



After Sixth Form – A guide to University and Apprenticeships

2020 ENTRY



Key Questions

- Have I looked carefully at the case **for** going to university?
- Do I want a degree now or in the future?
- Do I want to do it full time at a university?
- **OR**..... Am I ready to start in the working world at the same time?
- Do I just want to go out into the workplace now?
- Do I need time to think about my future?



Which route?

- University
- Work
- School leaver programmes - offer the chance to work towards a degree and/or professional qualification. (e.g. Marks and Spencer)
- Apprenticeship
- Degree Apprenticeship
- Gap Year
- Distance Learning








Types of Apprenticeships

Types of Apprenticeship

	<i>Type</i>	<i>Entry Requirement</i>	<i>Leads to Equivalent of</i>
Level 2	Intermediate	-	5 GCSEs
Level 3	Advanced	5 GCSEs	2 A-Levels
Level 4 & 5	Higher	A-Levels/NVQ Level 3	HNC/Foundation Degree/HND
Level 6	Degree	3+ A-Levels	Bachelor's Degree
Level 7	Masters	Bachelors Degree	Master's Degree



Degree Apprenticeship

 <p>STUDY TOWARDS A FULL BACHELOR'S DEGREE WITHOUT THE BURDEN OF STUDENT DEBT</p>	 <p>EARN WHILE YOU LEARN</p>	 <p>FULLY FUNDED BY YOUR EMPLOYER AND THE GOVERNMENT</p>	 <p>ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO TRADITIONAL UNIVERSITY</p>
 <p>90% OF APPRENTICES STAY IN EMPLOYMENT <small>Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, Apprentice survey, 2014</small></p>	 <p>A LONG-TERM CAREER PATH</p>	 <p>ON THE JOB TRAINING</p>	 <p>TAUGHT BY INDUSTRY EXPERTS</p>



Useful Websites

- [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/781848/Uni Appr guide2019 web2.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/781848/Uni_Appr_guide2019_web2.pdf)
- <http://university.which.co.uk/teachers/introduce-higher-education-options/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships-guide-download>
- <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>
- <https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships-in-the-uk>
- <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>



GOV.UK Find an Apprenticeship

GOV.UK

Search



[Home](#) > [Education and learning](#) > [Apprenticeships, 14 to 19 education and training for work](#)

Find an apprenticeship

Search the [find an apprenticeship service](#) for apprenticeships in England.

You don't need an account to search.

Create an account

You need to [create an account](#) to:

- apply for apprenticeships
- get email and text alerts about new apprenticeships and your applications
- track your applications

Log in to your account

You need your email address and password to [log in](#).

The process is different in [Scotland](#), [Northern Ireland](#) and [Wales](#).

Contact

National Apprenticeship Helpdesk

nationalhelpdesk@findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk

Telephone: 0800 015 0400

[Find out about call charges](#)

Related content

[Become an apprentice](#)

[Find a traineeship](#)

Explore the topic

Apprenticeships

**Apprenticeships, 14 to 19
education and training for work**

Elsewhere on the web

[Help with your application](#)

Video Guide: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7IqFUxSLufw>

GOV.UK Website: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>



University Finance

www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-loans-tuition-fees-changes

- **Tuition Loans**
- These cover the full cost of tuition fees and are available to all eligible first time students. They are paid directly to your university every year by SFE – Student Finance England –a service provided by the Student Loans Company.
- **Tuition fees maximum £9,250.**



Maintenance Loans

2020 Entry

- £8,944 maximum for students living away from home outside of London
- £11,672 maximum for students living away from home in London
- £7,529 maximum for students living at home

Maintenance loans are available for eligible full-time students to pay for things such as rent, food and bills. The way some of this is decided is by means testing, which is where they look at how much your household earns each year, usually based on your parents' income. All students are eligible for at least 65% of the maximum.



Bursaries and Scholarships

<https://www.thescholarshiphub.org.uk/>

These are provided by universities and colleges, or other organisations like charities and businesses, which you don't have to pay back. Not everybody can get a bursary or scholarship, and they are awarded to different students for different reasons – like your household income and how well you've done in your exams.



Repaying the Loan

- Repayments depend solely on how much you earn once you graduate/leave university. If you choose a career that isn't highly paid, you won't need to repay much at all – some won't pay a penny.
- You **repay 9% of everything you earn annually above £25,725 (current figure) of pre-tax salary once you've left university**. Therefore if you've started repaying the loan, but then lose your job or take a pay cut, your repayments drop accordingly.
- <https://www.ucas.com/student-finance-england/repaying-your-student-loan>



How much will I repay each month?

- **If you earn £27,000 in a year, what do you repay?**
- £115 a year, (**£9.50 each month**) as twenty seven thousand is £1,275 above the threshold of £25,750 and 9% of £1,275 is £115.
- **The loan is wiped out 30 years** after a student graduates.

