

# INTERNATIONAL PROSPECTUS 2026-27

## REAL LEARNING



**FIND OUT MORE**

**SERC.AC.UK**



**BANGOR | DOWNPATRICK | LISBURN | NEWTOWNARDS**



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# WELCOME

**Welcome to South Eastern Regional College's (SERC's) prospectus for international students, where you will find a valuable range of education opportunities. We are delighted that you are considering SERC for your next step in education.**

In 2024-25 the achievement rate for our full-time students was more than 91%, rounding off a year of success for SERC students and staff. We are immensely proud of our learners and their achievements and celebrate their success every year at our excellence awards and our higher education graduation ceremony.

We are committed to delivering real learning for real life, working with partners in industry, education, business and government to create an experience which prepares our graduates for employment and for the challenges of the wider world. Browse our prospectus, explore our website and come and talk to us at an open evening to find out more about the real advantages of studying at SERC.

**Tommy Martin**  
Principal and  
Chief Executive

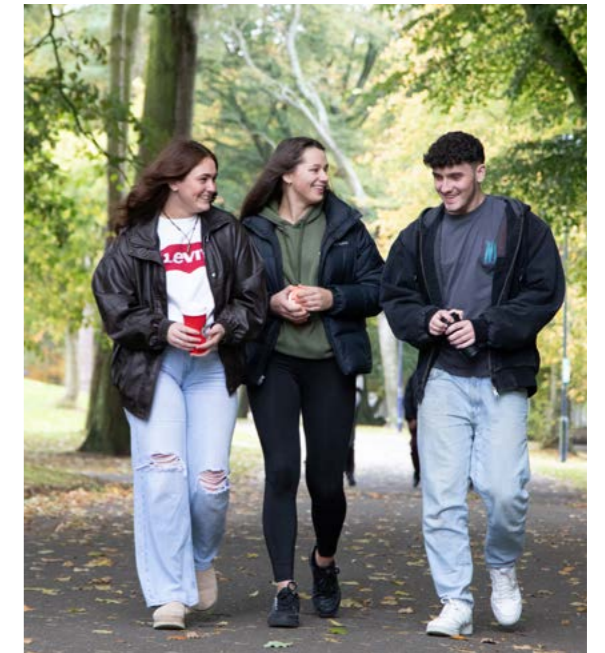
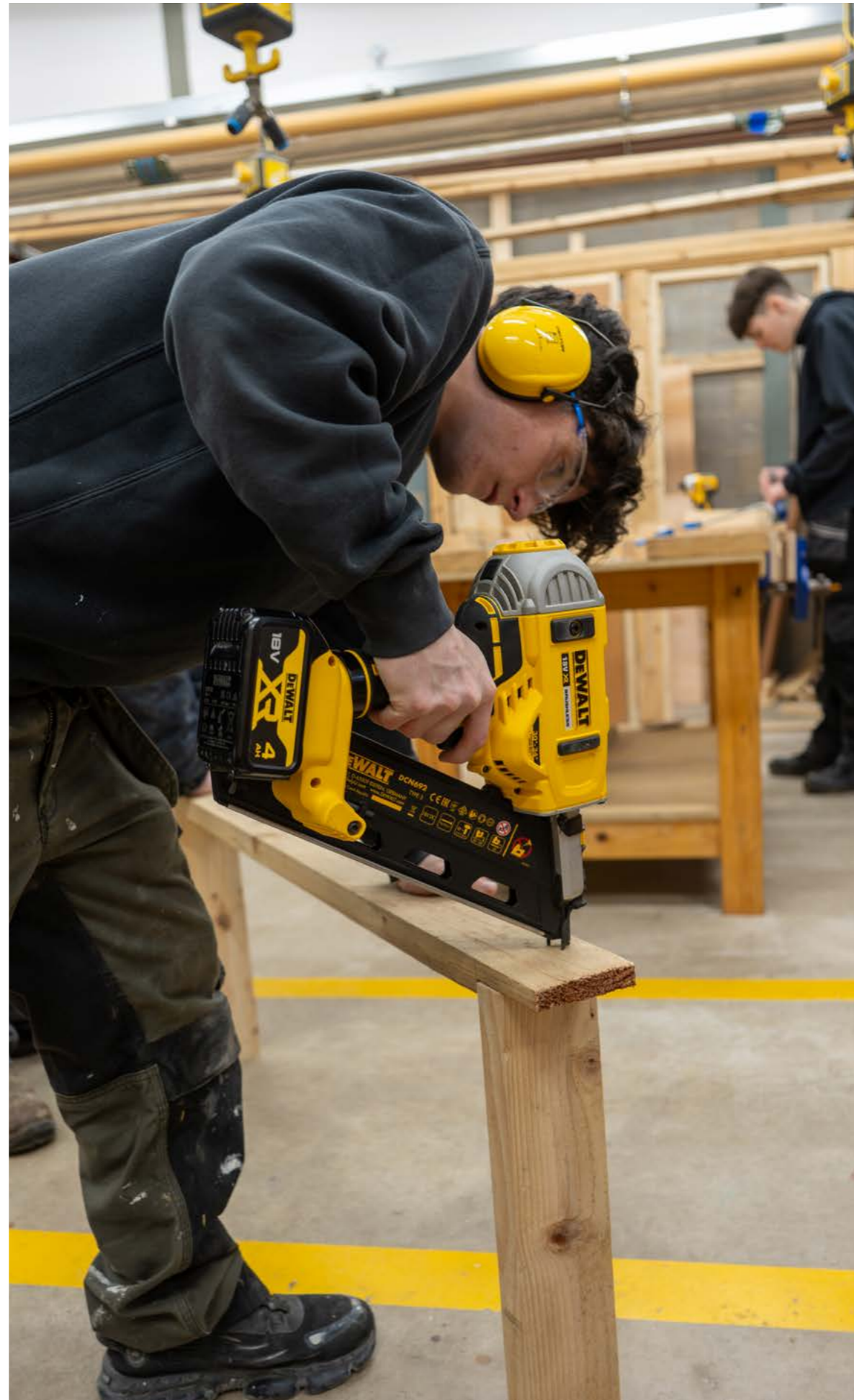


