

Parents evening presentation

UCAS



Aims -

- To provide information on various options post 16
- To describe the UCAS process including key dates
- To give information on SASS and funding

What is UCAS?

UCAS

- provides information, advice, and support
- processes university applications
- completes fraud and verification checks
- takes part in education sector engagement

What Next?

What are the options available?

UCAS



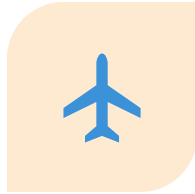
Choices available



HIGHER
EDUCATION



APPRENTICESHIPS



STUDYING
ABROAD



GAP YEAR



GETTING A JOB

Register for the UCAS Hub to understand the options available and make informed choices : ucas.com/hub

Why continue in education?

- Essential for some career paths.
- Develop new transferable skills and subject knowledge.
- Increase confidence and independence.
- Broaden experiences.
- Meet new people.
- Investment in the future.
- Increased job prospects.
- Higher earning potential.



What are the options?

- **Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) and Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE):** first and second year of a degree course.
- **Foundation degree:** flexible vocational qualification, combining both academic study and workplace learning. It usually takes two years to complete.
- **Bachelor's or undergraduate degree:** a three to four-year course which can also be available as a part-time option, allowing you to study and work.
- **Degree apprenticeships:** enable you to gain a full undergraduate or master's degree while you work. Degree apprenticeships take three to six years to complete, depending on the course.



St Augustine's UCAS applications last year

- 72 pupils applied through UCAS
- 69% gained their first preference University course
- Wide variety of courses chosen from Medicine, Architecture, Music, Computer Games Development, Journalism and Law

What's right?

There are a number of things to consider with your next step :

- something you enjoy – you are investing time and effort
- whether it's right for your career path – check with employers and professional organisations
- location – city or rural, transport links
- a study and assessment style that suits you
- environment including extracurricular, clubs, and societies
- finances



A group of diverse students sitting on a concrete bench outdoors. A young woman with long pink hair is smiling and looking towards a young man with a beard and a denim jacket who is also smiling. They are holding books and a backpack. Other students are partially visible in the background.

University or college

What's right for you?