Yearly income before tax	Monthly income before tax	Monthly repayment
£25,725	£2,143	£0
£27,000	£2,250	£9.50
£29,500	£2,458	£28
£31,000	£2,583	£39
£33,000	£2,750	£54



When do I Pay?

No-one has to pay fees upfront. The government will provide loans for your time at university so you or your parents do not have to save up all the money beforehand.

You only repay when you earn enough. Once you leave university you only repay the loan if you earn more than £25,725 a year. If not, you don't repay. And if you never earn enough (although we hope for you that you do) you never repay a thing.

[Think of loans like a graduate tax.](#)

Student loans DO NOT go on your credit file.



Graduate premium over a lifetime

- After taking into account the cost of taking a degree, in terms of tuition fees and foregone earnings, male graduates can expect to see their lifetime earnings (net of taxes) **increased by over £160,000** over similar students who finished their education with two or more A' Levels.
- This rises to more than £250,000 with an Oxbridge degree.



A degree really can make a difference

- Over 40% of the jobs in the uk economy are now graduate level, therefore a degree is an additional qualification when seeking employment
- A good degree (First or 2.1) **DOES** make a difference in the competition for jobs



What do graduates earn

- Graduate starting salaries at the UK's leading graduate employers reach an average of 25,000 and a median of £30,000
- More than a quarter of top graduate programmes will pay new recruits more than £35,000 when they start work and four organisations are offering salaries in excess of £45,000 to this year's graduates.
- The most generous salaries in 2017 were those on offer from investment banks (median of £45,000), law firms (median of £40,000), banking & finance firms (median of £36,500) and oil & energy companies (median of £32,500), Dentistry £34,840, Chemical Engineering £31,824.
- One of the highest published graduate starting salaries for 2108 is Aldi (£44,000 plus Audi A4 car)
- <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/careers/what-do-graduates-do-and-earn/>



How employable are graduates?

- The ten universities most targeted by Britain's top graduate employers in 2015 were Manchester, Nottingham, Warwick, Cambridge, Oxford, Durham, Bristol, Imperial College London, University College London and Leeds.
- BUT.....recruiters stated that graduates who have had no previous **work experience** at all are unlikely to be successful during the selection process and have little or no chance of receiving a job offer for their organisations' graduate programmes.
- Recruiters have confirmed that 31% of entry-level positions are expected to be filled by graduates who have already worked for their organisations, either through paid internships, industrial placements or vacation work.
- <https://luminate.prospects.ac.uk/what-do-graduates-do?> this gives an annual review of graduate vacancies & starting salaries at the UK's leading employers



What do employers want?

- A degree is not the only benefit of a university education. Choosing the right degree at the best institution will also provide students with the skills employers are looking for including:
Self reliance, people skills, team work, presentation skills, communication, leadership, IT skills, numeracy, problem solving, technical skills, business acumen, diplomacy, dedication, time management



Work Experience and Networking

- Some courses offer the chance of work experience (70% led to a graduate job offer)
- Sandwich courses (37.4% led to a position at the placement)
- Some courses include a year abroad
- Careers advice and networking
- 'Milk round' – employers visit universities to find prospective employers and encourage them to apply to their companies



Additional benefits

- Over 81% of graduates who graduated in 2016 were working in a 'graduate job' related to their long-term career plans just 3 years after graduating
- 6.3% were unemployed
- 87% said they were satisfied with their career progress
- The student experience report - 96% reported that going to university was a worthwhile experience - life changing
- University gives opportunities for extracurricular activities highly rated by graduate recruiters.
- A degree might lead to a more interesting job



A useful website

- To find out the most up to date and detailed information about what graduates do when they have graduated refer 'What do graduates do'.
- <https://luminare.prospects.ac.uk/what-do-graduates-do?>
- There are copies of the book in the workroom and copies can be downloaded from the internet.



Parent Guide ucas

- <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/ucas-undergraduate-advice-parents-and-guardians>



Applying for Higher Education

- UCAS online
- You are able to list a maximum of FIVE courses on the application form
- Carre's Students can now register for their UCAS application form and many have started to fill it in
- UCAS will accept applications from early September



What are the closing date for UCAS?

- **Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and Oxbridge.**

- **15 October**



What is the closing date for all other applications?

- The closing date for all other courses (except some Art and Design courses)

15 January



Key Dates

- Final UCAS deadline **15 January**
- BUT to meet 15 January deadline your application needs to be submitted to me by beginning of December to allow time to process your form
- I will only guarantee that your application will reach UCAS for the deadline if it is complete and paid for by **15 December** at the latest.



How much does UCAS charge for processing applications?