# HIGHER EDUCATION STUDY

**We offer degrees, foundation degrees, Higher National Diplomas (HNDs), Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLAs).**

SERC also provides postgraduate-level qualifications and professional development qualifications which are accredited by professional industry bodies. Achievement of these qualifications demonstrates a student's depth of knowledge and understanding of a subject as well as a commitment to succeed within the industry.

In addition, we deliver Level 7 qualifications with the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) and through City and Guilds.



# OUR HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERS

- Liverpool John Moores University
- The Open University
- Queen's University Belfast
- Ulster University
- Pearson
- Accounting Technicians Ireland (ATI)
- Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)
- Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD)
- Chartered Management Institute (CMI)
- Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body (CPCAB)
- Open College Network Northern Ireland (OCNNI)
- Northern Council for Further Education (NCFE)
- Vocational Training Charitable Trust (VTCT)
- Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade



“

**I am a Pakistani living all my life in Saudi Arabia. I chose to continue my higher education at SERC. The first time I heard about SERC, I was inspired by the college's education process. But when I came to SERC, I was overwhelmed and satisfied with my decision. Especially, I would say that I'm happy with how my studies are going so far.**

”

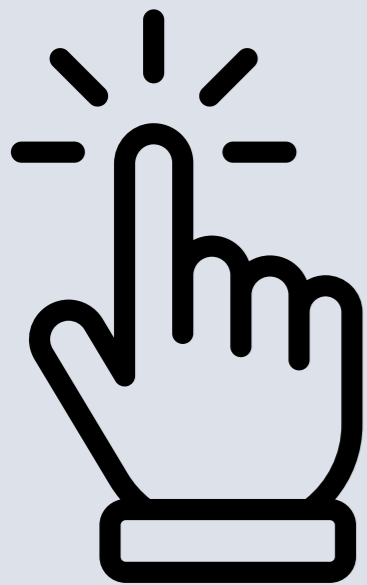
**Taimor Butt (Pakistan)**

**HND Computing and Systems Development**

# HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES

On the following pages, you'll find a list of all higher education subject areas offered at SERC as full-time courses for international students.

Each course title links you to the full description of that course on the website, and when you have browsed the courses and made a selection, you can apply online. You can have up to three live applications at any one time.



