

Why go to university?



INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

What is Higher Education?



- University \ College
- Post A Level
- 3 or 4 years
- Degrees – single \ joint (BA, BSc, Masters)
- HND (2 year vocational)
- Foundation Courses



Why enter higher education?

Opportunities whilst studying

- Necessary for chosen career
- Chance to study a subject you are passionate about.
- Achieve a qualification that will lead to a career.
- Opportunities to build your CV
- Gain confidence, independence, and important transferable skills that will widen your prospects.
- Make lifelong friends.

With a degree...

- The opportunity to follow your chosen career path and progress more easily.
- Better job prospects; many employers target graduates.
- Higher earning potential – 35% above the national average.
Average starting salary, £22k.



Financial Issues

Tuition Fees – currently £9000, can move up to £9250

You do not need to have this money upfront – they are mostly paid by loan, and the money goes direct from the SLC to the university.

- These are to cover living costs, and are dependent on household income.
- Don't forget bursaries and scholarships!

STUDENT FINANCE

Maintenance Loan (repayable)

Household Income	Home – with parents	Elsewhere – (inc. Halls of Residence)	London
£25,000 & under	£7,097	£8,430	£11,002
£30,000	£6,499	£7,825	£10,387
£35,000	£5,901	£7,220	£9,771
£40,000	£5,303	£6,615	£9,155
£45,000	£4,705	£6,009	£8,539
£50,000	£4,107	£5,404	£7,924
£55,000	£3,509	£4,799	£7,308
£60,000	£3,124	£4,193	£6,692

STUDENT FINANCE

Loan repayments

Repayment is 9% on any earnings **above** the £21,000 threshold

Gross Salary	Monthly Gross salary	Monthly Repayment
Up to £21,000	Up to £1,750	£0
£22,000	£1,833	£7
£25,000	£2,083	£30
£30,000	£2,500	£67
£35,000	£2,916	£105
£40,000	£3,333	£142
£50,000	£4,166	£217

Interest Rates: RPI + up to 3%

If earnings fall below £21,000 a year, repayments are suspended.
Any outstanding balance is cleared after 30 years.

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 advisers, applicants and their parents.



Spoilt for choice

- How many courses can you choose from in the UK?



Spoilt for choice

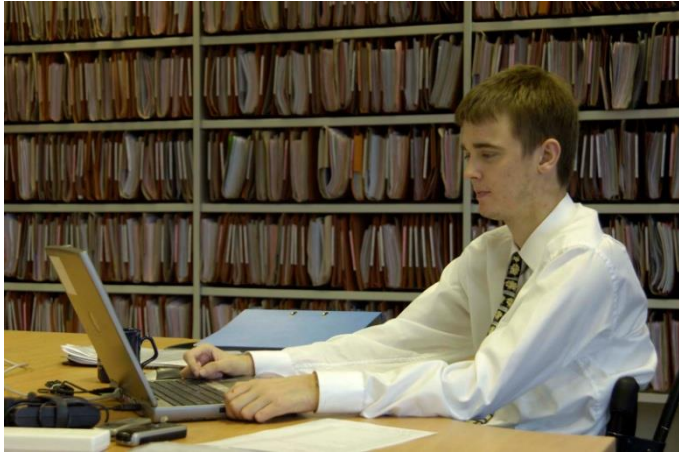
- How many undergraduate courses can you choose from in the UK?



- **Over 37,000**



The shortlist



- How many choices are you allowed on your UCAS form?



The shortlist

- How many choices are you allowed on your UCAS form?

Just 5!



Exploring what is right for you



The 4 C's

- Career
- Course
- Campus (Lancaster, Essex, Warwick)
- City (Sheffield, Manchester)



Choosing your course

Things to consider:

- Qualification type
- Length of course
- Course structure
- Assessment styles
- Entry requirements
- Professional accreditations
- Work placements – sandwich year
- Finance – course fees



Location, location, location



Things to consider:

- Distance from home
- Transport links
- Number of sites
- Rural or urban campus
- Cost of living
- Facilities
- City attractions
- Availability of financial support
- Accommodation

How and where to research

- www.ucas.com
- Entry profiles
- Prospectuses & websites
- Open days
- **Pay attention to typical offers**



Researching courses

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



Search courses

Where do you normally live?*: ▾

Search courses available in*: 2015 2016

*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.

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

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



Visit, visit, visit ...



Introducing the new UCAS open days search tool – get some dates in your students diaries:
www.ucas.com/open-days

UCAS

ucas.com/virtual tours

UCAS

Advisers

Providers

Corporate

Events

Connect

UCAS

At the heart of connecting people to higher education

Next event: **Ayrshire higher education convention**
Ayr, 8 Sep 2015 - [More events](#)

Keyword search



Exploring university

Conventions and exhibitions

Conferences

Training for advisers & providers

Home > Events > Exploring university > Virtual tours

Find open days

Learn about uni on a taster course

Open days tips

Virtual tours

UCAS Events on Twitter



about 45 days ago

[#UCASDesign](#) welcomes some new exhibitors in November [@LondonAtelier](#) [@_UoW](#) [@AmandWycCollege](#) [@WSofArchi](#) Find out more [ow.ly/DRM0h](#)

about 74 days ago

Thank you to [@PH_Hotels](#) The Met Hotel [#Leeds](#) for hosting another conference for us.

about 74 days ago

Thank you to all who attended [#UCASCompetitive](#) Admissions in [#Leeds](#). It's been a great conference! What were the best bits for you?

Follow us on Twitter

Virtual tours

View published

We realise that not everyone can attend an open day, but it's pretty important to see where you'll be studying and possibly living.

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.

Click on a university or college to view their virtual tour or video.

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](#)
[Aberystwyth University](#)
[Anglia Ruskin University](#)
[Arts University Bournemouth \(formerly University College\)](#)
[Aston University, Birmingham](#)

B
[Bangor University](#)
[University of Bedfordshire](#)
[Birmingham City University](#)

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What your son/daughter should be doing now?

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



Conclusion



- Do your research – START TOMORROW!
- Discuss the debt
- Make the right choice for **you**
- Employability
- Best years of your life!

