

UCAS

Parents' Information Evening

Tuesday 21st June

6.30pm

The role of UCAS

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service

www.ucas.co.uk

- Processes applications for full-time and many part-time courses at higher education institutions in the UK
- Provides online support, information and guidance to students

Application Costs

1 course	2 courses
£13	£24

The Process

- Students complete a single online application for all courses for which they are applying
- The student completes the first **five** sections of the application:
 1. Personal Details
 2. Choices
 3. Education
 4. Employment
 5. Personal Statement
- The Progress Coach completes the final section:
 6. Reference
- All applications go through a **thorough checking process**

Welcome	
Personal details	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional information	<input type="checkbox"/>
Choices	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Statement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reference	<input type="checkbox"/>
View all details	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pay/Send	<input type="checkbox"/>
Help	
Options/Opsiynau	

1. Personal Details

- Generic personal information:
 - Name
 - Address
 - DOB
 - Disabilities
 - Nationality
 - Etc.....

Gloucestershire
GL52 3LZ

?

Is your permanent home in the UK?* Yes No ?

Home address (if different from postal address)

?

Home telephone number ?

Mobile number ?

Email address* ?

Confirm email address* ?

Date of birth* ?

- NB: Remember to use capital letters where appropriate

2. Choices

- Important to **check the entry requirements** before applying
- Predicted grades will be the main factor for universities deciding whether to make an offer or not
- Maximum of **five** choices
- Some choice restrictions:
 - Medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine/science (max **four** choices)
 - Can only apply to Oxford **OR** Cambridge (not both)



Search courses

Where do you normally live?*:

Search courses available in*: 2015 2016

*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:

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](#)



Predicted Grades

- Students are given an overall predicted grade for each subject at the beginning of their 2nd year
- These will go on their UCAS application form for universities to use when considering applications. It is therefore important that choices are realistic ones – particularly if applying to highly competitive courses/universities
- **Students' predicted grades should MATCH or EXCEED the entry requirements of the courses for which they are applying**

Entry Requirements

- Some universities will identify certain grades to be achieved to be accepted onto the course (e.g. ABB). Other institutions use UCAS tariff points.
- The UCAS tariff system is a points total achieved by converting qualifications such as A levels and BTECs into points, making it simpler for course providers to compare applicants. It has been amended this year
- Certain courses may also require specific subjects to have been studied (at A level or GCSE) so it is worth checking entry requirements carefully

UCAS Tariff System

A Level Grades and UCAS Points system				BTEC Grades and UCAS Points system					
A Level grades		AS Level Grades		Extended Project Qualification		Extended Diploma		Subsidiary Diploma	
A*	56	A*	n/a	A*	28	D*D*D*	168	D*	56
A	48	A	20	A	24	D*D*D	160	D	48
B	40	B	16	B	20	D*DD	152	M	23
C	32	C	12	C	16	DDD	144	P	16
D	24	D	10	D	12	DDM	128		
E	16	E	6	E	8	DMM	112		
						MMM	96		
						MMP	80		
						MPP	64		
						PPP	48		

3. Education

- Previous school: examinations taken and qualifications gained
- Current college course: AS and A2 subjects/BTEC qualifications
- Any additional certificates or qualifications gained (eg quals in music, dance, Duke of Edinburgh Award, etc)

4. Employment

Any current or previous **paid** employment

5. Personal Statement

- Written with support from progress coaches, careers and subject teachers
- The student's opportunity to state why s/he wants to study a particular course and why they think it is the right course for them
- One personal statement for all choices
- A major part of the selection process by universities (particularly for courses that do not interview)
- Students are given a lot of support and guidance through college - online and via progress coaches

5. Personal Statement

- Maximum length - 4,000 characters (including spaces), 47 lines
- Minimum – 1,000 characters
- No spelling/grammar check
- No formatting

- Should be a thought-out, planned and well written piece, including:
 - Skills and qualities
 - Reasons for subject/course choice
 - Achievements and relevant experience



6. Reference

- Compiled and edited by the Progress Coach and based on a collection of comments from teaching staff
- Individual to each student, it is a positive academic account of the student and their skills and qualities
- Predicted grades are included in the reference as well as details of any relevant experience the student has gained

Sending Applications

- Once students have completed their sections of the application, they can click 'Pay and Send'. This means that the application is sent to the college – **NOT UCAS**.
- Staff at the college then add the student's reference and undertake several checks of the application before officially submitting the form to UCAS - an application can take several weeks to get through the whole checking system.
- Staff have a large volume of applications to check, so students **MUST** meet the KGV internal submission deadline to guarantee their applications will be checked and sent off before the official UCAS deadline

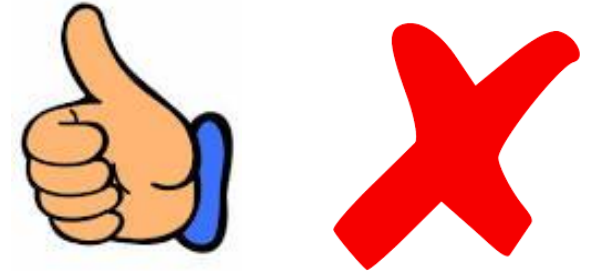
Welcome	
Personal details	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Additional information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Student finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Choices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Employment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Statement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reference	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Help	
Options/Opsiynau	

What happens next?

