



University Applications What Next?



February 2022

The Next Few Months

We hope the next couple of pages help to explain the next steps of the UCAS / university application process over the coming weeks and months. If you have any further, or more specific, queries then please speak to any member of the Sixth Form Team.

Offers explained:

Now that the universities have received your course choices, they will either make you an offer to attend or they will reject your application. You can use UCAS Track to trace the five courses that you applied to. You would have been given a link to this on the receipt email from UCAS – when they received your full application. Any updates to your UCAS status will be explained in detail on Track, and you should monitor this daily.

This [video](#) is a quick and helpful guide to UCAS track.

There are different types of offers you can receive.

The most common is:

Conditional offer - your offer will be subject to specific conditions. These will be specific grades that the university requires or a specific total point score. You will see the information on UCAS track when your offer comes back.

Very rarely people may get an:

Unconditional offer - often you can attend this university, regardless of your grades, but only if you choose them as your first choice. **Please do read the small print with these offers.** You might be able to put your unconditional as your insurance offer meaning you will be guaranteed the place if you don't meet your conditional first choice offer. However, most unconditional lose this status if they are not your firm offer.

Student Finance:

It is up to you and your family to apply to student finance. The main window for applications is February to May, so you should be able to start the process immediately. Please do not worry if you are asked to provide the name of the university you plan to attend. If you have not as yet made your choices, this will not affect your application. You can use any university name here, but if you do know which one is likely to be your firm choice, then use it!

Please consider the link below, as this proves as an interesting read.

<https://www.ucas.com/sfe>

The main website for student financial advice, details and application information is via this link:

<https://studentfinance.campaign.gov.uk/>

Got all your offers?

This is the time when you can choose your top two. Your '*firm choice*' and your '*insurance choice*' are your top two universities. These are the universities that you are requesting to hold your place until results day. Always make sure that your insurance place has lower grades than your firm.

Please ensure that you make these two choices before the deadlines shown on UCAS Track, otherwise you will lose out on all of your offers.

Firm choice – this is your first choice and should be the university that you would like to attend the most.

Insurance choice – this is your back-up. This needs to have a lower grade requirement than your firm choice, in case you do not achieve the higher grades. You should ensure you would still be happy to attend this option.

Things to consider before making your final decision:

- Which is your favourite course?
- How will you get there and back?
- Social life in the area?
- Accommodation – cost and location

This is a [useful website](#) to look at when considering your firm and insurance choices.

It is likely that universities may send out accommodation information prior to your decision deadline. This should not pressurise you into making your firm and insurance choices any quicker. Once you have confirmed your choice, accommodation information will be sent out sooner than you think.

Always make sure you check your junk emails as information is often sent by an individual member of staff at a university, and may not be accepted into your inbox.

Worried about receiving no offers?

If you receive no offers, you can still be considered through **UCAS Extra**. This service will be made known to you by UCAS, who will recognise your situation and make contact.

- If you receive an offer, reply, and subject to meeting entry requirements, you're in!
- If you're not offered a place you can search for other courses and add another 'Extra' choice.

If you don't get the offer you want in Extra, don't worry – you can still use Clearing to add another choice.