UCAS

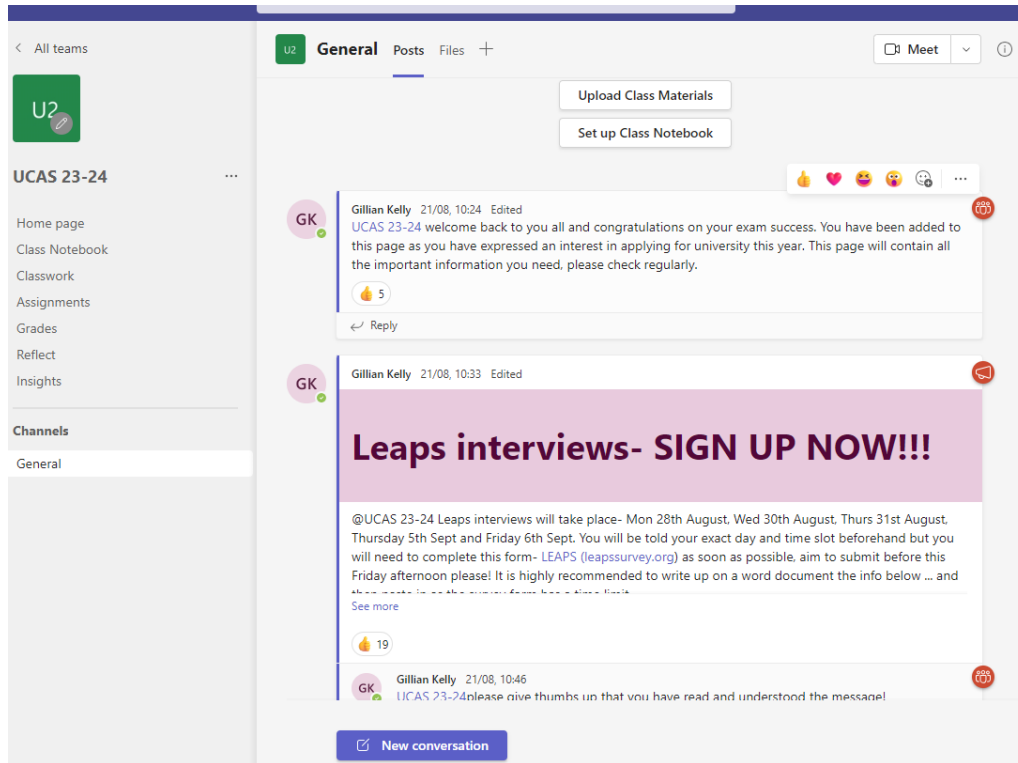
Choosing the right place

- **Style** – from traditional, with a focus on subject-based courses and research, to modern universities/colleges, with a greater focus on vocational courses.
- **Location** – some are in large cities, others in small towns, by the coast or in the countryside – it's all a major influence on the environment and lifestyle.
- **Size** – larger universities can have more than 20,000 students, whereas some of the smallest have only a few thousand.
- **Culture and facilities** – influenced by a range of factors, including the diversity of students who attend.
- **What graduates do** – all universities collect destination statistics; it can be useful to find out what jobs or further study students go on to.
- **Tuition fees** – can vary between universities and colleges; check if there are scholarships or bursaries available.
- **Living costs** – accommodation, transport, and food can vary enormously.

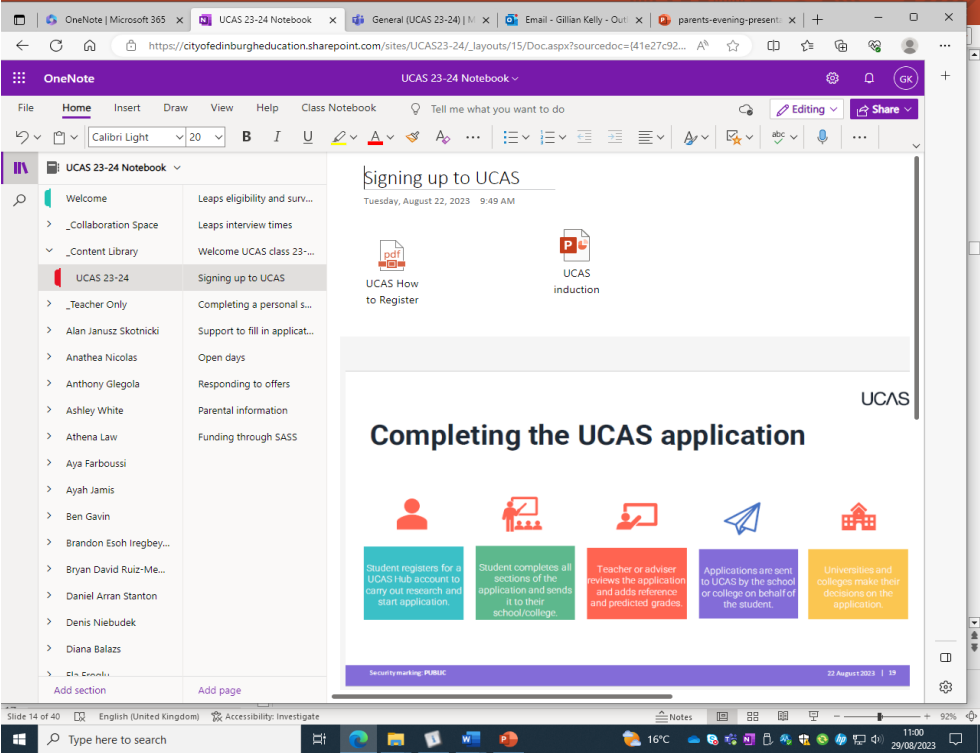
Choosing the right course

- What does the course cover?
- Courses with the same title may be very different.
- Look carefully at the core course content, and the range of optional studies/modules available.
- See if the course or university/college offers any internship, placement, or study abroad opportunities.
- How is the course taught – structured teaching, or more independent research? How many lectures are there, and how much group work will be done in seminars?
- How is the course assessed?

