

Parents' evening presentation



The role of UCAS

UCAS processes applications for full-time courses at higher education providers in the UK.

We guide students through the whole process, providing valuable information and supporting services for applicants and their parents.



Choices available

- Higher education.
- Apprenticeships and traineeships.
- Studying abroad.
- Gap year.
- Getting a job.



Understand the options available at www.ucas.com/alternatives

Apprenticeship advice service

UCAS have launched an [apprenticeships advice service](#) to help students make informed decisions about their post-16 and post-18 opportunities.

Find out about:

- the different types of apprenticeships
- how to find and apply for apprenticeships
- preparing for the application and interview process



With the predicted growth of Higher & Degree Apprenticeships you'll also find a dedicated [degree and professional apprenticeships section](#) on [ucas.com](#) which profiles current programmes in more detail – from chartered surveying to broadcast engineering.

Why higher education?

Opportunities whilst studying

- Chance to study a subject they are passionate about.
- Achieve a qualification that will lead to their chosen career.
- Gain confidence, independence, and important life skills that will widen their prospects.
- Making lifelong friends.



With a degree

- The opportunity to follow their career path.
- Better job prospects.
- Many employers target graduates.
- Higher earning potential.

Researching courses

Your son or daughter can use the UCAS search tool search.ucas.com

UCAS Search tool

Search courses

Where do you normally live?*:

*This helps us to show courses that are available to you. [Click here for more info](#)

Search by **any** or **all** of the following

Course:

Provider:

Location:

Don't know what to study?

Need help finding courses? Browse subjects and find out what's available.



UCAS Search tool

Use our new search to find undergraduate courses and courses at conservatoires.

Teaching Excellence Framework: For courses starting in 2017, higher education providers that meet the expectations of the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) will be able to increase their tuition fees in line with inflation. [Find out more about TEF and the providers that have been awarded it.](#)

We'll be adding all our other courses soon – until then, click the links below.

- [Postgraduate courses](#)
- [Postgraduate teacher training courses](#)
- [Foundation degrees](#)



Things to consider

There are a number of things for an applicant to consider when applying for higher education, such as:

- the subject they enjoy – investing time, money and effort
- if it is right for their career path – check with employers
- location – city/rural, transport links
- the study style that suits them
- finances – course fees, travel and living costs
- extra-curricular activities



Research – it's free

- **Search tool** – to look for providers, courses and minimum entry requirements.
- **Open days and virtual tours** – a great way to explore campuses and facilities.
- **UCAS higher education exhibitions** – useful to meet different universities and colleges, and explore options.

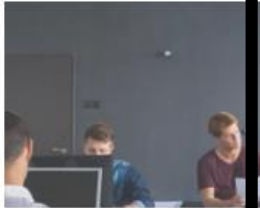


- **Learning from others** – student videos, blogs and case studies.
- **Career options** – our career finder tool is ideal for considering the options after education.

Open days and virtual tours



Managing money



Employment

Exhibitions and open days

Find out more about universities and courses at UCAS exhibitions and university open days.

Come and speak to universities, colleges, UCAS, and many other interesting organisations at our exhibitions. They're big events and we hold over 50 all over the UK. They're a great chance to help you figure out what to study, or to find student deals and careers info. Attend university open days to really get a feel for where you could be living and studying, and get answers to any questions you may have.

Related reading

- [Exploring university](#)
- [Events and open days](#)
- [Exhibitions](#)
- [Visit conservatoires](#)

You may like to visit

- [Search for uni open days](#)

[Find exhibitions near you](#)



UCAS blogs

Bloggers share their higher education experiences with you.



After your GCSEs

als

Open day search tool

Exploring university Exhibitions Conferences Training for advisers & providers

Exploring university

Find open days

Open days tips

Learn about uni on a taster course

Virtual tours

UCAS Events on Twitter

[about 2 hours ago](#)
Taster courses let you experience academic and social life on campus before you apply [ow.ly/ZvGC304UnnJ](#)

[about 22 hours ago](#)
Advisers! Can't make a training session at UCAS? We can bring the training to your centre! [ow.ly/X0vYg](#)

[about a day ago](#)
UCAS Exhibitions are your chance to explore your post-18 options. Book your visit now

Find open days

Enter a partial provider name to search for, e.g. Oxford

Open days

Region **Filter by date**

- Any - -Month -Year

The University of Aberdeen

	Event	Region	Date
22 OCT	Undergraduate Open Day	Grampian and Tayside	Sat 22 October 2016 - 10:00 to 16:00

Visit our Undergraduate Open Day to experience our spectacular campus, speak to staff and students and get a real taste of university life. The day will include a series of presentations, departmental activities, exhibitions, tours of the campus and the Sir Duncan Rice Library and sports facilities. Our team of experienced Student Ambassadors will make your visit a memorable one and look after you on the day. There will be live music and a range of interactive sessions for you to try out.

