

THE UNIVERSITY APPLICATION PROCESS/ INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Staff Member



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### What is UCAS?

- Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)
- Applications for full-time undergraduate courses are made through UCAS
- A wealth of information on their website: [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)



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### What's on UCAS

UCAS is broadly divided into three main sections:

- **Discover** – Provides information and advice about the options available to students after school college or sixth form, including information on how to prepare for the application
- **Apply** – Provides information about all UK undergraduate degree courses
- **Track** – Where applicants check the progress of their applications and respond to any decision made by the universities.

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## Finding a course

- UCAS lists in excess of 50,000 undergraduate courses from 350+ providers in the UK
- UCAS includes:
  - A summary about the course
  - Entry requirements
  - Fees
  - Further information on how to apply
  - Additional links to:
    - Key Information Set (Unistats - official course data)
    - Course content on provider's website
- Students should research what they would like to study as soon as possible

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## Things to consider when choosing

1. The course
  - Is it a subject you have already studied?
  - Is it a subject that relates to a carer idea?
  - Is it a subject that relates to something new?
2. The university
  - Course content (modules)
  - Method of assessment
  - Entry requirements
  - Location
  - Accommodation options
  - Reputation

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## Searching courses and exploring UCAS

- <http://search.ucas.com/>
- Find the course code for the Sociology and Social Anthropology course at the University of Kent in 2019
- **LL36**
- Find the typical GCE A level entry requirement
- **BBB**
  
- Does the course accept students with BTEC qualifications, if so, what is the offer?
- **DDM**

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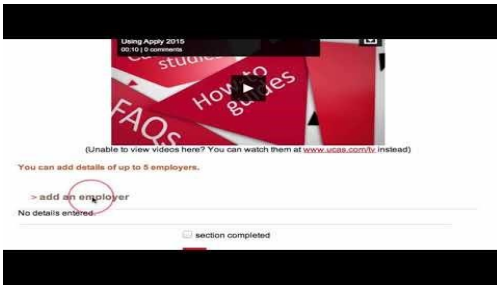
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## Applying for a course



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## The UCAS Form

- Personal details
- Choices
- Qualifications
- Reference
- Personal statement

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## The Personal Statement

- Important part of the application
- Chance to describe ambition, skills and experience
- Personal element
- 4000 characters / 47 lines
- Will take more than one draft

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## The UCAS Cycle: Key dates

- **1 September:** UCAS application cycle opens
- **15 October:** deadline for Oxford/Cambridge and Medical, Dentistry and Veterinary course
- **15 January:** UCAS main scheme deadline
- It is important that the applicant responds to other deadlines throughout the cycle

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## The UCAS Cycle

- **November to March**
  - Visit Days and Interviews
  - Decisions made by Universities (conditional, unconditional, unsuccessful)
- **April to May:** Applicant chooses Firm and Insurance
- **April to July:** Accommodation applications
- **August:** Results, places confirmed, clearing/adjustment
- **Late August:** Students receive registration packs
- **September or October:** Students start university

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