Information sharing on Teams



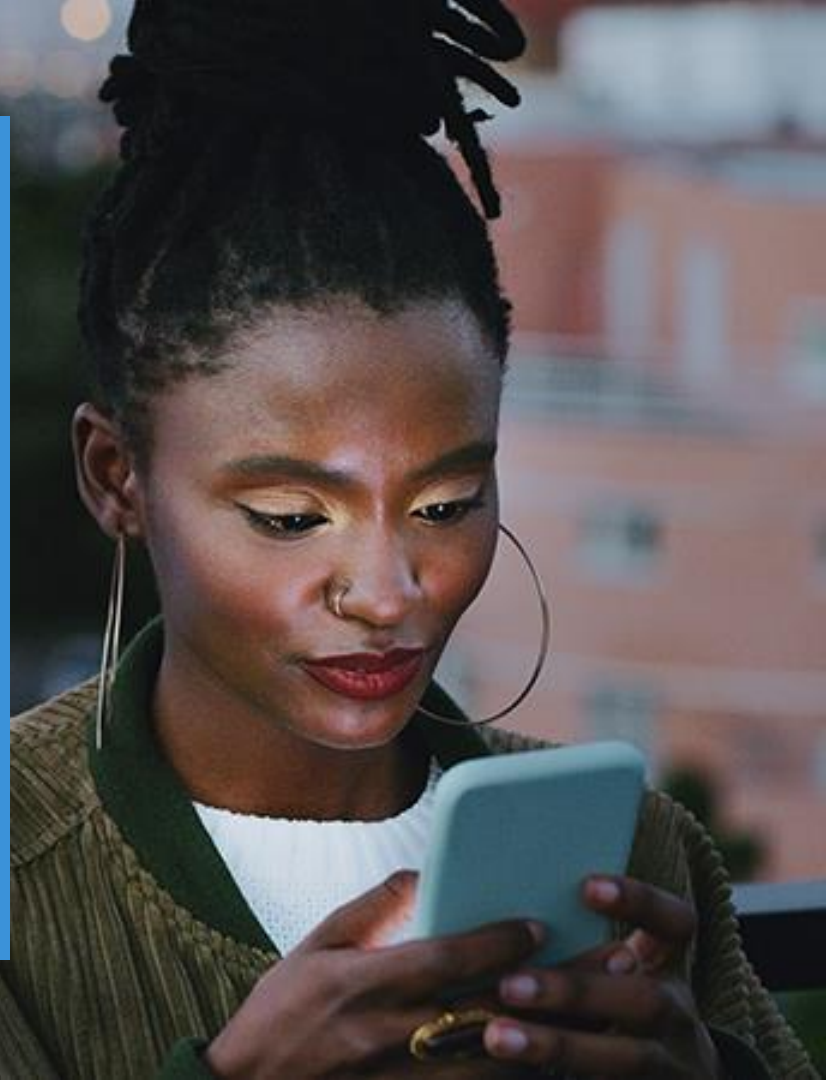
Information sharing on Teams



UCAS Hub

Your discovery tool

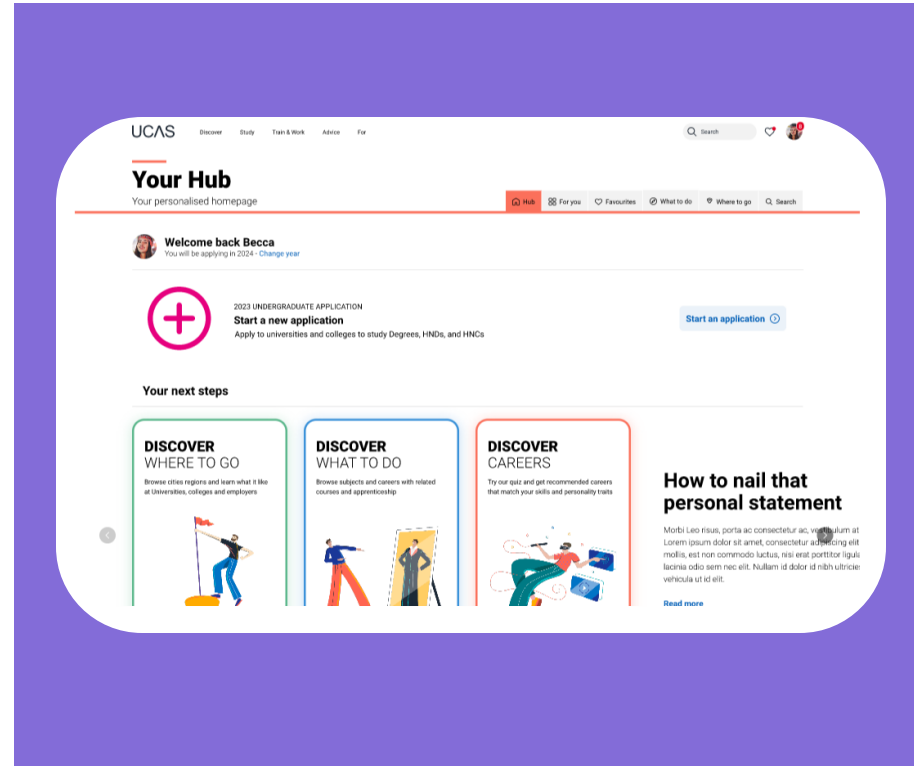
UCAS



Starting your research

Register with the UCAS Hub to:

- explore careers, subjects, places, and apprenticeships
- find and favourite over 35,000 courses
- search for open days, events and virtual tours
