Applying to University
Applying to HE

• Research

• UCAS and UCAS Conservatoires

• 10 Steps to Applying

• Further Information
Campus or city University?

Which Course?

Local or Further afield?

Research

What are the Course Requirements?

What about League Tables?
Research

- Undergraduate prospectus
- Visits days
- Social media
- Parents and teachers
- Current students and friends
Research

The Times Higher Education

www.timeshighereducation.com
Research

Compare the Uni

comparetheuni.com
Research

Compare the Uni
comparereuni.com

![Screenshot of the Compare the Uni website](image-url)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
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<th>Times Ranking</th>
<th>Guardian Ranking</th>
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[Click to go to profile]
Research
Which? University
www.university.which.co.uk
Research

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www.university.which.co.uk
Research

Uni Stats

www.unistats.com
Research

University Websites

ncl.ac.uk
What is UCAS?

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service

Online service for:
- Undergraduate degrees
- HND courses at universities
- Foundation courses
What is UCAS?

- Search for courses
- Compare entry requirements
- Paste your Personal Statement
- Pay securely
- Track your application
What is UCAS?

ucas.com
UCAS Conservatoires

What is a Conservatoire?
A college for the study of the arts, usually:
- Classical Music
- Dance
- Drama

www.ucas.com/ucas/conservatoires
10 Steps to Applying
1. Registering

ucas.com
1. Registering

ucas.com

- Personal details
- Further details
- Education

Use an appropriate e-mail address!
2. Choices

• Students can apply for 5 courses

• This is only 4 for Veterinary Science or Veterinary Medicine, Medicine and Dentistry

• Students can only make 1 application to Oxbridge

Good to know

You can still use your fifth choice for courses such as Biomedicine
2. Choices

Course Finder
2. Choices

Course Finder
3. Deferred Entry

- Take some time out before further study at university
- We recommend applying with everyone else in Year 13
- When applying tick ‘2018 entry’
- Justify the decision in your personal statement

Check with each university individually
4. Qualifications & Work History

- Include ALL qualifications the student already has.

- Also include any qualifications which haven’t yet been marked – this is what unis will base offers on.

- It is important to include any work experience whether voluntary or unpaid.
5. Personal Statement

• Each student has **4000 characters** for them to show the university why they should choose them to study their course

• Used by universities when:
  • Considering applications
  • Asking potential interview questions
  • Deciding the status of near-miss applications
5. Personal Statement

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• Used by universities when:
  • Considering applications
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  • Deciding the status of near-miss applications

Write about the course
↓
Skills and achievements
↓
Hobbies and interests
↓
Work experience
↓
Write a concluding statements

More info online about what to include
6. Pay and Submit

- Mark all sections as ‘complete’

- Before students can submit there is a fee to pay:
  - £12 for one course
  - £23 for multiple courses

Good to know

Each university will receive applications independently
7. UCAS Track: Responses

- **Unconditional offer** – The student has already met the grade requirements. As long as they complete any stated examinations they have a place.

- **Conditional offer** - If the student meets the set conditions, they have a place. This normally means that they have to meet certain grade/points requirements.

- **Unsuccessful** – The application for that course has been unsuccessful and the student has not been offered a place.
8. UCAS Track: Reply

- **Firm** – The student’s first choice of course. If they meet the grade requirements, they will attend this course.

- **Insurance** – A second or back-up choice. If the student fails to meet the grade requirements for their firm choice, but meet the requirements for this course, they can attend this course.

**Recommendation**

Choose an insurance choice with lower entry requirements to act as a safety net.
9. Back-up Plan

- If the student is unsuccessful in all of their applications, they can make single applications to other courses through UCAS Extra.

- Vacancies are listed on the UCAS website.

- Available from around 25 February.

- Avoids the need for Clearing.
10. Results Day

- Aiming to match or exceed your conditional offer

- Here’s what happens next

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<td>Meet the firm choice offer</td>
<td>Going to the firm choice uni!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss the firm choice offer but get the insurance offer</td>
<td>Going to the insurance choice uni!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student exceeds the firm choice offer</td>
<td>They have the option to go through Adjustment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss both the firm and insurance offers</td>
<td>Going to have to go through Clearing...</td>
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Clearing

- Available for those who do not hold a university place following the publication of exam results in August.

- Becomes active for most students on the day of A-level results and helps students find suitable vacant university places.
Clearing

You snooze you lose!

Have a pen and paper to hand

Be open to suggestions

Avoid being on holiday on results day

Have your UCAS I.D. at the ready

Clearing hotline open
Monday 18 August onwards: 9am to 5pm
Adjustment
UCAS Key Dates

- **September 2016**
  - Applications open from mid-September

- **15th October 2016**
  - Application deadline for Oxford and Cambridge, and Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary medicine/science

- **15th January 2017**
  - Application deadline for the majority of courses
  - Check course details for the correct deadline

- **24th March 2017**
  - Application deadline for some art and design courses
Applying to HE

Any questions?