



Applying to University

If university seems the best option for your ambitions then you now have some decisions to make. The first main two questions you need to answer are: what do you want to study and where do you want to study.

Most courses require you to apply through www.ucas.com and you can apply for up to 5 courses (deadline 31st Jan). Spend some time exploring the UCAS website and register with [UCAS Hub](http://www.ucas.com). Check the following sites if you are interested in any of the below:

Oxbridge - check www.whatuni.com guide to applying to Oxbridge (deadline 16th Oct).

Medicine, veterinary medicine/science, and dentistry - check the pages on applying to these subjects at www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk (deadline 16th Oct).

Performing arts - check CUKAS www.ucas.com/conservatoires (Some students may find they have to make UCAS, CUKAS and independent applications in order to apply for their preferred courses. The website www.creativeldn.ac.uk/resources/help-applying/ is really useful for making the different routes clear).

Personal Statement

As soon as you have an idea of what you want to study, start work on your [personal statement](#) (info on CUKAS statements is [here](#)). Your statement can take at least a day to write (and you may need to do quite a few drafts) so start working on it asap. For applications through UCAS or CUKAS you only write one statement which will go to all the institutes you are applying to. Some good tips and examples are [here](#).

Application

Applications do take some time to complete. You need to include your GCSE grades and the boards you studied with, your current course/s as well as other information so make sure you have all that info to hand. You will also need a referee (someone who knows you in an academic capacity). Make sure you request a reference from your chosen tutor asap. For CUKAS applications you need two referees!

Finance

University does cost but you don't pay anything back until you start earning over £24,990/yr. Have a look at the following sites to get your head around the financial aspects and feel more confident about the costs involved.

[General finance information](#)

[Apply for student finance](#)

[Funding performing arts courses \(especially ones that don't qualify for government funding\)](#)

[Grants and bursaries](#)

[Extra government help](#)

Next Steps

- Watch these videos on [university](#) at www.getcareerconfident.co.uk.
- Attending the [Open Day](#) at your top choices will also really help you to make your final decisions.
- If you're interested in studying abroad check out www.fulbright.org.uk/ and www.prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate-study/study-abroad.
- Once you have all your applications in you can sit back and relax and wait for your responses. Don't worry if your friends hear before you do!
- Once you have your responses from UCAS, CUKAS or directly from the universities you then need to decide whether you want to take any of the offers. There are various deadlines you don't want to miss e.g for UCAS the first deadline (if you received all offers usually by end of March) for accepting a course is in early June. Look out for emails from UCAS! DO NOT MISS [ACCEPTING YOUR OFFER!](#)
- You will also need to make your [application to student finance](#) in spring as well as choosing your accommodation. You can then head off to your chosen destination in the autumn!
- **FOLLOW US ON [INSTAGRAM @GetCConfident](#)** and TikTok [@GetCareerConfident](#) to keep up to date with deadlines and other advice and guidance.

Good Luck!