- turn predicted grades into UCAS Tariff points
- speak to those in the know using [Unibuddy](#)
- speak to career, higher education, and application specialists by attending [Hub lives](#)
- take the [UCAS Quiz](#) to find your career matches

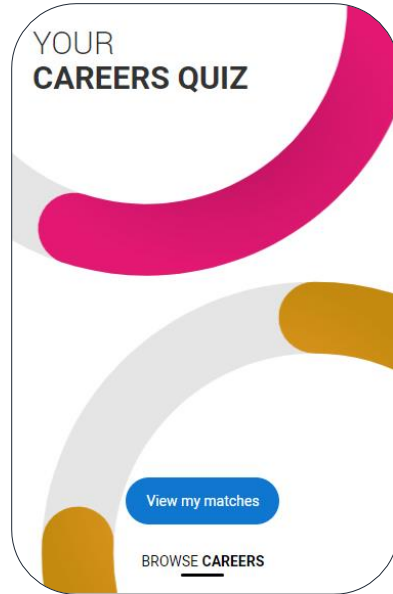


Personalised tools to help

UCAS Quiz

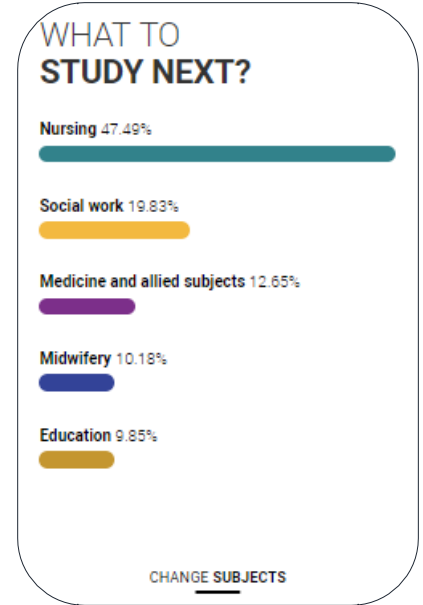
Find job and career ideas matched to your personality.