Queen Margaret University
EDINBURGH

For more information on QMU, visit: www.qmu.ac.uk

STEP into QMU

Queen Margaret University
EDINBURGH

Virtual open days

Virtual tours

View published

We realise not everyone can attend an open day, so here's a list of virtual tours and videos from universities and colleges so you can see what it's like on campus and what facilities are available. If the uni/college you're interested in isn't listed, take a look at their website or YouTube channel instead.

Relevant to **Undergraduate**

You may also like to read

No suggestions.

Related topics

No related topics.

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#)
[Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

A

[University of Aberdeen](#)

[Abertay University](#)

[Aberystwyth University](#)

[Academy of Contemporary Music](#)

[Anglia Ruskin University](#)

[Arts University Bournemouth \(formerly University College\)](#)

[Aston University Birmingham](#)

Apply 2017 key facts

- Application is entirely online.
- Maximum of five choices.
- Some choice restrictions:
 - for medicine, veterinary science/medicine and dentistry there is a maximum of four choices
 - can only apply for either Oxford or Cambridge
- Simple application cost:
 - one choice – £13
 - two to five choices – £24
- Equal consideration if deadlines are met.
- Invisibility – universities cannot see where else someone has applied.



When to apply

Mid September – completed applications can be submitted to UCAS.


15 October (18:00 UK time) – deadline for Oxford **or** Cambridge, and most courses in medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine/science.

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

24 March (18:00 UK time) – deadline for some art and design courses.

30 June (18:00 UK time) – last date to submit an application before Clearing.

The personal statement

- The only section your son or daughter has control over.
 - Their only chance to market themselves individually.
 - One personal statement for **all** choices.
- 
- A close-up photograph of a person's hands writing in a notebook. The person is wearing a red shirt and blue jeans. The notebook is open, and the person is using a blue pen to write on a white page. The background is white.
- Max. 4,000 characters, 47 lines
 - Min. 1,000 characters
 - No spelling/grammar check
 - No formatting

Where to start

- Think about what makes them **stand out** in an exciting and positive way.
- Show **enthusiasm** for the course they are applying for and list supporting **evidence** to back this up.
- Extra curricular activities and **relevant** work experience.
- **Skills** they can use on the course – leadership, communication, team work for example.
- Encourage them to ask you for more **ideas**.
- Allow plenty of **time**.

Tracking applications

Track will allow your son or daughter to:

- follow the progress of their application online
- see their choices and personal information
- see their offers
- reply to offers online



Decisions and replies

Provider decisions:

- Unsuccessful
- Unconditional offer
- Conditional offer – qualifications and achievements and/or UCAS Tariff points

Once all decisions are received, they can hold up to two offers:

- One as their **firm** choice
- One as their **insurance** choice (if they want to)
- All other offers are declined

Track will show their **reply date**.

Other options

Extra 24 Feb – 4 July

If all five choices have been used and they have no offers/rejected all offers.

Clearing from early-July

If there are no offers, or have applied after 30 June deadline.



Adjustment (from A level results day)

If they've gained better results than the conditional offer they hold, they could apply for a different course or university.

What your son/daughter should be doing now?

- Research
- Extra curricular
- Work experience
- Go beyond the syllabus
- Focus on this year's studies



How can you support them?