Click on the courses to find out more



## ANIMAL CARE

10811

**Pearson BTEC HNC in Animal Management**

Bangor & Lisburn

## ART & DESIGN

11163

**Pearson BTEC HNC in Graphic Design**

Bangor

## BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

10806

**BSc (Hons) Business Management (Validated by Liverpool John Moores University)**

Bangor

## COMPUTING / SOFTWARE ENGINEERING / NETWORKING

11002

**Foundation Degree in Cloud Computing Technologies (Validated by The Open University)**

Downpatrick

11004

**BSc (Hons) in Cloud Computing Technologies (Top up) (Validated by The Open University)**

Bangor & Lisburn

11001

**Foundation Degree in Cyber Security and Digital Forensics (Validated by The Open University)**

Bangor & Downpatrick

11003

**BSc (Hons) in Cyber Security and Digital Forensics (Top up) (Validated by The Open University)**

Bangor & Lisburn

10622

**Pearson BTEC HND in Computing**

Bangor & Lisburn

## CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

11237

**Pearson BTEC HND in Construction Management**

Bangor & Lisburn

## EARLY YEARS

10665

**Foundation Degree in Early Childhood Studies (Validated by Queen's University Belfast)**

Lisburn

## ENGINEERING

P10616

**Pearson BTEC HNC in Engineering (General)**

Bangor

10706

**Foundation Degree in Mechatronic Engineering (Validated by Ulster University)**

Lisburn

11131

**Foundation Degree in Digital Engineering for Modern Manufacturing (Validated by the Open University)**

Bangor

10619

**Pearson BTEC HND in Engineering (General)**

Bangor

## HEALTH & CARE

10639

**Pearson BTEC HNC Health and Social Care Practice (Social and Community Work)**

Newtownards

10637

**Pearson BTEC HNC Health and Social Care Practice (Healthcare Science Pathway)**

Lisburn, Newtownards

## HOSPITALITY & CATERING

11051

**Foundation Degree in Culinary Arts  
(Validated by The Open University)**

Bangor

11206

**Foundation Degree in Tourism,  
Hospitality and Event Management  
(Validated by Ulster University)**

Bangor

## MEDIA

10967

**Pearson BTEC HNC in Film &  
Television Production**

Bangor

## MOTOR VEHICLE

11091

**Foundation Degree in Motorsport  
Engineering (Validated by The Open  
University)**

Bangor

## PERFORMING ARTS

10414

**Pearson BTEC HND in Acting  
(General)**

Bangor

## SPORTS & RECREATION

10708

**Foundation Degree in Sport,  
Coaching and Fitness (Validated by  
Ulster University)**

Bangor & Lisburn

## TRAVEL & TOURISM

11206

**Foundation Degree in Tourism,  
Hospitality and Event Management  
(Validated by Ulster University)**

Bangor



“

**One of the best experiences I've had while living in Northern Ireland was studying at SERC. Excellent facilities, great staff and a high-level education system are what you can find in SERC. It's also very convenient and handy to travel to.**

”

**Paul Anekwe (Nigeria)  
Art & Design**



“

**Starting at SERC was a smooth transition and I felt part of the community from day one. The tutors are supportive and bring real industry experience into the classroom, and the industry-standard labs really bring the theory to life. I'm gaining the skills I need for my future career as an Automation Engineer.**

”

**Ifeanyi Okoli (Nigeria)**  
**Engineering**

# TVET STUDIES

## WHAT WE OFFER

**SERC offers a wide range of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes designed to provide practical, career-focused learning that prepares students for employment or progression to higher education.**

Our TVET courses combine classroom learning with hands-on practical training, allowing students to develop technical skills, industry knowledge and real-world experience. Many programmes are developed in collaboration with employers to ensure students gain the skills required by modern industries.

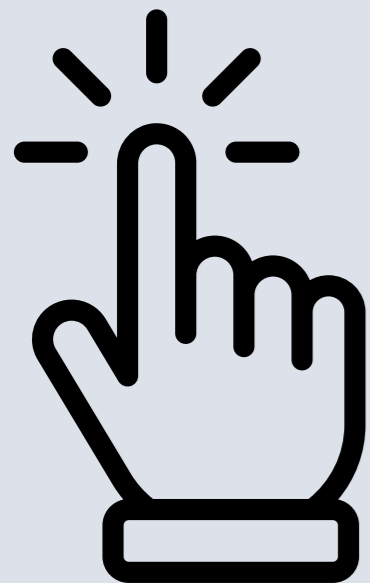
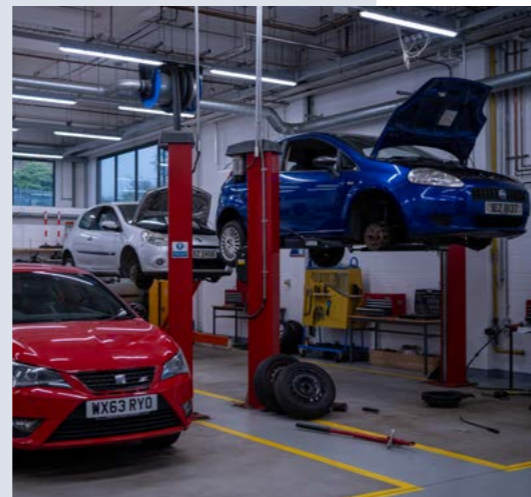
TVET programmes at SERC are typically delivered at Level 3, providing students with a strong foundation for further study or entry into skilled employment.

Students completing Level 3 programmes may progress to Higher Education at SERC, including Foundation Degrees, Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and Higher National Diplomas (HNDs), or continue their studies at university. TVET qualifications can also lead directly to apprenticeships or skilled employment in a wide range of industries.

# TVET COURSES

On the following pages, you'll find a list of all TVET subject areas offered at SERC as full-time courses for international students.

Each course title links you to the full description of that course on the website, and when you have browsed the courses and made a selection, you can apply online. You can have up to three live applications at any one time.



Click on the courses to find out more

## ANIMAL CARE

P10473

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Animal Management**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

## APPLIED SCIENCES

P10474

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Applied Science**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

## ART & DESIGN

P10897

### **Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design and Media Practice**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

P11097

### **Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Ceramics**

Bangor

P11271

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Art and Design**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

P11278

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Graphics**

Bangor

P11279

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Photography**

Bangor

## BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

P10475

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

P11294

### **Level 3 National Diploma in Business**

Bangor & Lisburn

## COMPUTING / SOFTWARE ENGINEERING / NETWORKING

P10439

### **Level 3 National Diploma in IT - IT Professional**

Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards

P10457

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in IT - IT Professional**

Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards

## CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

P10404

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

P10997

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Civil Engineering**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

