



‘Where you will get the support and personal guidance to fulfil your potential.’

Applying to Universities and Colleges

Tuesday 26/09/17



Agenda

- Key Dates
- UCAS – What is it?
- When to apply
- The UCAS Process
- Choosing courses
- Clearing and Adjustment
- The Personal Statement
- Working with your personal tutor
- How can parents help?

What is UCAS?

- UCAS Apply – For applying to Universities, Colleges, Higher and Degree Level Apprenticeships
- UCAS Extra - If you have no offers from your 5 choices, you can add an additional choice between February and July
- UCAS Search – an online tool for researching available courses related to your field of interest
- UCAS Tariffs – a points system for converting grades into numbers. It is used as a measure of entry requirements for most courses
- UCAS Track – A feature that allows you to view the progress of your application, including offers!

When to apply – Key dates

- **October 15th at 1800** – Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Oxford, Cambridge
- ✦ (new this year) certain Universities have requested that you meet this deadline if you are also applying to Oxbridge...
- **December 19th** – Southborough Deadline (Pay and Send)
- **January 15th at 1800**– Most Undergraduate courses
- **March 24th at 1800** – Some art and design courses

The benefits of applying early →

- Less stress... Get it out of the way and you won't be completing applications close to mock or real exams.
- Not because the first applications will get unfair advantage... it is a deadline for a reason.

Pay and Send

- Once you press the Pay and Send button, your application comes through to the School section of the website for the 6th Form team to check. It costs approximately £25. This is their processing fee.
- You only pay once
- If there are any issues with your application, we can send it back and forth before sending it off to UCAS.
- When your application has been checked and given the 'thumbs-up', WE can send it off to UCAS.

Competition and being ahead of the curve

COURSE	APPLIED	ACCEPTED	RATIO OF APPS TO ACCS (:1)
MEDICINE	84,395	7,515	11
DENTISTRY	11,490	1,190	10
ECONOMICS	52,170	7,875	7
PHARMACY	31,705	4,635	7
NURSING	226,400	24,700	9
LAW	123,720	23,740	5

*UCAS Data & Analysis Report
(HE subject groups)*
www.ucas.com/data-analysis

UCAS

Why go to university or college?

- If it's all about the money..

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/careers/what-do-graduates-do-and-earn/what-do-graduates-earn/>

- Career opportunities
- Transferrable Skills acquisition
- Lifestyle
- Find out who YOU are

Things to consider

- WHERE are you going?
- Accommodation
- Facilities
- Reputation? (Russell Group, League Tables)
- Cost – up to £9,250 per year...!
- Your choice!

NEW Alternatives to Higher Education and going to University

Degree Apprenticeships & Higher Apprenticeships

Name	Level	Equivalent Educational level
Higher	4,5,6,&7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or Masters degree

The Process...

- Register for UCAS (you should have already done this)

BUZZWORD: Southborough2018

- Find out your 'predicted grades'
- Research and decide on 5 relevant courses
- Complete the online form
- Write a personal statement (4000 characters max.)
- Discuss your reference with your Personal Tutor
- Pay and send... (pay UCAS, send it via UCAS to us)
- Review your complete application with your Personal tutor and send it off to UCAS

The Process... after you have sent your application...

- Check your UCAS Track account for offers
- If you have offers, then you need to choose a FIRM and INSURANCE choice (this can be between March and July)
- Apply for Student Accommodation (if you are moving away from home)
- Apply for Student Finance (check eligibility for Educational funding / grants)
- Work hard to achieve (or beat) your predicted grades and ensure you can access your offers
- Results Day 2018 – Check UCAS Track
- Clearing and Adjustment

Choosing Courses

- 1 or 2 courses that have entry requirements close to above your predicted grades
- 2 or 3 courses that have entry requirements equal or close to your predicted grades
- 1 course that has entry requirements below your current predicted grades

Predicted grades are provided by your subject teacher (in discussion with their Head of Faculty)

A level grade

A level grade	Old Tariff	New Tariff
A*A*A*	420	168
A*A*A	400	160
A*AA	380	152
AAA	360	144
AAB	340	136
ABB	320	128
BBB	300	120
BBC	280	112
BCC	260	104
CCC	240	96
CCD	220	88
CDD	200	80
DDD	180	72

Information and advice

Search articles, information and advice by keyword



⚠ UCAS Postgraduate Apply and search tool availability: 21 – 23 April - Read more

⚠ UCAS Teacher Training search tool availability: 21 – 23 April - Read more

All stages Discover Apply Track

Search for courses

Select a course type

What are my options?

What are your options after school, college, or sixth form? Find out here.

Getting started

BIMM
BRITISH INDEPENDENT MUSIC INSTITUTE
EUROPE'S MOST CONNECTED MUSIC COLLEGE
APPLY NOW

Advertisement

London South Bank University
Choose LSBU.
Become what you want to be

Advertisement

Thinking about higher education?

Filters

- Undergraduate
- Postgraduate
- Teacher Training
- Conservatoires
- 16-18 Choices

Applying Getting started

Apprenticeships and jobs

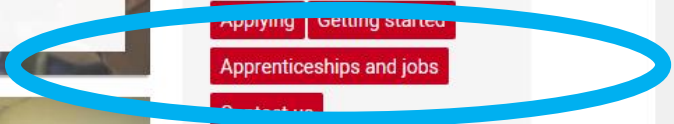
Student support

The application process

Finance and funding

Key dates After applying

Student support



Clearing

- Clearing – If you have not met the conditions of your Firm or Insurance choices, then you can opt to go through Clearing. You can also decline your Firm or Insurance choice and opt to go through Clearing.

This means that you will need to make phone calls to prospective Universities or Colleges, to see if they have any places available and if they would take you with your achieved grades

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/apply-and-track/results/no-offers-learn-how-clearing-works>

Adjustment

- Adjustment – If you did better than expected, and have met and exceeded your original FIRM choice, you can apply to other courses without losing your original place.

Open from A-Level results day until the end of August

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/apply-and-track/results/ucas-adjustment-%E2%80%93-if-you%E2%80%99ve-done-better-expected>

The personal statement

- Maximum length 47 lines and 4000 characters
- It should be related to all of your choices. You only write one personal statement
- Explain why you like the subject and tell them about any relevant work experience / extra-curricular interests / super-curricular activities
- Tell them about you... use 'I' statements
- **Don't:**
 - Tell them about the subject or try to 'wow' them with your intelligence
 - Use an online thesaurus
 - Copy and paste or use clichés

Working with your personal tutor

- Get to know them. They need to know enough about you to write you a 'glowing' reference
- Highlight anything that you want them to include in the reference that you couldn't fit in the Personal statement
- Only work with one personal tutor... be faithful...
- Email ahead and organise times to meet and go through your draft/s
- Use Google docs... it is the best thing since... Google!

How can parents help?

- Go to www.ucas.com/parents
- Sign up to receive emails from UCAS
- Download the Parent Guide
- Check out the go-second parent videos
- Get top tips for your son/daughter

- Ask questions, show an interest, advise and guide...