



APPLICATIONS 2026 - 2027

A student guide for applications to UCAS

APPLY

Google [UCAS Hub](#) and **register - use your personal email address.**

You will now be able to sign in to your UCAS hub page, where you can calculate your predicted UCAS points, and start your application.

Select **Start an application** from your hub page. Select **Undergraduate** (a small number of performing arts/music students may be applying to a conservatoire – please let us know if this is the case).

You will be asked if you are applying through a school or college: click 'yes' and enter the school buzzword: **tavisixthform2027**

You will now be asked to select your mentor group from a list and then taken to your application page. *(If you choose to apply for Oxford, Cambridge, conservatoire, medical or veterinary, the choose the early entry group).*

Your application is divided into several sections: **Choices, Profile, Experience** and **Personal Statement**. You can complete them in any order – mark each section complete as you finish each one. It's quite straightforward but look out for the following:

- For the **Finance and Funding** box, most students will select **UK student finance services** unless you intend to pay for your course fees without a loan.
- In the **Contact Details** section, it's a good idea to add one of your parents under the **nominated access** question - that means they can talk to UCAS on your behalf if necessary (for example, you may be travelling somewhere exotic on a gap year)

CHOICES

- Use UCAS course finder to search for courses digital.ucas.com/search. Each listing includes the institution code, course code and campus code that you need when you enter a choice.

- Your choices are invisible - universities do not know who else you have applied to and there is no order of preference. You have a maximum of 5 choices but you do not have to use them all. In fact, you can add further choices after you have sent your application provided you have not replied to any offers.

EDUCATION

- Add your **place of education** - write **Tavistock College** (unless you took your GCSEs at a different school – if this is the case then you will list 2 places of education with dates of when you have been on roll at each).
- You don't have to list your ULN number, but it's advisable. You can find it on your statement of results or ask in the sixth form office.
- Add your qualifications. Enter your **current sixth form courses** qualifications using the titles in the **table below**. You do not have the results yet so these will have an end date of June 2027 and the grade will be '**pending**'.

GCE Advanced Level	ALL A Level courses
Pearson L3 National Extended Certificate (360)	Creative Media, Sport (single), Travel & Tourism
Pearson National Diploma (720)	Sport (double)
Pearson L3 AAQ BTEC National Health & Social Care (Extended Certificate)	Health & Social Care
Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate	Performing Arts
RSL L3 Subsidiary Diploma for Music Practitioners (Business)	Music
Cambridge OCR L3 AAQ Advanced National in Applied Science (Ext Cert)	Applied Science
AQA Level 3 Extended Certificate	Applied Business
WJEC L3 Applied Diploma	Criminology
Extended Project (Level 3)	EPQ

- Enter your GCSE courses with dates and grades - including ones you may not like! Check the title and exam board on your award certificate to ensure you have entered it correctly.
- If you study a BTEC, you will need your **registration number**. You will be able to get this from your subject teacher.

- You can also search for extracurricular qualifications that carry UCAS points, such as **LAMDA** or **dance exams**.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

- UCAS have useful advice including a personal statement tool: <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/writing-your-personal-statement>
- This is probably the most important part of your application and the part that you will spend the most time on. There are 3 sections, which you need to use to show your passion for the subject you are applying for and why the uni should offer you a place! Write your draft in Unifrog so that you can keep track of your character count, and your tutor can see it and give feedback. You may also want to ask for extra advice from a subject teacher in the area you are applying for. **DO NOT be tempted to copy and paste from AI** – universities use checking software and will consider it as cheating. **You can AI for initial inspiration, but this document should be personal and your own work.** Once your tutor has approved it, paste it into the personal statement section of your UCAS application and mark the section as complete.

TARIFF POINTS

This table shows the tariff points for 2-year courses offered at Tavistock College, plus the EPQ.

Tariff points	A level	BTEC	EPQ
56	A*	D*	
48	A	D	
40	B		
32	C	M	
28			A*
24	D		A
20			B
16	E	P	C
12			D
8			E

IMPORTANT DATES

UCAS APPLY

Monday 12th October 2026	Internal school deadline for processing early entry applications (Oxford, Cambridge, medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, conservatoire)
Thursday 15th October 2026 (18:00)	External UCAS deadline for submission of early entry applications
Monday 9th November 2026	Internal school deadline for processing all standard applications
Wednesday 13th January 2027 (18:00)	External UCAS deadline for submission of all standard applications. This is called the 'Equal Consideration' deadline – applications submitted after this date are considered late and courses may become full.

OFFERS

You will be informed of decisions via Track and an email will be sent to let you know that something has changed. You may be invited to attend an interview or an assessment.

- **Conditional offer:** this means you will need to achieve certain exam grades, or a certain number of UCAS tariff points.
- **Unconditional offer:** this is more common for applicants who already have their A Level grades however on some occasions universities may make an unconditional offer against predicted grades.
- **Unsuccessful:** you have not been offered a place.
- **Withdrawal:** your application has been withdrawn because you did not respond to communication from the university, or because the course has been withdrawn and you have not chosen an alternative.

When your last decision comes in, UCAS will send you an email to let you know that all decisions have been received and you can now reply to any offers you've been given.

REPLYING TO OFFERS

- If you receive your last decision on or before 31st March 2027, your reply date is 5th May 2027.

- If you receive your last decision on or before 12th May 2027, your reply date is 2nd June 2027.

If you miss your reply deadline then UCAS will decline any offers on your behalf, leaving you without a place.

- **Firm choice:** you can only accept one offer as your firm choice.
- **Insurance choice:** if your offer is conditional then you can accept a second offer as an insurance choice - this is in case you don't meet the final grades of your first choice.

Think carefully before you reply: on results day UCAS will confirm either your firm or insurance place on your behalf, according to the grades you achieved, and that university will be expecting you! So, if you start to feel that none of your offers are right for you then it might be better to wait and see what is available in Extra or Clearing.

UCAS EXTRA

If you don't receive any offers or decline all your offers then you can apply to other universities that still have vacancies via UCAS Extra. This is open from 25th February until 1st July. You will have to contact the university to check whether they still have places available and then add the new course details in Track.

You can only apply for one course at a time (but you can repeat the process if an offer is not made). If the course is in a different subject area then you may have to send a revised personal statement to support your application.

CLEARING

The Clearing process runs from the start of July until mid-October. You will become eligible for Clearing if you haven't received any offers, not responded to offers, not met the conditions of your firm or insurance choice, or made a very late application.

Also, you can put yourself into Clearing by declining your offer(s) if you have changed your mind about where or what you want to study. For example, you may have achieved better grades than you expected and want to apply to a university with higher entry requirements. Unifrog have some great [advice](#) on this.

Lists of courses with vacancies will be published on [UCAS.com](https://www.ucas.com) from early July. You must then contact any universities you are interested in yourself - if successful they will give you permission to add a Clearing choice. If you are offered a place, then you are committed to that place, so contact just one university at a time in your order of preference. If you are unsuccessful then you can repeat the process.