## EARLY YEARS

P10426

### **Level 3 Diploma for Children's Care, Learning and Development**

Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards

## ENGINEERING

P10423

### **Level 3 National Diploma Engineering - Advanced Electronics**

Bangor & Lisburn

P10424

### **Level 3 National Diploma Engineering - Advanced Manufacturing**

Bangor & Lisburn

P10425

### **Level 3 National Diploma Engineering - Mechatronics**

Downpatrick

P10452

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma Engineering - Advanced Electronics**

Bangor & Lisburn

P10453

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma Engineering - Mechatronics**

Downpatrick

P10455

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma Engineering - Advanced Manufacturing**

Bangor & Lisburn

## HEALTH & CARE

P10469

### **Level 3 National Diploma in Health and Social Care**

Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards

P10476

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care (Health Studies)**

Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards

## HOSPITALITY & CATERING

P10505

### **Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Professional Cookery - Patisserie and Confectionery**

Bangor & Lisburn

P11072

### **Level 3 Diploma Hospitality with Events**

Bangor

P11096

### **Level 3 Diploma in Professional Chef**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

## MEDIA

P11213

### **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Creative Media Practice**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

## MOTOR VEHICLE

P10466

### **Level 3 Motorsport Engineering**

Bangor

## PERFORMING ARTS

P10480

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma Performing Arts Practice**

Bangor & Lisburn

P10481

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Performing Arts Practice (Dance)**

Bangor

## SPORTS & RECREATION

P10479

### **Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

P11194

### **Level 3 National Diploma in Sport, Fitness and Personal Training**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

## TRAVEL & TOURISM

P10450

### **Level 3 Diploma in Travel and Tourism**

Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

# WHAT YOU NEED

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Entry requirements for SERC courses vary depending on the course you are applying for. SERC accepts a variety of qualifications and applies the UCAS Tariff.

**You will need to have the equivalent qualifications as highlighted below.**

### LEVEL 6

Equivalent of 5 GCSEs at Grade C/4 or above including English Language and Maths and successful completion of Level 5 & must attend online interview.

### LEVEL 5

Equivalent of 5 GCSEs at Grade C/4 or above including English Language and Maths and successful completion of Level 3 & must attend online interview.

### LEVEL 4

Equivalent of 5 GCSEs at Grade C/4 or above including English Language and Maths and successful completion of Level 3 & must attend online interview.

### LEVEL 3

Equivalent of 5 GCSEs at Grade C/4 or above including English Language and Maths and successful completion of Level 2 & must attend online interview.



# ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT VISA REQUIREMENTS (LEVEL 3 AND ABOVE)

If you are an international student aged 16 or over, you will need to apply for a UK Student visa before starting your course at SERC.

### TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOU MUST:

- Have an offer of a place on a course at SERC, a licensed student sponsor
- Demonstrate that you have sufficient funds to cover your tuition fees and living costs (this will vary depending on your circumstances)
- Meet the required standard of English language (speaking, reading, writing and understanding) - see opposite
- Provide parental or guardian consent if you are aged 16 or 17

For full details and the most up-to-date information, please refer to official UK Government Student visa guidance:

**Click here for link**

**Please note:** SERC may update the types of evidence accepted for English language proficiency, including Secure English Language Tests (SELTs).



### SELT ENGLISH TEST

Grade required  
(Minimum standards  
courses may vary)

