

UCAS Higher Education Parents Evening Talk

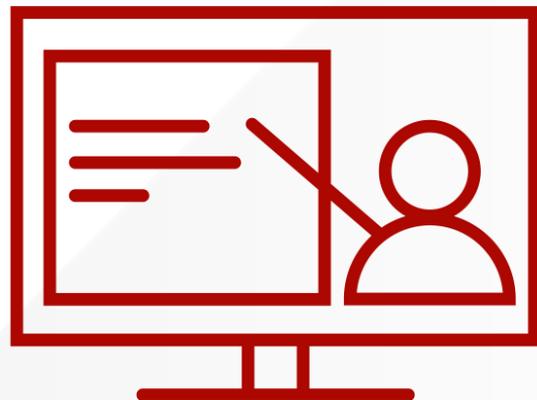


Thursday 16th May

Chace Community School

Overview

- Before you apply
- UCAS cycle
- How to Apply
- Personal Statements
- Tips for preparing for Uni
- Student Finance



UCAS

How many higher education institutions
are there in the UK?

A) 235

B) 112

C) 395

D) 467



How many undergraduate courses
can you choose from?

A) 10,149

B) More than
67,000

C) 23,000

D) Over 50,000



Before you apply

- Ten years ago there were **fewer courses**, fewer **institutions**, and fewer **places**
- These changes can be used to your advantage, but to make the **right decision research** is **vital**
- UCAS has a comprehensive online database which contains information on **over 50,000 HE courses**
- The **same course** will **not** be **taught** in the same **way**, nor cover the same **content**, at different institutions
- Try to **find out** as much as you can about the **structure** of the course
- Aim to **look beyond** the course **title**



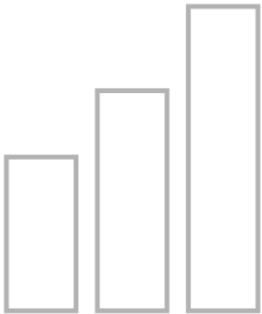
How many students were in Higher Education (HE) in the year 2017/18?

A) 2,343,095

B) 484,826

C) 942,983

D) 5,343,095

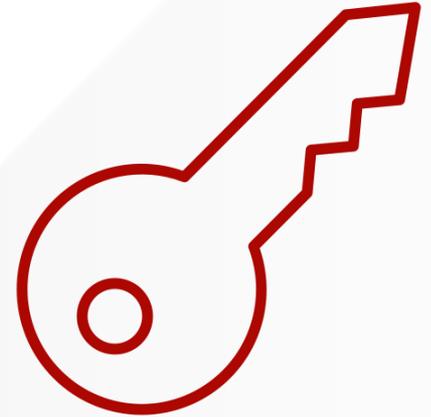


Key Features of the UCAS Scheme

- You can make up to five choices* in one application.

The 2018 applicant fee is:

- £18 for one choice
- £24 for up to five choices.



- Applications received by the key deadlines are given equal consideration.
- In 2017 UCAS received 469,490 applications

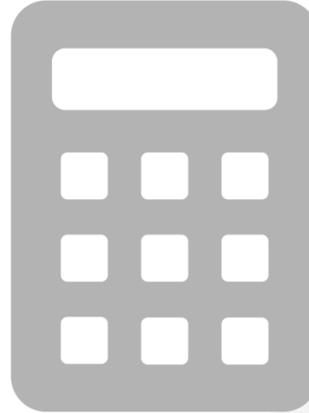
*some exceptions

Understanding university Entry Requirements

Calculate your UCAS Tariff points



UCAS Tariff points
Find out what UCAS Tariff points are, how they're used, and how many points your qualifications are worth, using our points calculator.



<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator>

My qualifications

A level		✕
Biology	B	
		Points 40
<hr/>		
Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma (first teaching from September 2016)		✕
Health & Social Care	DM	
		Points 80
Add another qualification Clear all		Total points 120
		Next

Making a UCAS application

Begin your application at www.ucas.com/apply

There are seven sections to complete:

- 1) Personal details
- 2) Student finance (UK and EU only)
- 3) Choices – make up to 5 choices
- 4) Education
- 5) Employment
- 6) Personal statement
- 7) A reference

Welcome > Education > Enter Degree (UK Bachelor - Honours)

2016 apply Education < Log out

Welcome > Education > Enter Degree (UK Bachelor - Honours)

Degree (UK Bachelor - Honours)

Please enter details below, using the 'other' boxes only where the applicable option cannot be found in the lists provided.

Entering module details is optional

Degree title* ?

Qualification date* Month Year ?

Awarding organisation* ?

Country where taken* ?