Plus a list of courses previous students studied in order to get there.

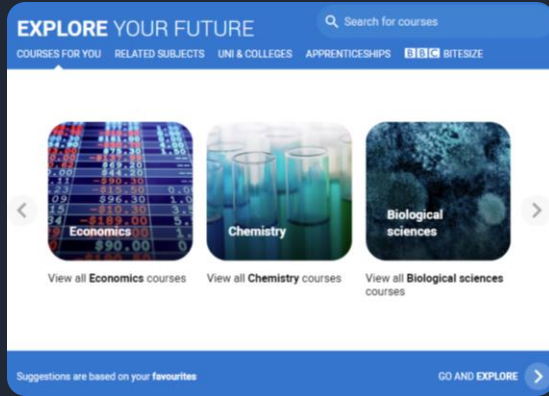


What to study next?

Broaden your horizons by exploring another subject area, that student's who did your qualification went on to study.



Personalised tools to help

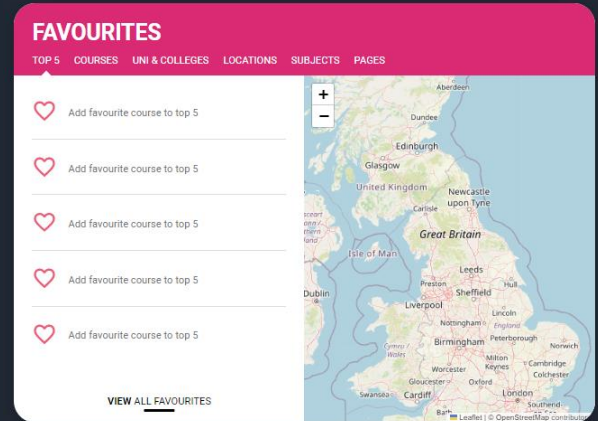


Explore your future

Discover what to do with subject, industry, and career guides; discover where to go with city, employer and accommodation information. Explore apprenticeships and course opportunities for you. Favourite as you go.

Your favourites

Search for courses, use to decide your top 5 choices, manage, keep those favourite information pages to hand. Manage and edit at any time.

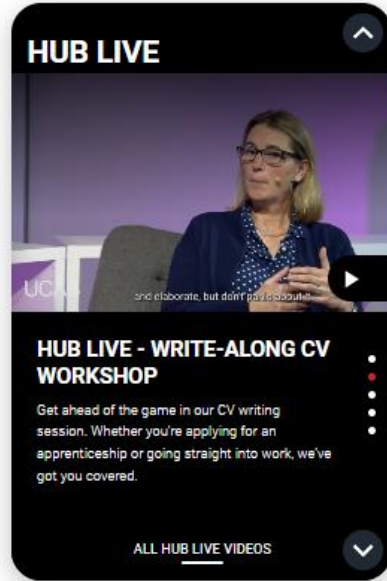


Advice and events

UCAS Hub lives

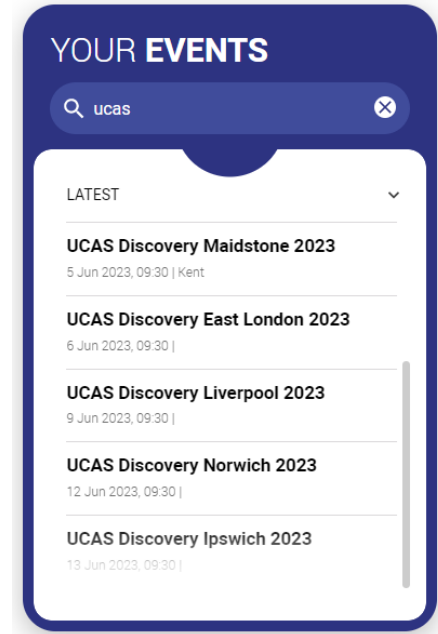
Join our [live sessions](#) hosted by expert panels.