### IELTS ACADEMIC FOR UKVI

6.0 Overall with 5.5 in each  
component

### TRINITY INTEGRATED SKILLS IN ENGLISH II (ISEII) B2 LEVEL

Pass in all Skills

### TRINITY INTEGRATED SKILLS IN ENGLISH III (ISEIII) C1 LEVEL

Pass in all Skills

### LANGUAGECERT SELT

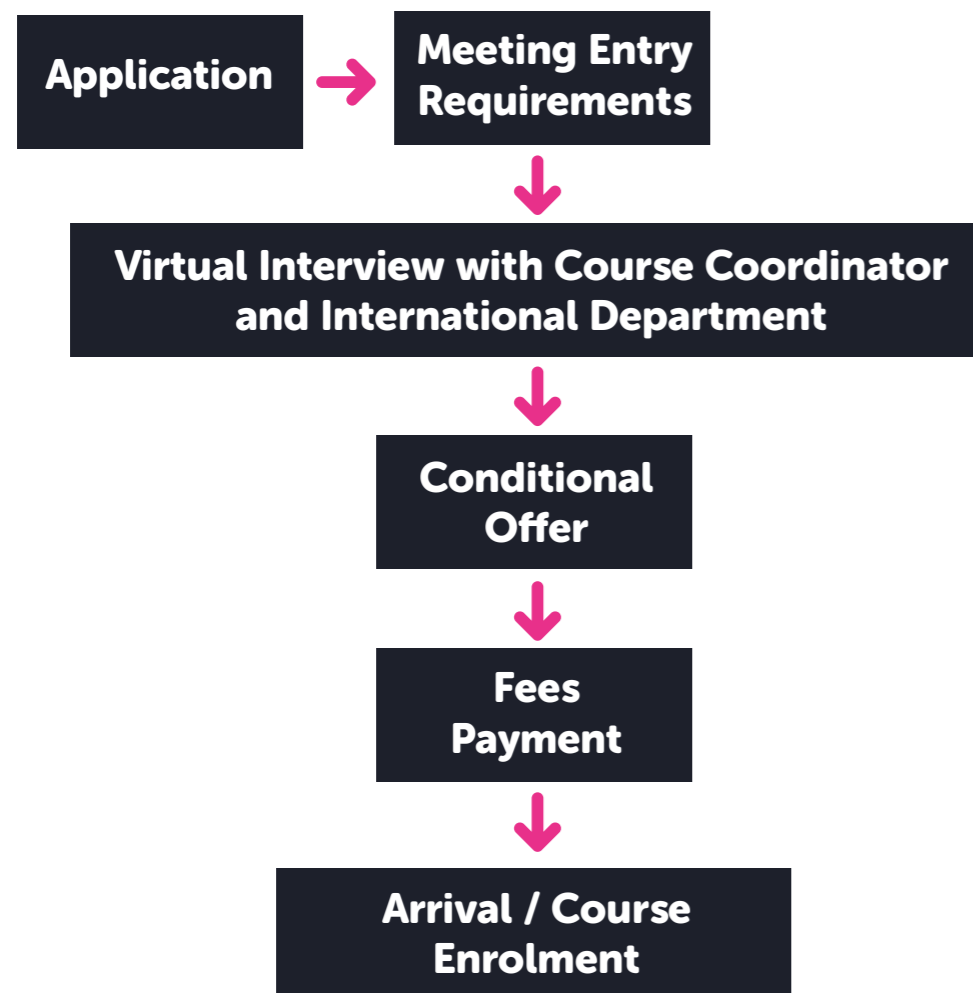
(IELTS 6.0 equivalent) B2  
Pass - no component  
below 33/50 or (IELTS 6.5  
equivalent) B2 Pass - no  
component below 33/50

### PEARSON PTE ACADEMIC UKVI

61 (Minimum of 59 in each  
component)

# INTERNATIONAL ADMISSION PROCESS (NON VISA)

Applicants will either pay the standard “home” fee or “international” fee depending upon the result of the eligibility checks. SERC’s Fees Policy 2026/27 will apply. Payment by instalment may be available. Contact the international office for further information.



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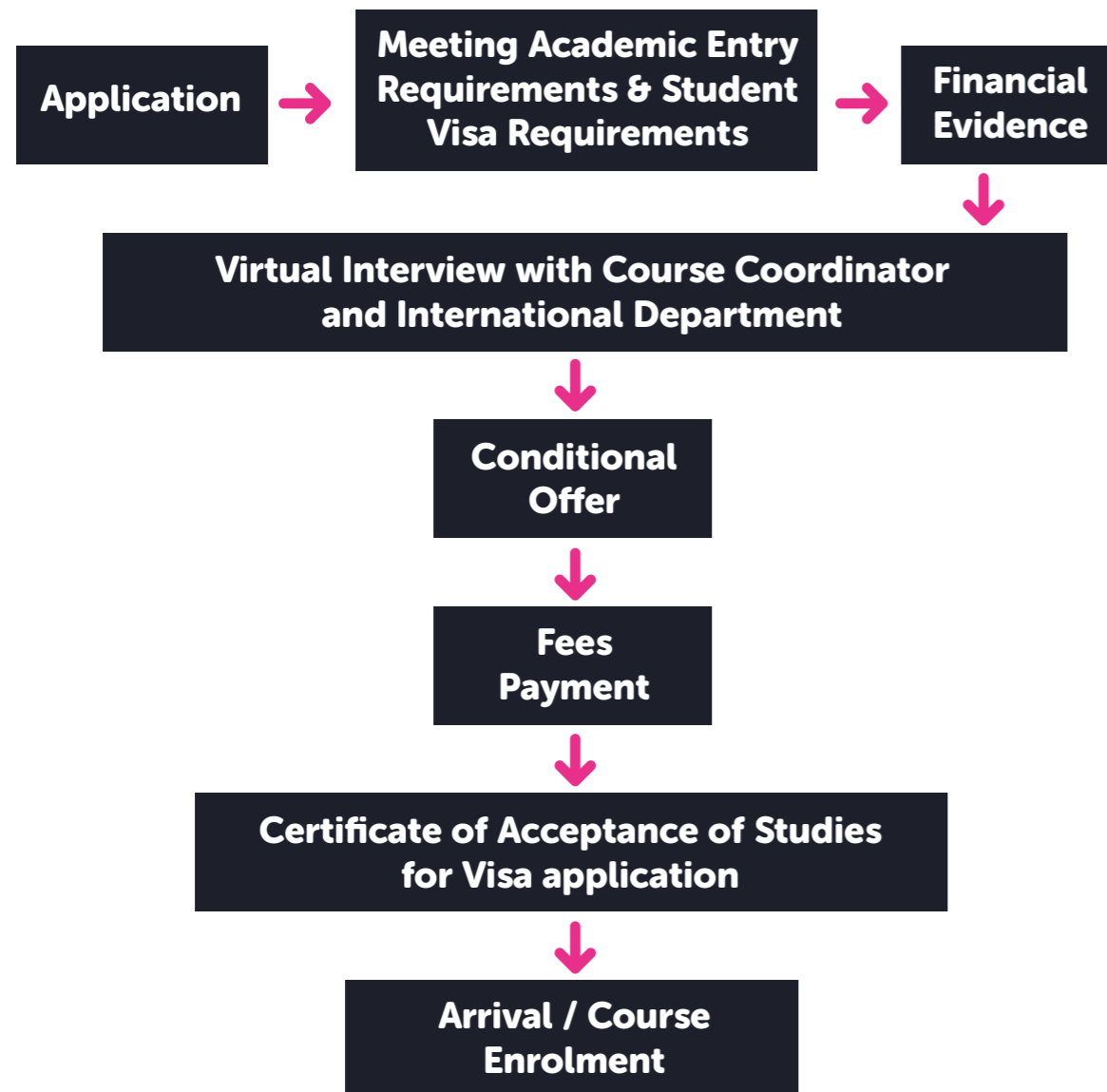
SERC has been very welcoming, and I am thoroughly enjoying the course so far. The Applied Science modules are both engaging and insightful.