- The fee for applicants is £25
- If you only apply for one course you pay £20
- All students pay online with debit card
- I cannot send the form to UCAS until the fee has been paid



What should students be doing now in preparation

- Fill in as much as the form as possible – this should be ongoing
- Make a start on personal statement
- Choose up to five courses
- Visit universities if possible and find out as much as possible about the course



Essential Resources

- Heap Guide
- Times Good University Guide
- Student planner pages 131 - 155
- Carre's Personal Statement Guide
- <https://www.theguardian.com/education/universityguide>
- <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/>
- <https://university.which.co.uk/>



Careers Events 2019

- **Friday 28 June** – SJSF Destinations trips – Nottingham University or Lincoln University or Lincoln College
- **Friday 5 July** Cambridge University Open Day visit
- **Friday 5 July** Presentation from Nottingham University the personal statement, how to choose a university and course and how make a successful application to university.
- **Monday 15 – Friday 19 July.** Work Experience week
- **Wednesday 4 September** ASK Apprenticeship presentation and workshops.
- **Wednesday 30 October** Sleaford Schools' Careers Fair. This is for Year 12 and 13



Revised UCAS tariff for A Levels

- A* 56 points BTEC Distinction*
 - A 48 points BTEC Distinction
 - B 40 points
 - C 32 points BTEC Merit
 - D 24 points
 - E 16 points BTEC Pass
-
- Extended Project Qualification is half an A level so worth half the number of points above.



Revised UCAS tariff for AS Levels

- AS qualifications are now worth less than half the number of points as an A2.
- A* are only given for A2.
 - A 20 points
 - B 16 points
 - C 12 points
 - D 10 points
 - E 6 points



When completing your UCAS form do you list your universities and colleges in order of preference?

- Universities are listed in alphabetical order. No university is aware which other institutions you have selected



Is it possible to apply for completely different courses on the UCAS form?

- It is not advisable to choose vastly different courses when completing a UCAS application. Although the other universities are not aware of the remaining choices listed on the form, applicants would find it impossible to produce a convincing Personal Statement that would apply to differing disciplines.



Do all universities and courses accept deferred entry?

- Some institutions may not accept deferred entry
- It is advisable to check carefully with each college or university
- Some universities do not recommend it for Maths



What is the Personal Statement?

- This is the part of the form that gives the applicant the opportunity to convince an Admissions Tutor that they are a student worth having! It includes details of why you have chosen your particular courses and some persuasive details about you.



Is it better to apply earlier rather than later through UCAS for admissions to H.E?

- It is sensible to apply as early as possible. Admissions Tutors do run out of time and will probably consider early applications, because they are fewer in volume, in less of a rush than those arriving later
- Do not however rush to choose courses and then find you have selected inappropriate ones and need to make changes later



Getting your form ready to send to UCAS

- Once your form is complete you send your form electronically to your tutor will check your form and your tutor will provide a reference
- GCSEs, and any other qualifications, will be stated on the UCAS form by you
- Your teachers provide your predicted grades, and they are included in the reference section.
- The reference takes time to write as it needs to support your application to help you secure a place – it is also proof read several times so can take time to be processed:
- You must allow your tutor at least 1 week (when few references have been submitted)



What is included in the school reference?

- Attitude to study, potential for study at H.E level, evidence of interest in the chosen subject, relevant work experience, written and oral skills, level of independent learning, evidence of teamwork, practical dexterity, extra curricular and school involvement, attendance and punctuality

Universities want to know...

- **Your strengths**
- **Justification of predicted grades**
- **Passion for the course / learning in general**
- **Highly self-motivated**
- **Independent learning skills**



What happens when the UCAS form has been sent?

- UCAS send your form to all your chosen universities at the same time
- Each university only receives details relating to that particular university and course
- Some universities will interview but most will send details of the conditions of an offer (or rejection)
- Applicants for teaching courses have to be interviewed before they can be given an offer
- News appears on 'track'



The competition out there!

- It is well-known that Oxford and Cambridge Universities reject a large number of applicants with straight As at A Level
- But so do other highly competitive universities
- ***“I can accept the rejection from Cambridge, as so many able students apply, but I could not understand why I ... was rejected by the other universities”, which were Durham, Edinburgh and York. (The Times)***
- The applicant above was not aware of how competitive it is out there!
- Spread your risk by choosing a *range* of courses, all of which you have researched, visited and feel completely happy to attend



UCAS extra and UCAS Clearing

- **What is UCAS Extra?**
- UCAS Extra operates from March to June. It offers applicants who have received all rejections, or students who have turned down all offers, the opportunity to contact institutions that still have course vacancies. Institutions are contacted one at a time.
- **What do you understand by the term 'Clearing'?**
- Clearing is the final part of the application cycle. It aims to match unplaced students to courses with vacancies. It is used by students who have received no offers, people who have failed to achieve the grades required, applicants who have declined all offers and very, very late applicants



WHAT DO I DO NOW?