- Once the application is paid for, checked and sent, UCAS takes over and sends the application to the chosen universities
- Students can track the status of their application through UCAS Track
- Track allows the student to:
 - Follow the progress of the application
 - See their offers
 - Reply to their offers

Institution	Course	Decision	Reply	Conditions
(B56) The University of Bradford	(B991) Clinical Sciences/Medicine Foundation (Year 0)	Conditional offer	Declined	This offer is subject to you obtaining a total of 260 UCAS tariff points to include 2 GCE Advanced Levels at grade C. No more than 30 points from Key Skills or any other scheme can count towards the total UCAS tariff points. This is a Widening Participation offer. Please email proof of GCSE English, Mathematics and a Science subject with at least Grade C or equivalent level qualification, to admissions-life@bradford.ac.uk. Please include your UCAS Personal ID with all correspondence.
(C05) University of Cambridge	(A100) Medicine	Conditional offer	Firmly accepted	This offer is subject to you obtaining GCE A level Grades A*A*A excluding General Studies Receipt of enhanced criminal record check

Decisions and Replies



- Provider decisions:
 - **Unsuccessful**
 - **Conditional Offer**
 - **Unconditional Offer -**
 - This is given to a student that the university feels will be an asset to their course/institution
 - Student does not need to obtain the grades needed for the course
 - HOWEVER – this does not mean the student does not need to continue to work hard, handing in all work to a good standard and within deadlines. Universities will still expect the student to do well and complete their course.
- Once students have received responses from **all** their chosen courses, they must reply.
 - They can pick one as their **Firm Choice** and one as their **Insurance Choice**. All other offers have to be declined. **NOTE:** It is vital that the insurance choice has **lower** entry requirements than the firm choice, otherwise it is redundant.

If the student does not meet the conditions of their firm choice, s/he can either accept their insurance choice or go into clearing

No offers



- Occasionally, a student will not receive any offers, or they may decline the offers they have received. If so:
- **UCAS EXTRA**
 - Opens on 25th February and closes on 4th July
 - Allows students to apply for additional courses **one at a time**
 - Can apply for different subject areas if they have changed their mind on their original course
- **UCAS CLEARING**
 - Advertises the places that are unfilled on hundreds of courses
 - Students apply on a 'first come, first served' basis
 - Opens on 5th July

Students can get support using these services via Progress Coaches and Careers.

Important Points to remember

- **Admissions Tests**

- Some courses require students to undertake an external admissions test as part of the selection process. Students will be made aware of this when applying: however, they should **always check**.
- Common courses include:
 - Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine/Science, Law, Physics, Maths, History, Languages, Engineering
 - All Oxford and Cambridge degrees



Key Dates

- **23rd September 2016** **KGV internal 'early applications' deadline**
(for all Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary degrees and all degrees offered by Oxford and Cambridge)
- **15th October 2016** UCAS early applications deadline (as above)
- **18th November 2016** **KGV internal general deadline**
- **15th January 2017** UCAS general deadline

17th August 2017 - A Level Results Day

Support at KGV

- Progress Coaches work very closely with students throughout the application process and monitor their progress stage by stage.
- Students get group sessions and one-to-one help through the progress coaches and careers with every aspect of the application process:
 - Researching and choosing courses
 - Writing their personal statement
 - Finding out about university Open Days
 - Student finance
- Many resources are available in the Learning Centre, on the VLE and online

What can students be doing now?

- **Focus** on possible university/course choices – ie thinking about what they want to study and why they want to study it
- **Research**
 - Checking university websites/prospectuses for possible choices
 - This week students will be introduced to UniFrog, a comparison website for university and apprenticeship courses and programmes
- **Arrange** extra-curricular activities
- **Arrange** relevant work experience (some degrees require this)
- **Read** widely ‘beyond the syllabus’

How can you support the application process?

- Access the parent/guardian section of the UCAS website and sign up for the newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news
- Offer to attend Open Days – you may have a different perspective
- Try not to book holidays at key times
- Make sure students read carefully everything that is sent to them
- Support your son's/daughter's management of the application process

Student Finance

- Student finance is a major factor for students considering university
- Key components:
 - Tuition Fee Loan – paid directly to the university
 - Maintenance Loan – paid to the student for living costs (amount dependent on household income)
- Further information on student finance for 2017 entry to university will be available in the Autumn term
- Most universities also have their own bursary and scholarship schemes, so it is worth researching these at chosen universities

Questions?