”

**Jessica Du Plessis (USA)**  
Applied Science

# INTERNATIONAL ADMISSION PROCESS (VISA)

All applications for September entry must be submitted by the end of May each year. Once an offer has been made, applicants will have a further 28 days to pay their full course fee. Failure to do so, may result in your offer being cancelled.



# QUALIFICATIONS EXPLAINED

**At SERC we offer a large variety of courses which are fully recognised by employers and universities. There are several different pathways and progression routes which allow for further study or employment.**

## DEGREE (Level 6)

This is a Higher Education qualification that helps you develop a true understanding of a subject. The qualification is designed to help you develop your analytical and writing skills, while developing technical skills for the world of employment. At SERC we offer both full-time and part-time degree options. We also offer a top-up degree option in specialist subject areas.

## FOUNDATION DEGREE (Level 5)

This is a Higher Education qualification that combines academic study with work-based learning. Designed jointly by universities, colleges and employers, foundation degrees are available in a range of subjects. They are designed to equip you for a particular area of work, as well as giving you the skills that are useful in any type of job. Following a foundation degree, you can progress to a relevant SERC top-up degree or university to achieve a degree qualification. Foundation degrees provide a clear progression route to a bachelor's degree programme, or into employment.

## HIGHER NATIONAL DIPLOMA, HND (Level 5)

A Higher National Diploma (HND) is a vocational qualification that provides students with practical skills and theoretical knowledge for a specific career. This is usually studied full-time over two years. You will complete an HNC in year one of the course. An HND can lead on to a degree programme or directly into employment.

## HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE, HNC (Level 4)

A Higher National Certificate (HNC) is a vocational qualification that prepares students for the workforce with practical skills and theoretical knowledge. HNCs are Level 4 qualifications and are usually completed in one year full-time or two years part-time. If you are already in employment, a part-time HNC develops the technical skills which you can put into practice in your current job. Higher National qualifications are highly valued by employers and can also count towards membership of professional bodies and other employer

organisations. They focus on learning by doing, and give skills that you can use in a particular job as well as providing opportunities for progression.

## LEVEL 3 NATIONAL DIPLOMA / EXTENDED DIPLOMA (Level 3)

Level 3 qualifications are advanced vocational programmes that provide students with the knowledge and practical skills needed for skilled employment or progression to Higher Education. They are broadly equivalent to A-Level study and are typically completed over one or two years. Level 3 courses combine classroom learning with practical training and are designed to prepare students for specific career pathways. Many programmes include opportunities to develop industry-relevant skills through practical projects and employer engagement. Successful completion of a Level 3 qualification can provide progression to Higher Education programmes such as Higher National Certificates (HNCs), Higher National Diplomas (HNDs) or Foundation Degrees, as well as apprenticeships or direct entry into employment.

# WHY SERC?

## THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

**SERC offers courses validated by Liverpool John Moores University, The Open University, Queen's University Belfast, Ulster University and awarding bodies such as Pearson and VTCT.**

Our courses lead to recognised, respected qualifications and offer progression to employment or to the next stage of education.