Ask questions to help you make an informed decision about the right path for you. University, apprenticeships or the world of work.



UCAS Discovery

Tues 5th September
1030-1230 Royal
Highland Centre



UCAS Applications

How to apply

UCAS



Completing the UCAS application



Student registers for a UCAS Hub account to carry out research and start application.



Student completes all sections of the application and sends it to their school/college.



Teacher or adviser reviews the application and adds reference and predicted grades.

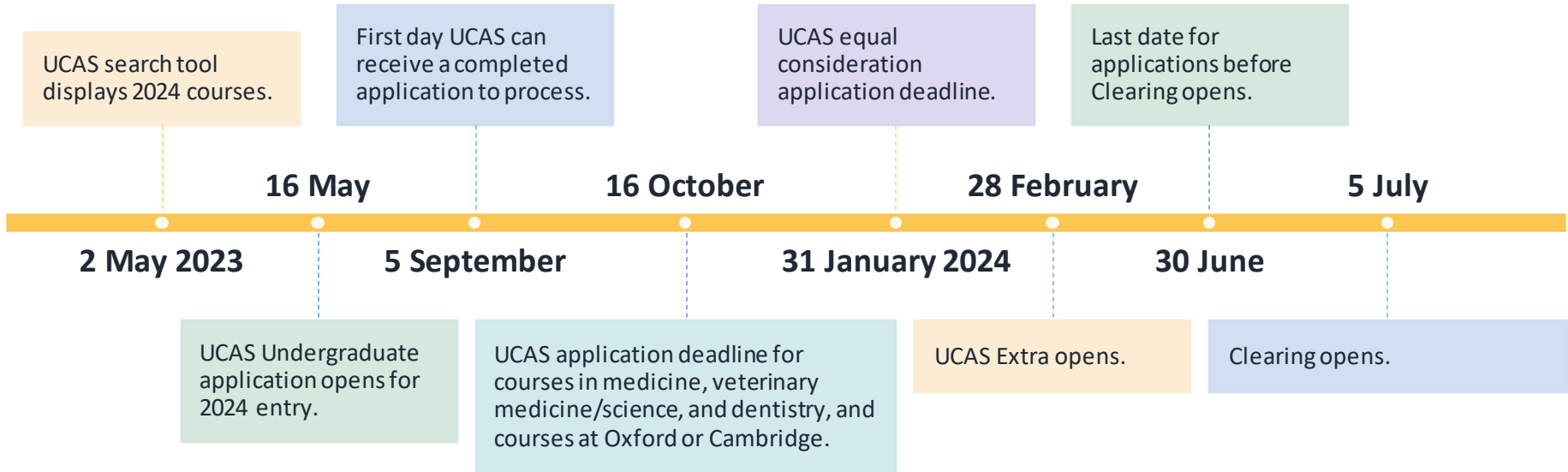


Applications are sent to UCAS by the school or college on behalf of the student.



Universities and colleges make their decisions on the application.

When to apply for 2024 entry



Key facts

- To start an application you need to register with ucas.com.
- Universities and colleges **can't see** your other choices when you apply.
- Apply by the deadline **date 31st January 2024, school deadline 21st December 2023**.
- You have up to **five choices**, unless applying to study medicine, veterinary, medicine/science, dentistry – then it's **four choices**.
- You **can't apply to BOTH** Oxford and Cambridge.
- Applying **costs** £27.50.



