPAT–Ulster is a prerequisite;

6. You meet the requirements for eligibility set out in the HPAT–Ulster Information Booklet 2021;
7. Not to use or divulge to any third party information concerning the test questions in the HPAT–Ulster test for Your own or any third party’s personal or commercial gain;
8. Not to post or publish any specific part or aspect of the content of HPAT–Ulster. This includes publication on the internet, in any digital format or other format;
9. That the information that You give in Your application for registration for the HPAT–Ulster test in 2021 is true and correct. The giving of false or misleading information constitutes misconduct and may jeopardise Your chances of being admitted into any course for which HPAT–Ulster is a prerequisite;
10. That You are the person whose name and address appears on this registration form.

I confirm that I have read the HPAT–Ulster Information Booklet 2021 including the Legal Notice and the Privacy Statement locatable at: <https://hpat-ulster.acer.org/about-hpat-ulster/privacy-statement>

I AGREE to the terms and conditions of participation in the HPAT–Ulster contained in the HPAT–Ulster Information Booklet 2021 and provide the **CONSENTS* specified in the HPAT–Ulster privacy statement.**

*** should you not wish to provide the consents or have a query about the same please contact hpat-ulster@acer.org.**

LEGAL NOTICE

1. By completing and submitting the registration form for the HPAT-Ulster test in 2021 located at <https://hpat-ulster.acer.org> You are offering to enter into a legal agreement with the Australian Council for Educational Research Ltd (ABN 19 004 398 145) (**ACER**).
 2. The **TERMS AND CONDITIONS** which will apply to Your application for registration and to Your registration to participate in the HPAT-Ulster test in 2021 are contained in this Booklet, including this Legal Notice. The Terms and Conditions cover, amongst other things, Your sitting the HPAT-Ulster test, payment of the registration fee, refunds of fees, access to HPAT-Ulster preparation materials and release of the HPAT-Ulster test results.
 3. Before lodging Your Registration, You should make sure You understand fully and are familiar with the contents of this Booklet, including this Legal Notice and the online declaration.
 4. You may have legal rights and guarantees under certain laws including the Australian Consumer Law (being Schedule 2 to the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth), as amended from time to time). If the publication of this Booklet or Your registration for or participation in the HPAT-Ulster test in 2021 involves a supply of goods or services to a consumer within the meaning given in those laws, nothing contained in this Booklet excludes, restricts or modifies the application of any consumer guarantee provided in those laws, the exercise of any right or remedy in respect of, or the imposition of any liability for the failure to comply with any relevant guarantee.
 5. Subject to point 4:
 - a. the HPAT-Ulster test is a selection tool used by Ulster University and your results in respect of HPAT-Ulster may not be used or relied on for any other purpose;
 - b. To the maximum extent permissible by law (and for the avoidance of doubt, subject to any guarantees, rights, remedies or obligations which cannot be excluded, restricted or modified under certain laws including the Australian Consumer Law), ACER expressly, irrevocably and totally disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss or damage whatsoever and howsoever arising in connection with or resulting from: Your participation (actual, potential, contemplated or cancelled for any reason whatsoever) in HPAT-Ulster; and Your test results, including, but not limited to, any representations made by ACER or its personnel (including agents, subcontractors and consultants) in respect of HPAT-Ulster and the accuracy of any information contained in this Booklet;
 6. Subject to the Australian Consumer Law and, otherwise to the fullest extent permitted at law, You release and fully indemnify ACER, its officers, employees and agents from and against all claims, liabilities, costs, demands and expenses whatsoever caused by you and howsoever arising from or in connection with:
 - a. Your registration for or participation (actual, potential, contemplated or cancelled) in the HPAT-Ulster test; or
 - b. Any breach by You of the terms and conditions of Your participation (actual, potential, contemplated or cancelled) in the HPAT-Ulster test. These releases and indemnities survive Your participation (actual, contemplated, potential or cancelled) in the HPAT-Ulster test and whether or not You are offered or accept a placement with Ulster University for any course whatsoever.
 - c. Any misconduct by you in relation to the HPAT-Ulster.
- These releases and indemnities survive Your participation (actual, contemplated, potential or cancelled) in the HPAT-Ulster test and whether or not You are offered or accept a placement with any educational institution for any course whatsoever.

7. In the event that any law implies terms or guarantees into the offering or conduct of the HPAT-Ulster test which cannot be lawfully excluded, restricted or modified, such terms or guarantees will apply, save that the liability of ACER for breach of any such term or guarantee will, to the extent legally permitted, be limited to the refund of the price paid for any relevant goods or services.
8. ACER has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in this Booklet. However, from time to time, due to changed circumstances ACER may need to change the arrangements concerning the administration of the HPAT-Ulster test and ACER (without amending your legal obligations or remedies) reserves the right to alter or amend any detail contained in the Booklet in its absolute and unqualified discretion. Any alteration or amendment will take effect immediately upon publication of the alteration or amendment on <https://hpat-ulster.acer.org>.
9. By completing and submitting the HPAT-Ulster registration form:
 - a. You confirm that You have read in its entirety and accept the contents of this Booklet, including the Legal Notice and the online declaration.
 - b. You confirm Your agreement with the terms and conditions contained in this Booklet and the online declaration.
 - c. You acknowledge that You have been entitled to obtain legal advice concerning any matter covered in this Booklet, whether or not You have in fact sought any legal advice.
 - d. You acknowledge and accept that this Booklet and the online declaration contains the entire agreement between You and ACER concerning Your participation in the HPAT-Ulster test in 2021 and that no matter, information or representation not expressly contained in this Booklet has induced You or had any bearing on You to seek registration for the HPAT-Ulster test in 2021.
 - e. You accept and unconditionally undertake to strictly comply with the terms and conditions contained in this Booklet.
 - f. You acknowledge and accept that Your agreement with ACER will be governed by the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia.
- g. You submit to the jurisdiction of the Courts chosen by ACER and any of the Courts of Appeal therefrom to determine any dispute (whether as to the interpretation of Your agreement with ACER, or any matter concerning performance or compliance of the agreement or otherwise) or to determine any claims brought or made against You by ACER or its authorised nominee.

