

A80: unconditional offers

Aston University Birmingham's perspective on unconditional offers:

Aston makes a small number of pre-results unconditional offers each year to applicants who demonstrate, via the UCAS form, exceptional potential to succeed at the university. We take a very targeted and responsible stance to unconditional offer-making, and are careful not to drive down attainment in order to recruit students, but we specifically target and nurture high achievers. A number of our degree programmes, such as Medicine, Pharmacy, and Optometry, are excluded from our pre-results unconditional offer scheme.

Our approach to unconditional offer-making is based on a combination of demonstrable success at GCSE (for 2019, seven grade A/A or grades 7/8/9 must already have been achieved), the personal statement, school/college reference, and excellent predicted grades at A level or equivalent (for 2019, predictions of AAB or above).*

Based on applicant and student performance data, we review the criteria for receiving a pre-results unconditional offer annually. For example, in 2018, we increased the GCSE requirement from five grade A/A/7/8/9 to seven. We invite applicants who receive a pre-results unconditional offer to attend a specialist Applicant Visit Day at the university, which includes sessions on career planning, to ensure that applicants are aware of the importance of successfully completing their A levels or equivalent.*

Applicants who have already achieved their A levels/BTEC or other Level 3 qualifications in a previous year, will be considered for an unconditional offer in line with the university's published entry criteria. Applicants, teachers, or advisers are welcome to contact ugadmissions@aston.ac.uk for more individual advice and guidance on any aspect of their application.

You can find out more about Aston's unconditional offer scheme (and other offer schemes that we offer, such as contextual offers) at www2.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applicants.

Definitions of offer types:

Unconditional offer

This is an offer made by a provider where they are satisfied that an individual has demonstrated sufficient attainment and potential to succeed on their chosen programme. Based on the offer status at the 30 June application deadline.

Conditional unconditional offer

An offer made by a provider which was originally conditional, but becomes unconditional if the applicant selects that offer as their firm (first) choice. By definition, conditional unconditional offers that are selected as a firm choice by the applicant become unconditional and are also included in the unconditional offers group (see above).

Offer with an unconditional component

All offers showing as having an element of unconditional offer-making, that is, unconditional offers plus conditional unconditional offers that have not been selected as firm (and hence remain conditional unconditional).

All offers

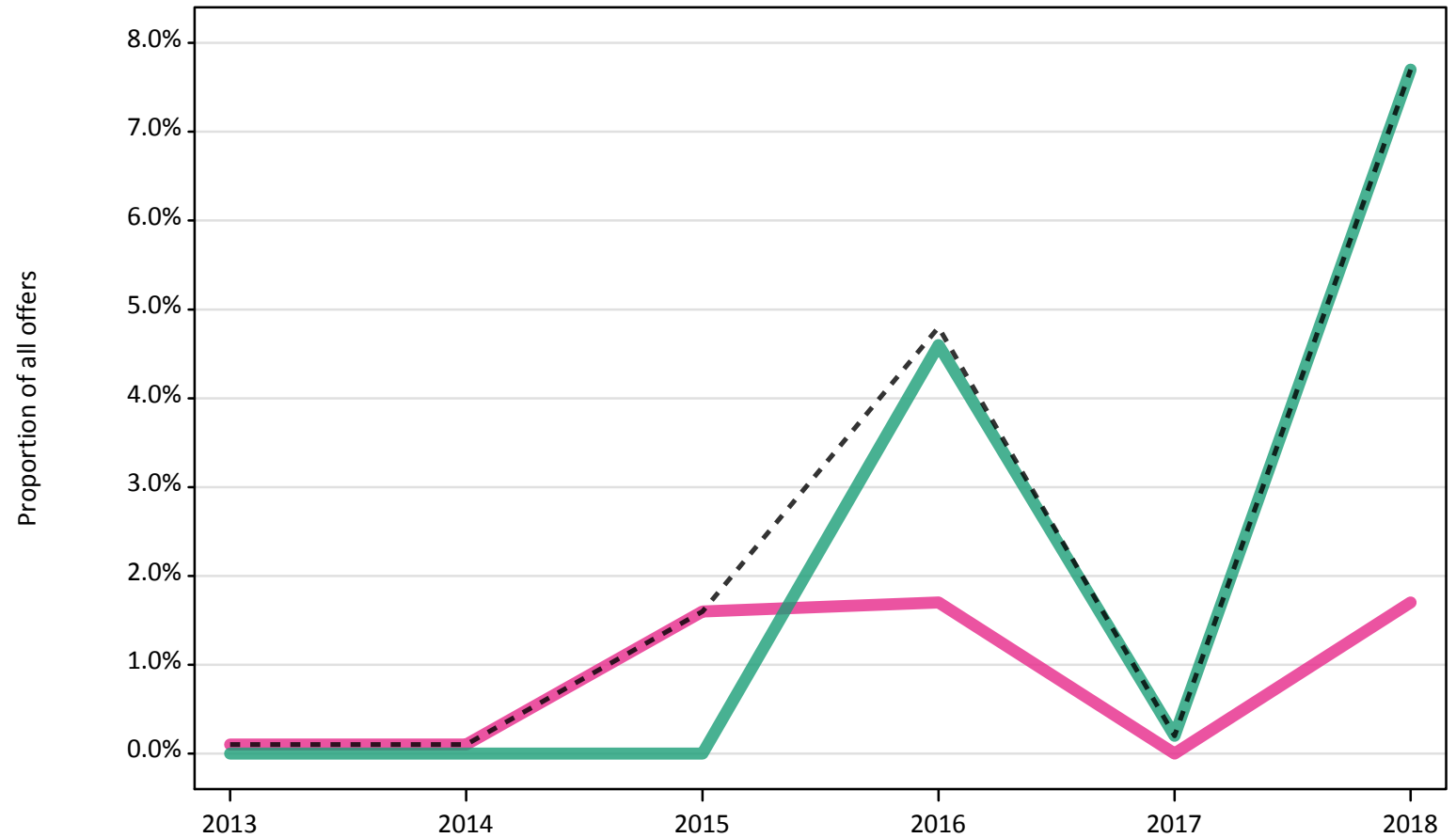
All offers made by the provider, subject to the coverage of this report. This includes conditional as well as unconditional offers to 18-year-old main scheme applicants domiciled in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Technical note:

The coverage of this report is limited to offers made by 30 June, to 18-year-old main scheme applicants domiciled in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales. This is because these applicants are least likely to apply already having achieved a full set of qualifications typically required for undergraduate higher education.

A.1 Proportion of all offers that are unconditional, by cycle year

- Unconditional offers
- Conditional unconditional offers
- Offers with unconditional component



A.2 Unconditional offers by cycle year

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Unconditional offers	5	5	110	125	0	120
Conditional unconditional offers	0	0	0	345	20	545
Offers with unconditional component	5	5	110	360	20	545
All offers (conditional and unconditional)	5,275	5,670	6,880	7,480	7,885	7,085

A.3 Proportion of all offers that are unconditional, by cycle year

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Unconditional offers	0.1%	0.1%	1.6%	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%
Conditional unconditional offers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.6%	0.2%	7.7%
Offers with unconditional component	0.1%	0.1%	1.6%	4.8%	0.2%	7.7%

Note: Percentage values are not printed in the above table if the total rounded number of offers for that year is below 100.