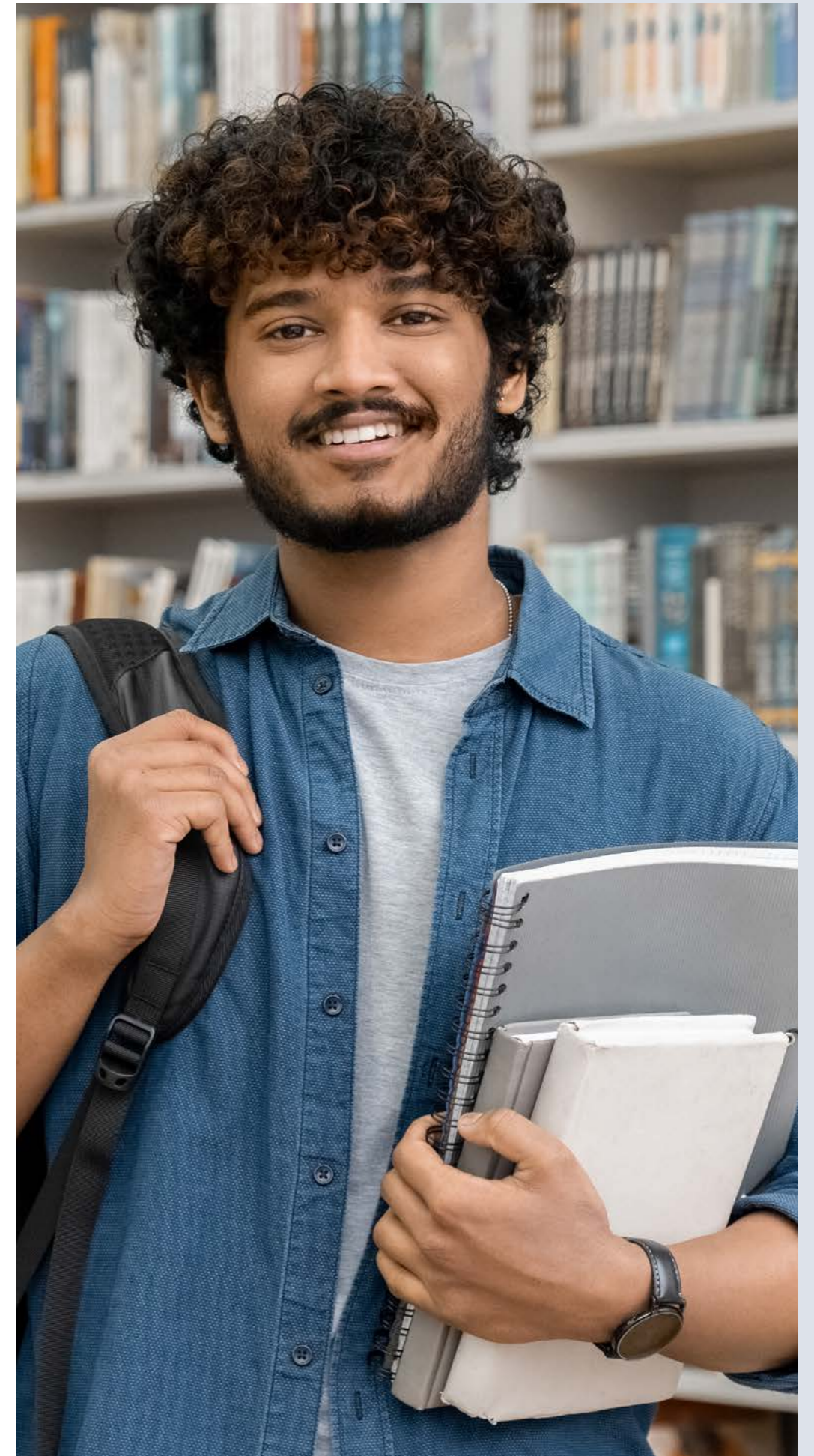
We work in small classes or in workshops – no sitting in a lecture theatre!

Courses include work placements, and in many cases offer work experience abroad.

We have industry-experienced, qualified tutors and state-of-the-art facilities.

Learning is rooted in meeting practical challenges and working on projects to develop teamwork and self-management skills.

International study fees are significantly lower than those of UK universities. Contact the international team for more information on fees and charges.



