

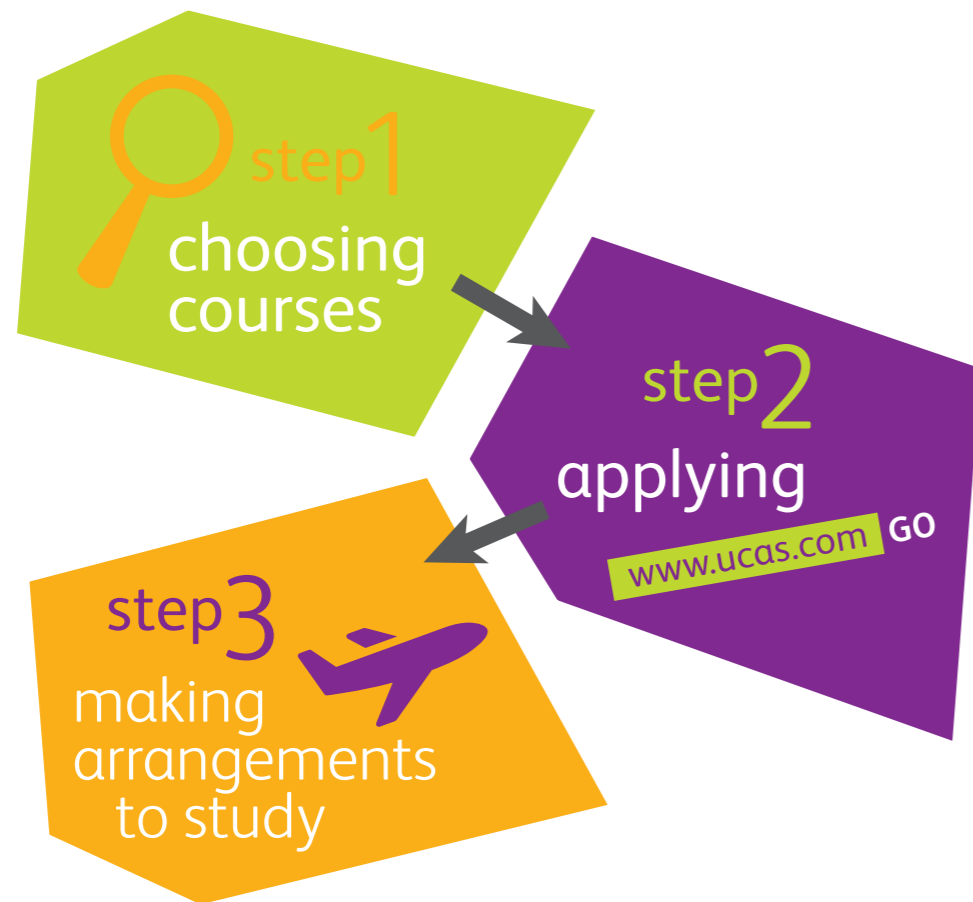
Apply to study in the UK

wwwucas.com/international

UCAS

2014 ENTRY





English language requirements

Universities and colleges will advise all applicants what standard of English is required for their courses. Most institutions will ask you to demonstrate proficiency in English or to take an approved English language test if English is not your first language.

Visit the university or college's website, or contact its admissions or international office, to find out which English language tests are acceptable. They will also advise you which language tests are needed when applying for a student visa, if you need one.

What is UCAS?

UCAS provides a central source of information and advice on higher education as well as processing applications to full-time courses at UK universities and colleges. On www.ucas.com you can search for courses, make your application and track its progress. UCAS makes it simple by giving you the option to apply for up to five courses using one service.

Why study in the UK?

Welcoming...

- The UK has a long history of welcoming international students to study at its universities and colleges.
- Every year, around 110,000 people from outside the UK apply through UCAS to study for a full-time undergraduate degree course in the UK.

Quality...

- UK qualifications are recognised and respected throughout the world, and courses meet strict academic criteria.
- A UK degree provides an excellent foundation for securing employment in the global marketplace.

Cultural diversity...

- British universities and colleges provide a multicultural, diverse, creative and inviting environment, which encourages students to reach their full potential.

How to apply

There are three simple steps to applying for higher education in the UK:

Step 1 – Choosing courses

- Research courses at www.ucas.com/search - there are over 35,000 courses at over 300 universities and colleges to choose from.
- When you find a course you like, contact the university or college directly to check the minimum entry qualifications and English language requirements for the courses you are interested in studying.
- Visit www.ucas.com/international to get more advice on how to choose the right course for you.

Step 2 – Applying

- Start your application by registering online at www.ucas.com/apply. You can apply for up to five separate courses. This could be one course at five different universities or five courses at one university. Try to apply for a range of courses with different entry requirements so that you have options if your grades are better than, or not as good as you expected.
- As part of your application you have to provide a personal statement. This is your chance to tell universities and colleges why you want to study your chosen subject and why you would be a good student. Writing a good personal statement takes a long time, so start your preparation early.

- The last part of the application is the reference or letter of recommendation. This is often supplied by a teacher at your school, or if you have left school this can be supplied by an independent referee like a former teacher or employer.
- There are deadlines to apply for different courses – check course information to see which one applies to you:
 - **15 October** – for universities of Oxford or Cambridge, or any course in medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine/science
 - **15 January** – for the majority of courses
 - **24 March** – for some art and design courses
 - **30 June 2014** – applications received after this date will be entered into Clearing
- After you've sent off your application you can see how it's progressing by logging in to our online system, Track. Through Track you can see when decisions are received from universities and colleges. If you don't receive any offers, or decline the offers you do receive, you may be able to apply for an additional course through the scheme called Extra. In Extra, which runs from the end of February and early July each year, you will be able to apply for any course that still has vacancies. Find out more at www.ucas.com/extra.
- When the universities and colleges have received and considered an application, they will make their decision. If they make an offer it may be either unconditional or conditional. Unconditional means that the applicant has already met all the university's or college's academic entrance requirements. Conditional means that the offer has certain conditions, for example the applicant has to achieve certain exam results.

Step 3 – Making arrangements to study

- Once you have a place to study in the UK and a confirmed start date, you can start organising your student visa (if required) with the support of your chosen university.
- The UK Visas and Immigration service and the UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA) have useful information on studying in the UK on their websites.
- To make sure you are prepared, work through the checklist on www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/start-ing-your-studies.





UCAS

UCAS is online to help

Find out more and get in touch with us at www.ucas.com/international – Plus, you can interact with UCAS bloggers and join discussions through our social media channels.



Information for parents

We want to help you give your son or daughter the best support possible to during their application journey. Here are some handy hints to get started.

Go to www.ucas.com/parents

- Sign up for our monthly newsletters written specifically for parents.
- UCAStv – we've got a whole host of videos designed to guide students through the application process. They're a really easy way for your son or daughter to familiarise themselves with everything they need to know.
- www.ucas.com is always updated with useful information and advice. Point your son or daughter to the undergraduate section. And for you, there's a dedicated parents' section.

Useful websites*

UK Council for International Student Affairs has lots of information for international students on many topics from immigration advice and English language tests, to scholarships and accommodation.

www.ukcisa.org.uk

The British Council's Education UK website has lots of information to help international students prepare for and enjoy their UK experience, including practical advice on visas, travel and finance.

www.educationuk.org

International student calculator is a tool to help international students understand how much life in the UK will cost.

international.studentcalculator.org.uk

Prepare for Success is a free resource which helps international students prepare for their studies at a UK university or college.

www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk

* Note that these are all English-language websites.