- Register for *Apply*
- Write an effective Personal Statement
- Research thoroughly your courses and universities
- Visit the universities on your apply form
- Aptitude tests – in some cases eg BMAT, LNAT, UCAT and Oxbridge tests - check website for full details
- Don't let your studies slide or miss lessons while you concentrate on applying and attending Open days
- Get the grades!



BMAT Institution Courses requiring BMAT

- [University of Cambridge](#)
Medicine
- [Imperial College London](#)
Medicine
- [University of Oxford Medical School](#)
Medicine Biomedical Sciences
- [University College London](#)
- Medicine
- [Leeds University](#)
- Medicine Dentistry
- [Brighton and Sussex Medical School](#)
- Medicine
- [Lancaster –](#)
- Medicine

<http://www.admissionstestingservice.org/for-test-takers/bmat/>



Registering for BMAT

Date of test and cost

Register here at school with Mrs T. Williams exam officer.

Registration Deadlines

1 September registration opens

1 October : Standard entry closing date

15 October : Last date for entries. Candidates or centres who miss this deadline date should contact Cambridge Assessment.

30 October Test – in school – for the October sitting.

22 November results released

Standard entry fee £48 (in 2019)

School bursary holders can apply through BMAT to have fee paid

When is the BMAT test?

Sit it here at Carre's 9am 30 October 2019



UCAT for Medicine and Dentistry

- UCAT for most Medicine and dentistry courses.
- There is no single date for sitting the exam, but candidates wishing to apply in 2019 for entry to the participating universities in 2020 or deferred entry in 2021, are required to take the UCAT by 2 October 2019
- Please note you may only take the test once in any test cycle.
- You must register to take the UCAT by 18 September . Testing start 1 July
- To register go online on the UCAT site and follow instructions
- Test not taken at school but at a registered centre of your choice.
- Candidates in receipt of 16-19 Bursary Fund can apply online for a bursary to help pay cost of the test. – payable online at time of booking. Bursary application deadline 2 October.
- **Cost Tests taken in the EU between 1 July and 31 August £65**
- **Tests taken in the EU between 1 September and 2 October £87**

<https://www.ucat.ac.uk/>

- Also go on the 'student room' to find out just how much emphasis / importance different universities place on UKCAT scores

<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/wiki/UKCAT>



LNAT

- Some Law courses require students to sit LNat e.g Bristol, Oxford, SOAS, Glasgow, UCL, Nottingham, Durham, KCL, LSE.
- Register online
- Sit at a registered centre of your choice
- Check LNat website for full details
- **NOTE:** Registration and booking only open on 1st August for the test cycle which runs from the 1 September to 30 June (ideally sit by 20 Jan)
- Oxford applicant registration deadline Oct 5
- Cost £50
- Some bursaries available you need to apply for bursary before booking your test



Russell Group Universities

- Birmingham*
- Bristol*
- Cambridge*
- Cardiff
- Edinburgh*
- Durham*
- Glasgow
- Imperial College*
- Exeter
- Imperial College London
- King's College London
- Leeds
- Liverpool
- LSE*
- Manchester
- Newcastle
- Nottingham*
- Oxford*
- Queen Mary London
- Queen's University, Belfast
- Sheffield
- Southampton
- UCL*
- Warwick*
- York*



- **Sutton Trust 30**
- In 2011, the Trust updated its methodology to include the 30 "most highly selective" British universities, which were "also the 30 most selective according to the Times University Guide" for the purpose of illustrating the relative number of students from poor backgrounds enrolled here against the rest of the institutions.- These are, in alphabetical order:
- [University of Bath](#), [University of Birmingham](#), [University of Bristol](#), [University of Cambridge](#), [Cardiff University](#), [Durham University](#), [University of Edinburgh](#), [University of Exeter](#), [University of Glasgow](#), [Imperial College](#), [King's College London](#), [University of Lancaster](#), [University of Leeds](#), [University of Leicester](#), [University of Liverpool](#), [London School of Economics](#), [University of Manchester](#), [University of Newcastle](#), [University of Nottingham](#), [University of Oxford](#), [University of Reading](#), [Royal Holloway](#), [University of London](#), [University of Sheffield](#), [University of Southampton](#), [University of St Andrews](#), [University of Strathclyde](#), [University of Surrey](#), [University College London](#), [University of Warwick](#) and [University of York](#).



FINANCE

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT STUDENT
FINANCE VISIT THE WEBSITES

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance/new-fulltime-students>

<http://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-loans-tuition-fees-changes>