Class* ?

Module / unit 1

Title ?

Qualification date Month Year ?

Result ?

> back to summary

When to apply?

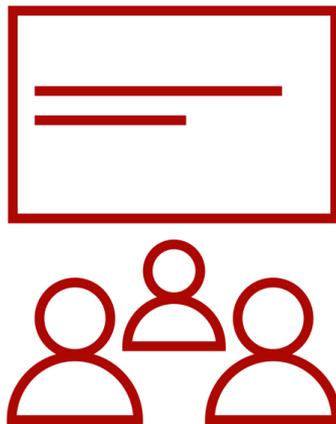
Mid-June	Applicants can register and start to complete their application.
Mid-September	Schools can start to submit completed applications to UCAS.
15 October	Medicine, dentistry, veterinary sci/med and Oxford <u>or</u> Cambridge.
15 January	Application deadline for most courses.
24 March	Many art & design courses (check each course for deadline).
30 June	Applications after this date held for Clearing.



Which of these are courses you can study in the UK?

Category A

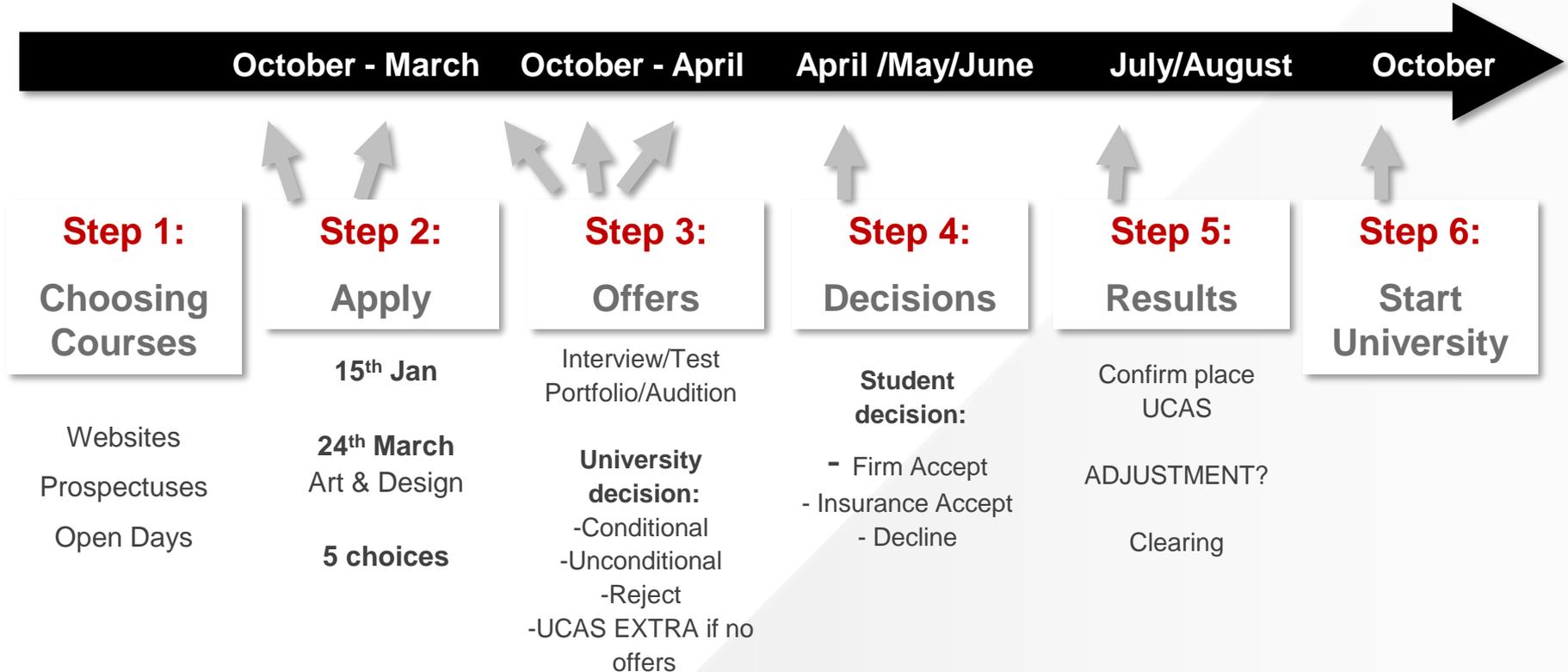
- Cruise management
- Brewing and distilling
- Glass



Category B

- Floral management
- History of video games & interactive media
- Turfgrass science

University application timeline



Which of the following was the most common opening line for personal statements (2015)?

