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## University Applications (2020) Parents' Information Evening



at the heart of connecting  
people to higher education

**Please make sure you have picked up the  
information booklet** (on the desk as you walk in).

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## University Applications

Entry in 2020.

**Aims of the evening:**

- To look at reasons for going to University.
- To give parents/carers an overview of the process of university applications (UCAS).
- To guide parents/carers through the issue of fees.
- To allow parents/carers to have the knowledge to help in the application process.

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## Section 1: Why go to University?



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**To study a subject which you enjoy.**  
Students often choose to study a subject because they have enjoyed it at school or college. Finding out more about something that is enjoyable will show commitment and will often produce excellent results for the students.

**To improve career prospects.**  
Gaining a degree can significantly increase and improve your career prospects. You will not only have a wider variety of career options to choose from once you have a degree but you are likely to progress much faster up the career ladder. Whilst it would be misleading to claim that a degree guarantees employment, an increasing number of organisations require people to hold degrees before applying.

**To develop employable skills.**  
A degree will not only give you in-depth knowledge of your chosen subject, but will also make you more employable, developing transferable skills, such as communication, presentation, problem-solving and teamwork.

**To earn a larger salary.**  
Statistics show that graduates earn significantly more than those without Higher Education qualifications. According to the Prospects website the average yearly earnings of a 21-35 year old graduate is £27,364 per year in the UK compared to £19,344 per year for non-graduates. Over a working lifetime graduates on average earn 20%-25% more than non-graduates.

**To pursue a vocation.**  
Some careers, such as those in medicine, nursing, architecture, law and pharmacy, cannot be practised without a particular vocational degree.

**To build self-confidence, independence & responsibility.**  
University will also help you to build your self-confidence and independence. You will have the opportunity to pursue different interests through the Students' Union and will make new friends from different countries and backgrounds.

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## Top tips for research

There are a number of things for applicants to consider when applying to 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, accommodation, etc.
- the study style that suits them
- extracurricular activities
- finances – course fees, travel, and living costs

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## Section 2: The Application Process



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## How to apply (1) – Key UCAS dates

- **Mid-June 2019:** UCAS website opens for students for information on courses starting October 2020 (includes Tariff & Fees). Students start applying.
- **October 15 2019:** Deadline for applications to all courses at Oxbridge, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine and veterinary science courses.
- **January 15 2019:** Application deadline for the receipt at UCAS of applications for all courses except those listed above with a 15 October deadline. Art and Design courses now NOT 24 March deadline but 15 January.

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## How to apply (1) – Key dates for us!

**Advice from all quarters is to start (and finish) the process EARLY.....**

- **5 June 2019:** University applications for 2020 launched with students.
- **June/July 2019:** Students start application - given Conference time to investigate courses and to register with UCAS, (including personal statements – discussions with Personal Mentors crucial).
- **June/July 2019:** Teaching staff will write every student a subject reference.
- **Mid-September 2019:** Deadline for applications to be with Personal Mentors for those applying to courses at Oxbridge, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine and veterinary science courses.
- **By October half term 2019:** Deadline for applications to be with Personal Mentors for those applying for all courses except those listed above with a 15 October deadline.
- **Towards the end of Autumn Term (2 December 2019):** ALL university applications sent to UCAS.




## The Application

Contains:

- Personal information (DoB, address etc...)
- Choices
- Examination grades (inc. GCSE - A Level/BTEC predicted grades)
- Personal Statement
- School-based reference




## Personal Statement

Crucial aspect – should contain Information on the applicant :

- WHY they want to study (both in general and specific course)
- What they have done – linked to life/school/the course they are applying for/interested in.
- See guidance booklet (s).
- NEW: Use of UNIFROG software.




## School reference

- Is written by subject staff and put together by the Personal Mentor. It will contain information on:
- How the student is progressing in their subjects.
- What sets them apart from other applicants.




### How to apply (3): What happens next

- Start investigating courses ([UCAS](#))
- Parents Section – [UCAS](#) +booklet
- Personal Statement (information for Personal Mentors )
- From early June onwards register with UCAS – start to apply.
- University visits (general Open Days and subject specific Open Days). Also NEW Virtual tours!
- **DATE: Saturday 6 July 2019** : UEA Open Days




## Offers

- Usually Conditional

Tend to either be:

1. Grades based (eg AAB, BCC etc – possibly with highest grade in the subject you are applying for).
2. Using [UCAS Tariff](#).
3. Mixture (e.g. B in Biology and 80 UCAS points from other subjects)




## Other options

**Extra** (25 Feb – 4 Jul)  
Used all five choices and had no offers (or declined all offers/withdrew).  
Add Extra choices for consideration one at a time via Track.

**Clearing** (early Jul – Oct)  
Apply after 30 June, receive no offers, decline all offers, or not met conditions.  
Find vacancies from 5 July, and add one choice via Track.

**Adjustment** (up to five days in Aug)  
Placed with firm choice, and did better than conditional offer.  
Register in Track, then find another university or college. The new university or college adjusts the record.

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## Section 3: Costs



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## Cost!!

- These will now be published for 2020 entry for each university
- Fees are only one part of total university costs (accommodation & living expenses)
- [Guidance](#) is available – Finance Calculator.
- Also look at [Martin Lewis website.](#)




## Cost (cont.)

Fees Information:

- University website
- FAQs – DfE (Department for Education).




## Cost (cont.)

Key Points:

	Income each year before tax	Monthly salary	Approximate monthly repayment
• Students don't have to pay 'upfront'			
• Students are eligible for a Tuition Loan and a Living Cost (Maintenance) Loan.	£25,000	£2,083	£0
• There are also Bursaries available – depending on family circumstances (and grades!)	£27,000	£2,250	£15
	£30,000	£2,500	£37
• Repayments start when you are earning over £25,000 a year (you repay on 9% of your income above £25,000). Usually taken out of your salary every month.	£33,000	£2,750	£60
	£35,000	£2,916	£75
	£40,000	£3,333	£112
• What interest is applied? – Retail Price Index (RPI +3%) refer to information sheet/booklet on website.			
• Loan is 'written off' after 30 years.			




## Further information

- Sixth Form Team (Director/Head of Year/ Personal Mentor).
- Mrs. Warnock (CIAG coordinator HHS)
- UCAS website.
- Specific students & parents sections – also [UCAStv](#)




## How can you support your son/daughter? Top Tips

- Use the parents/guardians' section of the UCAS website at – <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/ucas-undergraduate-advice-parents-and-guardians>. Use the parent information tool for advice, hints, and tips to help your son/daughter through the application process.
- 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.
- Sign up for your monthly parent newsletter.