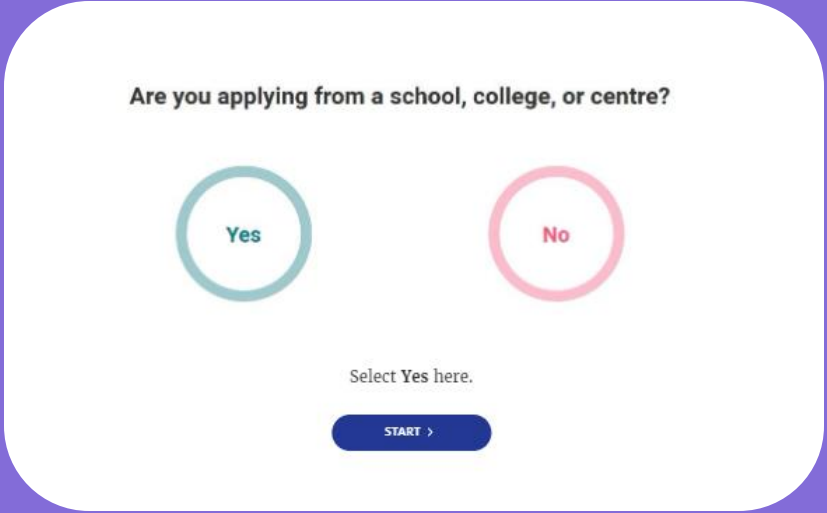
2024 UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION

Start an application

Apply to universities and colleges to study Degrees, HNDs, and HNCs

Linking to a school

- If you're applying with the help of a school, college or centre you should enter their **'buzzword'** to link your application to them.
- The buzzword is a unique code set by your school, college or centre.
- By linking your application you're giving your school, college or centre permission to view and track your application.
- It also means they'll provide you with a reference, and send your application to UCAS on your behalf.



Are you applying from a school, college, or centre?

Yes No

Select Yes here.

START >

Application

Profile:

- Personal details
- Contact and residency details
- Nationality details
- Supporting information
- English language skills
- Finance and funding
- Diversity and inclusion
- More about you

The screenshot displays a 'Profile' section with eight sub-sections arranged in a grid. Each sub-section has a title, a brief description, and a status indicator at the bottom.

Section Name	Description	Status
Personal details >	Name, age, title, and gender	Section complete
Contact & residency details >	Address, email, telephone, and where you live	Start this section
Nationality details >	Country and nationality details	Start this section
Supporting information >		Section in progress
English language skills >	Is English your first language?	Start this section
Finance & funding >	Tell us how you'll fund your study	Section in progress
Diversity & inclusion >	Only shared with a provider once you have a place or your application is archived	Start this section
More about you >	Tell us about any circumstances that you might need support for during your studies	Start this section

Application

Experiences:

- Education
 - Employment
 - Extra activities
-
- Personal statement
 - Reference
 - Add choices – up to five

The screenshot displays a dark blue application interface on a yellow background. It is divided into two main sections: 'Experience' and 'Personal Statement'. The 'Experience' section contains three sub-sections: 'Education >' (with a description 'Your qualifications and periods of study' and a 'Section in progress' indicator), 'Employment >' (with a description 'Employment, paid or unpaid, or volunteer work' and a 'Section complete' indicator), and 'Extra activities >' (with a description 'Activities you have attended in preparation for higher education' and a 'Start this section' button). The 'Personal Statement' section contains one sub-section: 'Personal statement >' (with a description 'Why do you want to study this subject?' and a 'Start this section' button).

The personal statement



The only section you have full control over



Your only chance to market yourself as an individual



The same for all of your choices



A maximum of 4,000 characters, or 47 lines



A minimum of 1,000 characters



There isn't a spelling or grammar check



No formatting allowed

UCAS' similarity detection service:
every personal statement is run
through software to check for
plagiarism.

Start early

Include:

- academic achievements, past and present
- interest in the course area
- knowledge of the subject area
- enthusiasm to go beyond the syllabus
- details of independent study skills



Consider...

Universities and colleges will consider:

- Have you chosen the course for the right reasons?
- Can you achieve in a new learning environment?
- Do you have a range of interests and aptitudes?
- Do you have a depth of interest in the subject?
- Have you studied independently?
- Do you appear motivated and committed?
- Do you have good numeracy and literacy skills?