A) For as long as I can remember I have...

B) From a young age I have (always) been [interested in/fascinated by]...

C) Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world...

D) Throughout my life I have always enjoyed...

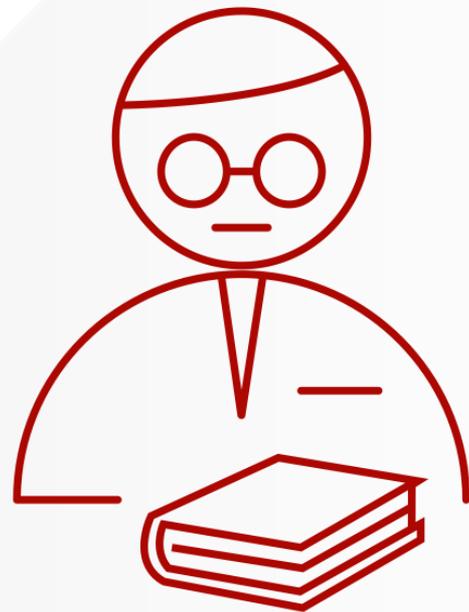


Personal Statement

The Personal Statement

The Basics:

- 4000 characters
- 2/3 academic, 1/3 responsibilities/interests
- Make it positive
- Personal to you – reflect your interests, abilities, personality
- No templates
- One personal statement for all 5 choices



The Personal Statement

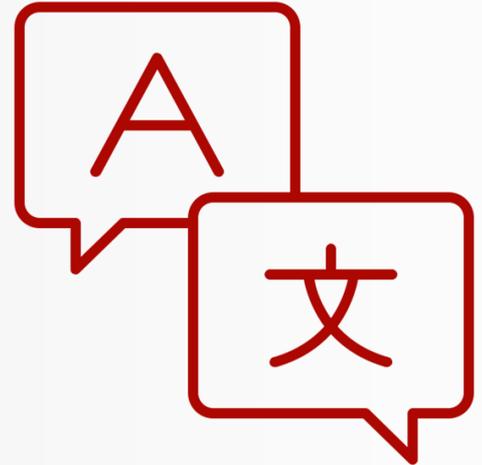
What is it?

- It is a compulsory part of the UCAS form
- It is your ‘interview’ in many cases
- Helps with your CV now and in the future
- Helps you focus on what you really want
- To stand out over other students with the same grades



The Personal Statement

- Simple and concise language
- Spelling and grammar
- Be patient – lots of drafts needed
- Don't state the obvious
- No jokes or threats!
- Use quotations carefully
- Get someone who knows you to read it



Reference

If possible, they should be someone who knows you academically and can talk about your work ethic, interaction with other students and your suitability for higher education or a future career.

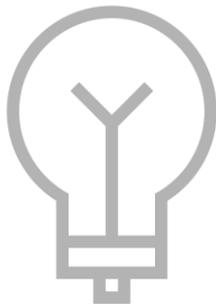
- If in school or college a tutor, teacher, principal or head teacher comments on student's approach to their studies
- State student's suitability for the course
- Comment on student's contribution to school life/voluntary work/positions of responsibility
- Predicted grades for student's final examinations



Tips for preparing & starting university

Choose the right course and university

Location, accommodation & assessment



Meet like-minded people

Make the most of student perks

NUS, travel, other discounted cards /programmes

Gain experience

Summer internships, part-time work

Manage time effectively

Lectures, budgeting, part-time work



Learn to adapt to new environments

Be open to opportunities

Students' Unions, clubs and societies, study exchange

Student Finance

Student Finance England

To give you some context:

