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Applying to UK Universities

**Atlanta International School
September 2009**



Applying to UK Universities

Why choose British Higher Education?

Issues to consider prior to application

What is UCAS?

How does it work?

Completing the application form

Application deadlines

What happens next?

Further information

Why choose British Higher Education?

Selective admissions system and small group teaching , hence very small dropout of students

UK government assures quality of degrees to maintain high international reputation of UK degrees

Progression to US or other international postgraduate study

Students with IB Diploma usually require only three years for Honours degree

Long tradition of excellent student support, welfare and advice for international students

Campus or University accommodation guaranteed

Easy access to social and cultural opportunities of Britain and Europe

Great employment prospects both in Britain and in European Union

Before applying

Selective system - careful matching of applicant to degree course

Get as much information as possible about the universities and courses

- Am I qualified to enrol on the courses I am considering?
- Is the course right for me?
- Will my particular needs be met?
- Will I be happy at a particular University?

What is UCAS?

Universities & Colleges Admissions Service

Only way to apply to a UK undergraduate course

335 institutions - over 55,000 different programmes of study

Over 400,000 applicants annually (60,000 from overseas)

UCAS does not accept or reject applicants

UCAS is simple, quick, cheap and efficient



How does it work?

All universities have to comply with set procedures and rules

Application is online

For a single fee you complete only one application form and can apply to up to five universities on that single application form

Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science - only four of your five choices to be used on these subjects

Only possible to apply to either Cambridge or Oxford in any one year - not both!

Deadlines for both the applicants and the universities

The UCAS Form

Comprises four main sections

Personal details

Academic qualifications

- previous
- current (such as International Baccalaureate)

Personal Statement

Reference

Application deadlines 1

UK or EU Status

- 15 January for entry in following September

Overseas status

- 30 June for entry in following September

Applications for Oxford or Cambridge and for Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science

- 15 October for entry the following year

Early application recommended

Application deadlines 2

Popular courses can fill overseas allocation before 30 June

UCAS Extra

Applications received after 30 June will go into clearing process

What happens next?

Acknowledgement card - UCAS number

Form copied and sent to each university selected

Universities make decision – usually a conditional offer and UCAS notifies you of university decisions

Via UCAS you accept or decline offers (firm and insurance choices)

Your first choice university will contact you with information about accommodation, coming to UK and arrangements for arrival and registration

Costs

Annual Tuition fees:

\$15000-\$20000 depending on University and subject

Living Costs:

c. \$15000 per annum

Financing

Most UK universities certified to process US Federal Loans

Students can borrow up to cost of attendance via:

- Stafford Loans (\$5500 in Year 1)
- Parent Plus Loans
- Private Student Loans

UK University Scholarships often available

Other sources of funding include scholarships from Rotary or other charitable organisations

Students eligible to work up to 20 hours a week

Further information

www.ucas.com

www.unistats.com

www.educationuk.org

www.ukcosa.org.uk

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