

The UCAS application process

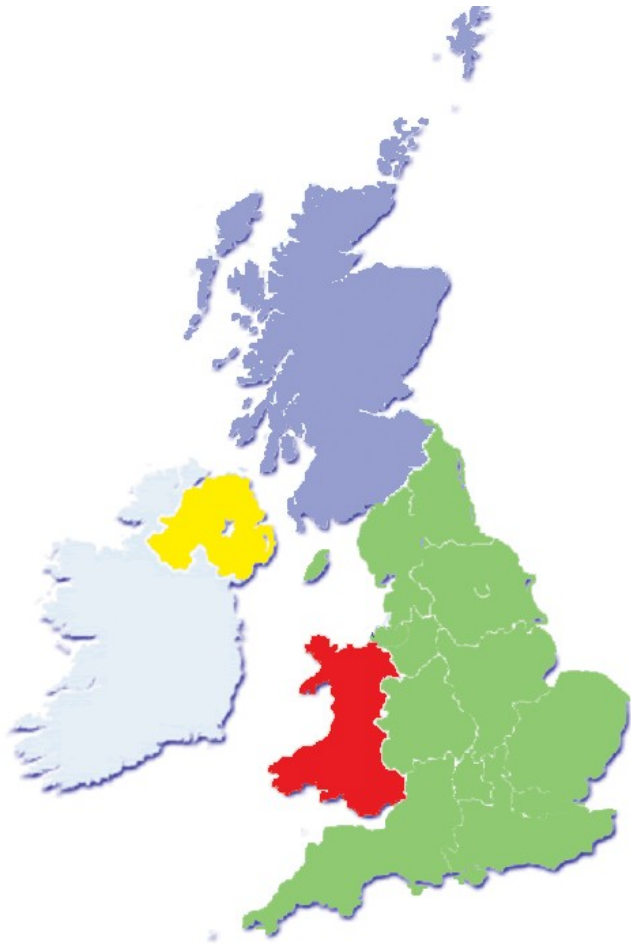




Central organisation
processing applications to
full-time higher education
courses in England, Wales,
Scotland and Northern
Ireland.



UK Higher Education



385 Universities / Colleges
6 Northern Ireland
20 Wales
23 Scotland
336 England

35,000 courses

Applicant statistics



Each year:

- 6,000 applicants from Ireland
- 2,000 people accepted



Why study in the UK?

UCAS International applicant destinations survey

| Reasons for studying in the UK | % of responder |
|--|----------------|
| Standard of the university or college | 78% |
| Standard of the course | 73% |
| Better job prospects in my home country after studying in UK | 43% |
| To improve my English | 34% |
| So that I could live away from home or have more freedom | 33% |
| I want to permanently stay in the UK | 27% |
| The UK is a safe place to study | 27% |
| My friends or family have previously studied in the UK | 26% |

UCAS Search tool

UCAS

UCAS

[Home](#) / [How it all works](#) / [Apply](#) / [Providers](#) / [Data & analysis](#) / [News & events](#) / [About us](#)

Search courses

Where do you normally live?*

*This helps us to show courses that are available to you. [Click here for more info](#)

Search by **any** or **all** of the following

Course:

Provider:

Location:

Search >

Don't know what to study?

Need help finding courses? Browse subjects and find out what's available.



Browse >

UCAS Search tool

Use our new search to find undergraduate courses and courses at conservatoires.

We'll be adding all our other courses soon – until then, click the links below.

- [Postgraduate courses](#)
- [Postgraduate teacher training courses](#)
- [Foundation degrees](#)



Tips on finding right course

- A subject ***you*** enjoy – investing time & effort
- Right for your career path – check employers
- Location – city/rural, transport links
- A study style that suits you
- Extra-curricular activities
- Finances



Apply 2017

Key facts

- Application is entirely online
- Maximum of 5 choices
- Some choice restrictions:
 - Medicine, Veterinary, Dentistry (maximum of 4)
 - Oxford **or** Cambridge
- Simple application cost:
 - 1 Choice - £12
 - 2-5 Choices - £23
- Simultaneous consideration
- 'Invisibility'



When to apply

1 September First day for receipt of applications

15 October Medicine, Veterinary and Dentistry
Oxford **or** Cambridge



When to apply

- 15 January Advisory application deadline (UK/EU)
- 24 March Some art & design courses
- 30 June Latest date for international applicants



Completing the UCAS application

6 sections to complete:

- Personal details
- Choices
- Education
- Employment
- Personal statement
- Referee details



Tutor - adds reference



UCAS



Universities/Colleges

Personal Statement

The only section you have control over

Your only chance to sell yourself as an individual

One Personal Statement for **all** choices

Max. 4,000 characters

Min. 1,000 characters

No spelling/grammar check

No formatting



Personal Statement

Others may have same grades – helps you stand out

Shows university/college Admissions Tutor:

- You're suited to the course
- Motivation and dedication
- Relevant knowledge/experience
- Understand the demands of the course
- You'll fit the university environment



Common errors

Not leaving enough time

Failure to check entry requirements

Qualifications missing, or incorrectly entered

Wrong student support fee code

Forgot admissions test registration

Copied text in personal statement



Using Track

- Access your record online
- Shows choices, offers, personal information
- Allows you to:
 - update personal info
 - Get information about offers
- Also used to:
 - reply to offers
 - Extra, *Clearing, * registering for Adjustment*

* if and when eligible

Universities' decisions

Universities and colleges will review:

You'll get 1 of 3 decisions:

Personal statement
Reference
Qualifications
Admissions test results
Interviews
Portfolios
Auditions

Unconditional offer
Conditional offer
Unsuccessful



Your replies

Wait for all decisions from all choices

Then choose your 1 **Firm** and 1 **Insurance**

Firm - If all conditions are met, where you will be **placed**

Insurance - Usually lower conditions

Any other offers must be **declined**

You don't have to have an **Insurance**



Confirmation of places

Exam results are published and sent to universities and colleges

Admissions staff check if you've met the conditions of the offer
four possible outcomes:

Met the conditions of your
Firm
Time to celebrate!

Missed out on your Firm, but
met Insurance conditions?
Also time to celebrate!

Not met the conditions of
Either. You could still get a
Place through Clearing.

Better than expected? You
could use **Adjustment** to
Change your place.

Other options

Extra (24 Feb-4 July)

Used all 5 choices and had no offers (or declined all offers/withdrew). Add Extra choices for consideration one at a time.



Quick refresh

| | |
|----------|---|
| 1 | Applicant researches course choices |
| 2 | Applicant researches admissions tests, student loans And visa requirements |
| 3 | Applicant registers online with UCAS Apply |
| 4 | Completes form and processes payment |
| 5 | Academic reference added by school |
| 6 | Centre / applicant sends form electronically to UCAS |
| 7 | UCAS processes form / forwards to universities/colleges |
| 8 | They submit decisions (offer or unsuccessful) |
| 9 | Applicant views decisions on Track |
| 10 | Applicant replies to offers on Track (Firm / Insurance) |
| 11 | Place confirmed when results are released |

Questions – Contact Guidance Counsellor

