

Frequently Asked Questions



Q1. How do I apply to university?

A: To apply to university, you have to create an account on UCAS, input some information about you (general details, education, personal statement...) and then select the universities and course you are interested in.

Q2. What is UCAS?

A: UCAS is an independent advice and admissions portal. It provides both information about universities, course, apprenticeships etc and is a platform for you to use when it comes to applying to university.

Q3. What is a personal statement?

A: This is a 4000-character document to sell yourself to the universities you are applying for. You talk about any hobbies you have, if you have done any extracurricular activities or volunteering, anything that is interesting about you. It helps universities get an idea of what kind of person you are.

Q4. When should I apply to university?

A: **15 October 2020 at 18:00 (UK time)** – any course at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, or for most courses in medicine, veterinary medicine/science, and dentistry. You can add choices with a different deadline later.

15 January 2021 at 18:00 (UK time) – for the majority of courses.

Q5. How many universities can I apply to?

A: You can apply to up to 5 universities. Even if you have your mind set on one, make sure to take advantage of this, because you never know what might happen, and so having 5 option rather than 1 or 2 is always better.

Q6. When to apply for student finance?

A: You can start applying for finance mid-February. The deadline is May. You do not need to wait to have a conditional offer.

Q7. What is a conditional offer and what is an unconditional offer?

A: A conditional offer is when the university is accepting you on the condition you get the required grades, whereas an unconditional offer is an offer to the university, and it does not matter what grades you get.

Q8. When do I apply for accommodation?

A: This can vary depending on the university, however with most universities, you can start applying around the same time you apply for your finance.

Q9. Do you have to live at university?

A: Not all the time, if you live near the university you plan to attend then no you don't, but if it is far away then yes you would. However if you don't want to live in student accommodation there are other options like shared housing.

Q10. How to make friends at university?

A: This is different for everyone, you can make friends with the people on your course and the people you are sharing your flat with, but it's good to attend any social events, especially during fresher's week. This is a great way to make new friends and socialise with people outside of your course and flat.

Q11. How do I manage my time at university (e.g. study time)?

A: One way is to have your timetable up on your wall, and then create a separate timetable that blocks your lessons, and then fill in the gaps. But don't overwork yourself, spread your studying time out wisely and find moments to relax and hang out with friends.

Q12. I'm worried that I won't have enough finances, is it manageable having a part time job?

A: Yes, most universities are near towns and cities, a lot of employers hire university students with the understanding of the hectic timetable and workload. There are many opportunities offered by universities to give students a chance to earn money working around their timetables, so be sure to check this out when you start, as there may be a job that pays well and works for you.

Thank you for reading. We appreciate your feedback.

[Please click here to tell us what you think](#)