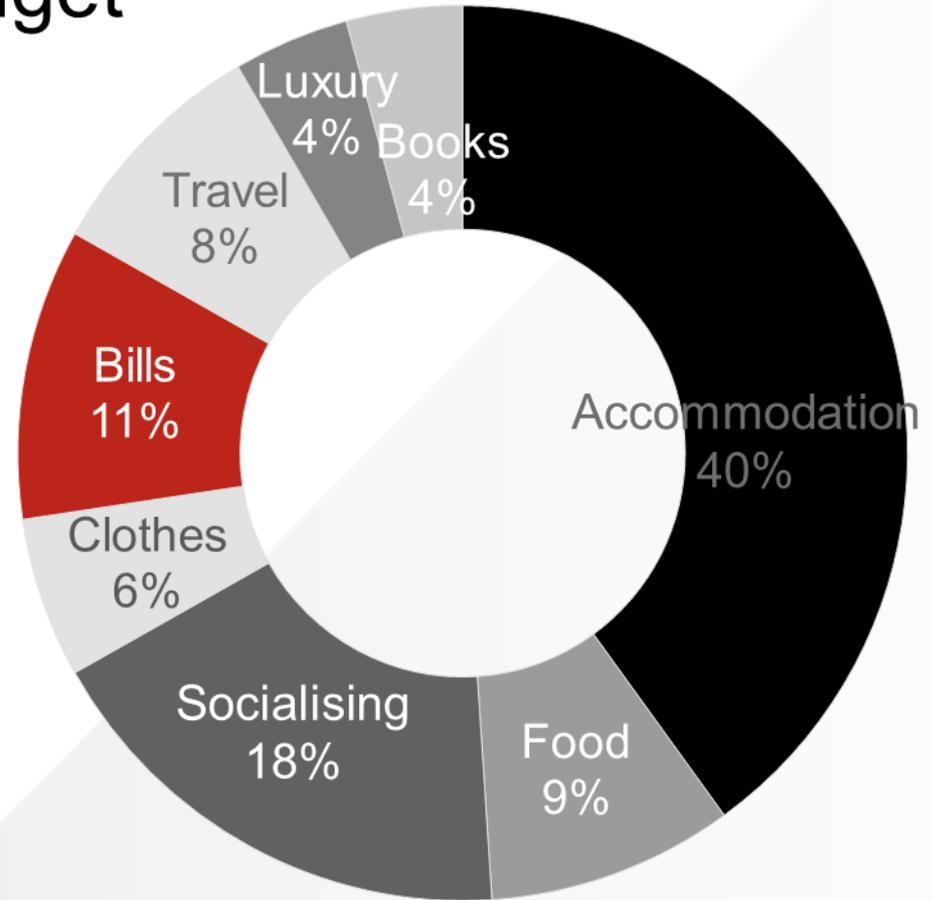
Student finance opened on **25th February 2019** for students starting their course in **Autumn 2019** and the deadline is the **24th May 2019.**

<https://www.gov.uk/get-undergraduate-student-loan>



Estimated Monthly Budget

Accommodation	£380
Food/ Housekeeping	£85
Socialising/ Leisure	£170
Clothes/ Shoes	£55
Bills	£100
Travel	£80
Books/ Stationary	£45
Luxury/ Other	£40
Grand Total	£995



Student Finance package overview

- Tuition Fee Loans
 - Living Cost Loans
 - Grants/Bursaries
 - Scholarships
 - Learning Fund
-
- Repayable
- Non Repayable

Tuition Fee Loan

- Will be paid directly to your chosen university
- From £6,000 - £9,250
- Tuition fee loan does not depend on your family income

You do not have to find the money to pay for your tuition costs before or while you are studying.

You don't have to start repaying the loan until you graduate and are earning over **£25,000** a year.

How to Apply

Apply online at www.gov.uk/student-finance

You don't need to have accepted a university or college place to apply

Information required:

- National Insurance Number
- Birth Certificate/Passport
- Household income details
- Student bank account details

Student finance

Contents

- Overview
- [New full-time students](#)
- [Continuing full-time students](#)
- [Part-time students](#)
- [EU students](#)
- [Extra help](#)
- [Eligibility](#)
- [Apply](#)

Overview

You may be able to borrow money to help pay for fees and to help with living costs.



Living Costs Loan

To help with accommodation, travel, cost of books and living expenses.

Has been increased to account for end of the Maintenance Grant in 2015

Amount awarded is dependent on household income

Paid directly to into your student bank account in three instalments each academic year e.g. September, January, April

Repayable the same way as Tuition Fee Loan

How much Living Cost Loan can I get?

It depends!

- 1) Where you live
- 2) Where you study
- 3) Your Household income

What is the maximum amount of Living Cost Loan (for living costs) can you receive for this forthcoming year (2019/20) if you are living away from home, in London?

A) Up to £8,944

B) Up to £7,529

C) Up to
£11,672

D) Up to £9,963



Living Costs Loan Rates

Full-time student	2016 to 2017	2017 to 2018	2018 to 2019
Living at home	Up to £7,097	Up to £7,097	Up to £7,324
Living away from home, outside London	Up to £8,200	Up to £8,430	Up to £8,700
Living away from home, in London	Up to £10,702	Up to £11,002	Up to £11,354
You spend a year of a UK course studying abroad	-	Up to £9,654	Up to £9,963

Bursaries, Scholarships & Learning Funds

Many universities and colleges offer financial support to their students through bursaries and scholarships.

Bursaries:

- linked to personal circumstances and often, household income
- awards can include fee waivers or cash

Scholarships:

- can be linked to academic results or outstanding ability in an area such as sport, music or art
- can be subject specific and are limited in numbers

Learning Fund:

- Provides discretionary financial assistance for UK students to access and remain in higher education, particularly those students who need financial help to meet extra costs that cannot be met from other sources of support.