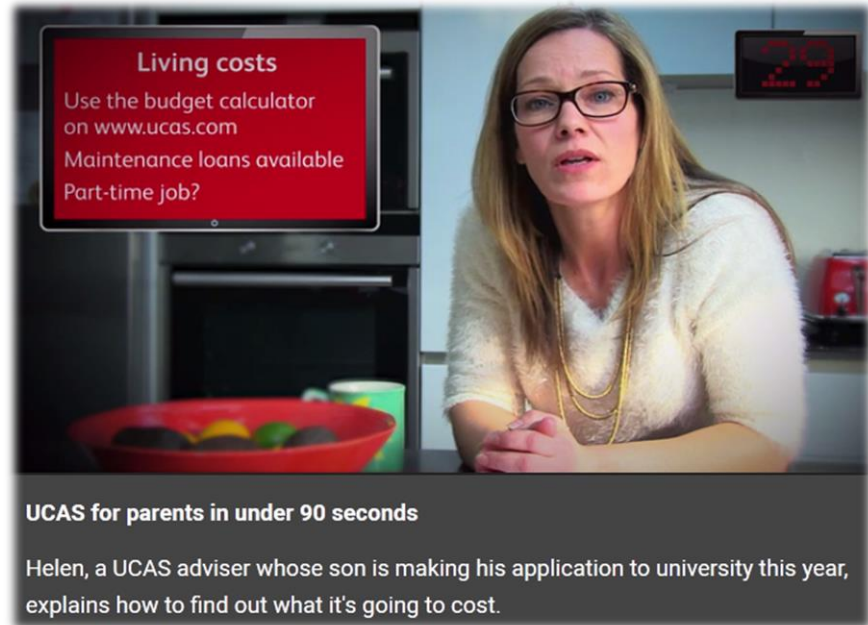
- Use the parents/guardians section of the UCAS website/Parent Guide publication – www.ucas.com/parents and sign up for the newsletter.
- Offer to attend open days, you may have a different perspective.
- Don't book family holidays at key times.
- Make sure they read everything carefully that is sent to them.
- Support your son/daughter's management of their application.

Videos for parents

UCAS has developed four videos on key topics:

- The UCAS process
- Open days
- Student finance
- Clearing

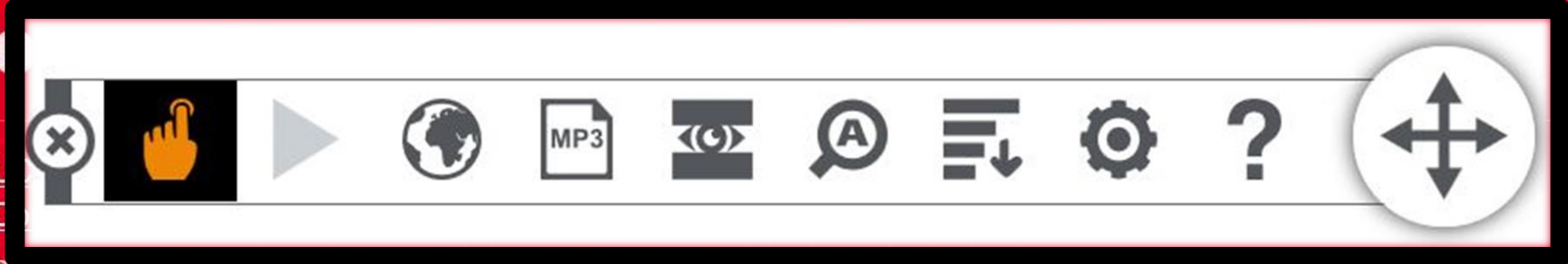
www.ucas.com/parents



Making UCAS.com more accessible



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[Listen/translate with BrowseAloud](#)

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Give us your feedback



Featured video: Preparing for higher education

There are loads more videos available to cover all aspects of the journey to higher education

[View more videos](#)

Find out more from UCAS bloggers

Hear what our UCAS bloggers have to say about their experiences of the journey to higher education

[UCAS bloggers](#)

UCAS on Twitter

about an hour ago ⌘
REMINDER: Our web chat with @YourMoneyAdvice ⌘ is at 16:00 (UK time) TODAY. Sign up for a reminder now ow.ly/RE3uX ⌘

about 2 hours ago ⌘
Looking for a course? Do it now – our search tools will be unavailable from 18:00 on Fri until Monday morning for maintenance

about 2 hours ago ⌘
Want to teach? There are [#teachertraining](#) ⌘ programmes with places starting this year – find them here ow.ly/RE3qW ⌘ [#NotTooLate](#) ⌘

[Follow us on Twitter](#)

UCAS on Facebook



UCAS
2 hrs
Looking for a course? Do it now – our search tools will be unavailable from 18:00 on Fri until Monday morning for maintenance

2 Likes
[Like](#) [Comment](#) [Share](#)

UCAS blogs

Four top tips to managing your money at uni

2 Sep 2015

By UCAS in UCAS advice

The thought of managing your money while at university may appear daunting, but with a bit of planning it doesn't need to be. We've got plenty of finance information on our website but if you need a...

Still looking for accommodation?

21 Aug 2015

By UCAS in UCAS advice

Got a place at uni but don't have a place in halls? Are you still hunting for somewhere to live during your studies? Here are our top three tips to help you find your ideal student pad: 1. Talk to...

[More blogs](#)

Additional help

UCAS Customer Experience Centre

0371 468 0468

Monday to Friday, 08:30 – 18:00 (UK time)