PERSONAL STATEMENT BUILDER

4000 characters of 4000 remaining



[View personal statement guides](#)

CONTINUE WRITING

PERSONAL STATEMENT BUILDER ⓘ

4000 characters of 4000 remaining

✓ [Writing about the course](#)

Why are you applying for your chosen course(s)?

Write your text here...

Why does the subject interest you?

Write your text here...

Why do you think you're suitable for the course(s)?

Write your text here...

Do your current or previous studies relate to the course(s) that you have chosen?

Write your text here...

- › Skills and achievements
- › Work experience and future plans

Preview Save & close

PERSONAL STATEMENT GUIDES

Help write your personal statement with a guide tailored to the subject you wish to study.

Explore Uni & colleges For you Favourites Search



What to include in your environmental science personal statement



What to include in your biology personal statement



What to include in your business management personal statement

Decisions

Universities and colleges will review the:



personal statement



qualifications



reference

They may also ask for:



admissions test



interview



portfolio/audition

Tracking your application



2023 UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION

Waiting for decisions

Universities or colleges are considering your application.

Providers have until dd-mm-yyyy to respond to your choices.



2023 UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION

All decisions received

You've received a decision from all of your choices. You can now reply to your offers at any time.

Reply by dd-mm-yyyy



2023 UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION

Waiting for confirmation

You're waiting for confirmation of your choices. If you meet the offer conditions, the university/college will confirm your place. Send them your results if requested.

Follow your application 24/7:

- see your choices
- keep personal information up to date
- view and reply to your offers

You'll receive one of three decisions from your choices:

- unconditional offer
- conditional offer
- unsuccessful

Replies to offers

Once you have decisions on all your choices, you can choose two:

- One as a 'firm' acceptance – your first choice.
- The other as an 'insurance' acceptance. This acts as a back-up if you do not get into your 'firm' choice.

Any remaining offers must be declined.

Once all your decisions and replies have been made, if you are not holding an offer, you may be able to use Extra or Clearing to find available places.



Other options

Extra (28 Feb – 4 Jul)

- Used all five choices and had no offers.
- Add Extra choices for consideration one at a time.

Clearing (5 Jul – Oct)

- Apply after 30 June, receive no offers, decline all offers, not met conditions.
- Find vacancies from 5 July and add a Clearing choice to your application.



Next steps

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What can students be doing?

- research, research, research
- attend open days and events
- extracurricular and super curricular activities
- work experience
- volunteering
- independent learning outside the curriculum
- focus on this year's studies



Keeping you informed



www.ucas.com/parents



[Sign up](#) for our parents
newsletter



Read our [guides](#) just for you.

Our support

UCAS Customer Experience Centre:
0371 468 0 468

From outside the UK:
+44 330 3330 230

Monday to Friday
08:30 – 18:00 (UK time)



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Funding

If a resident in Scotland for at least 3 years tuition fees will be paid if attending a Scottish University.

Pupils in March 2024 should apply to SASS online for funding, this will be means tested.



Student Awards Agency Scotland
www.saas.gov.uk
 Visit your SAAS Account regularly and check your emails for any correspondence.

- facebook.com/saasfb
- twitter.com/saastweet
- youtube.com/fundingawareness



While at university or college, students will have two main costs - tuition fees and living costs. They can apply for student funding to help with both

What's available?

College and universities charge tuition fees for their courses. Students can get help to pay these if they're studying an undergraduate or PGDE course.

They do not have to pay tuition fees to the college or university. Instead, if they normally live in Scotland, they will apply to SAAS. We can cover tuition fees, whether they choose to study in Scotland or elsewhere in the UK. If they're studying elsewhere in the UK, fees can be up to \$9,250 per year but they can apply for a loan to pay some or all of these.



Thank you

UCAS