# JOIN A WINNING TEAM

SERC is the highest-performing college in Northern Ireland

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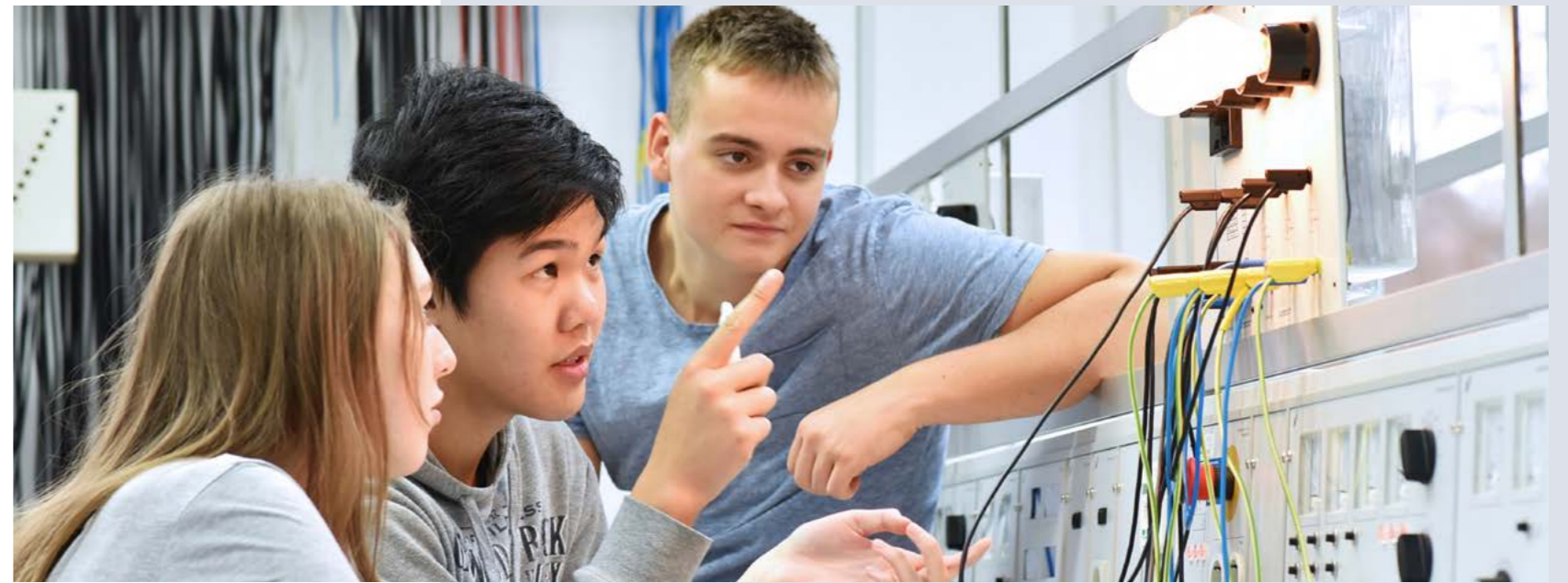
In 2024-25 the achievement rate for full-time students at SERC was 91%

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In 2024-25 most full-time Higher Education students at SERC achieved higher grades including merits, commendations, distinctions, 2:1 and first-class honours

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SERC consistently scores highly for student satisfaction in annual surveys



# THE STUDENT VOICE

## STUDENTS' UNION

SERC Students' Union (SU) advocates for SERC students and also delivers a programme of events and activities to enrich and enhance college life for the SERC community. All students are automatically members of the SU and can stand for office such as class representative, or welfare officer.

If you can't find a club or society at SERC which reflects your interests, the SU will support you in starting one! **Click here to find out more.**



## GO GREENER!

SERC was awarded the prestigious Green Gown Award for our commitment to promoting sustainability. Students and staff are invited to get involved in progressing this commitment through eco communities and involvement in projects. **Click here to find out more.**



## STUDENT BUSINESSES

SERC provides a range of activities through which you can develop enterprise skills. All full-time students spend the first two weeks of the academic year developing enterprise ideas. There are also dedicated workspaces for students to develop their ideas, and a team supporting students to establish their own business. **Click here to find out more.**

# STUDENT SUPPORT

## PASTORAL CARE

We work with organisations such as Ascertainment, Aware, Inspire and the HSC to help you to overcome challenges and achieve your goals.

## LEARNING SUPPORT

If you have additional needs, we have the facilities and staff to work with you to help you succeed.

## STUDENT FINANCE

It can be difficult to juggle your finances when you're a student. SERC publishes a range of guides and has a team of advisors to support you.

## CAREERS

Our award-winning careers advisors can help you plan your path to achieving your ambitions.

## STUDENT CARERS

If you have caring responsibilities at home, we understand that this can have an impact on your learning. We have a dedicated support service to offer help and advice.

## LIBRARY

If you need a place to study or help in finding resources to support your learning, we have libraries on each main campus with printed books and e-books and quiet study areas.



Click on the titles to find out more

# REAL SKILLS FOR REAL LIFE

**At SERC we know it is important to educate the whole person, which means we don't just deliver paper qualifications, we develop rounded individuals with the personal and interpersonal skills needed to navigate life. We know, too, that these skills are valued by employers.**

Transversal skills (T-skills) and Meta-skills (M-skills) are behaviours and competencies which underpin the learning of other skills and knowledge. They include critical thinking, team work, creativity, problem-solving, time management and learning skills. SERC puts these at the centre of the educational experience to build confidence and prepare our students for the challenges of modern life and work.



“

**I had an excellent 5 years journey with SERC. I have achieved a BTEC Diploma in Business and BA in Business. Being an international student it was like a home for me. All the tutors, staff and class friends are supportive. They are always available when you need support. I strongly recommend people to study at SERC.**

”

**Shajia Nowshin (Bangladesh)  
LJMU BA (Hons) Business Studies**

# HOW TO APPLY IN FIVE EASY STEPS

Ready to join us? Make sure to apply for your course online via our public website [www.serc.ac.uk](http://www.serc.ac.uk) to begin your admissions process.

If you have any questions or need support with your application, please don't hesitate to contact our International Team by emailing [international@serc.ac.uk](mailto:international@serc.ac.uk) we're here to help!

## STEP 1

View Courses on public website

## STEP 2

Submit Online Application

## STEP 3

Upload Qualification Documents and Proof of ID

## STEP 4

Meeting Entry Requirements

## STEP 5

Financial Evidence



INTERNATIONAL PROSPECTUS



# REAL LEARNING AT SERC

Apply Now for courses starting in 2026!

Click to visit our social media sites