Middlesex Scholarships

- Rewarding academic achievement, excellence and ambition
- Subject specific proposition



Middlesex University London

Courses Study with us

through loans and grants. See our information on [undergraduate fir](#)

Find a scholarship, award or bursary

New undergraduate students

- Community scholarships
- The Lucy Graham Dance Scholarship
- Optivo Study4Success award
- Redrow Aspirational Award
- Sports scholarships

<https://www.mdx.ac.uk/study-with-us/fees-and-funding/scholarships-and-bursaries>



Middlesex University's Community Scholarship

Middlesex University Community Scholarship is awarded to undergraduate students who have been an excellent role model within their school, college or community, and/or have succeeded in overcoming personal difficulties or challenging situations. Students who are awarded the Community Scholarship will receive **£6,000 cash award**. The payment will be made in three instalments with **£2,000 per academic year for 3 years**.

Eligibility- to be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a **NEW undergraduate student**, in which this will be the **first year of their studies at Middlesex University**
- Be starting **Year 1 entry of their undergraduate degree, and completing a full 3 year course**
- Attend a state-funded school or college in ANY London borough
- Achieve at least **BBC in A-levels, DMM in BTEC Level 3**, or 45 credits Merit or higher at Level 3 Access to HE Diploma
- **Put Middlesex University as their firm choice for a full-time or part-time undergraduate course through UCAS**
- **Have made an online application to Student Finance and be eligible for an offer of funding**
- **Be ordinarily resident in the UK**
- Agree to the community scholarship terms and conditions



In addition applicants must show evidence that they meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Being a successful role model in their school or college
- Succeeding despite personal difficulties or challenging situations
- Engagement in the community including volunteering and sports

How to Apply

To apply for the Community Scholarship, applicants must complete an online application form.

[Please click here to complete the application form.](#)

The deadline for applications for this scholarship is **31st July 2019**

Repayments

£25,000

9%

30
years

Repayments

- The more you earn the quicker you will end up paying it off
- Collected by PAYE automatically
- The debt is manageable
- Outstanding balance written off after 30 years
- Repayments start the year after you leave your course and when you are earning over £25,000 a year
- Students repay 9% of earnings above £25,000 a year

Amount of Salary from which 9% will be deducted

Your income per year	Monthly salary	Monthly repayments
£25,000 and under	£2,083	£0
£30,000	£2,500	£37
£35,000	£2,916	£75
£40,000	£3,333	£112
£50,000	£4,167	£187



Quiz Time – True or False?

- 1) You need cash to go to Uni 
- 2) If you earn under £25,000 you won't repay 
- 3) Debt collectors can chase student loans 
- 4) After 30 years any and all remaining debt is wiped out 
- 5) Students earning over £25,000 will have to pay above inflation rates 
- 6) Part-timers can also get loans for tuition fees 
- 7) Monthly repayments are the same whether fees are £6,000 or £9,250 
- 8) Student Loans go on credit files 
- 9) You can repay early 
- 10) Many will never repay their loans back 

Useful Websites/Information

- Middlesex University: www.mdx.ac.uk
- UCAS: ucas.co.uk | UCAS TV: ucas.TV
- Accommodation - www.mdx.ac.uk/accomodation
- Prospects: <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree>
- Student forum: studentroom.co.uk
- Uni stats: unistats.direct.gov.uk
- Student finance: studentfinance.direct.gov.uk
- University finances: studentcalculator.org.uk
- Taster courses: london.ac.uk/tasters

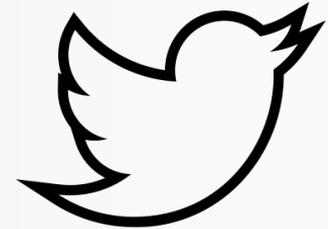
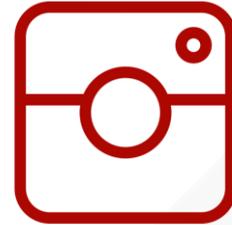


Useful Links:

- <https://www.mdx.ac.uk/life-at-middlesex/support-services/finance/scholarships-and-bursaries>
- <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>
- http://www.studentloanrepayment.co.uk/portal/page?_pageid=93,3866794&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL
- <https://www.mdx.ac.uk/courses>
- <https://www.mdx.ac.uk/get-in-touch/meet-us/ug-open-days>

Contact Us

- Twitter - MiddlesexUni
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- Instagram - @middlesexuniversity
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Any questions?