# Welcome to the UK!

UK Educational system







### Study options

## A variety of study options



### UK universities have one of the most diverse subject offerings in the world.

Undergraduate courses include:

- bachelor's or undergraduate degrees (full-time)
- bachelor's or undergraduate degrees (part-time)
- shorter courses such as a foundation degree, Diploma of Higher Education, Higher National Diploma, and Certificate of Higher Education.

Postgraduate courses include:

- master's degrees
- MBA courses
- PhDs or doctorates
- postgraduate diplomas and qualifications (these are usually shorter than a master's and do not involve a thesis or dissertation)
- · professional and vocational qualifications.

### Choosing a location



### In the UK, there are over 160 higher education institutions to choose from, and you will find them in every location.

- Here are some of the things to consider when choosing your location:
- Would you prefer being in a city, or somewhere quieter and more remote?
- Do you have an extra-curricular passion that would suit a certain location?
- Do you have family or friends in the UK that you would like to be near?
- Have you considered cost of living in big cities?
- Do you have a preference for studying in England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland?

## Finding a course that's right for you



When choosing a course, think about:

- What subject are you most interested in?
- What modules and options are on offer?
- Does the course include a work placement?
- What do you want to do next?
- · What grades do you need?
- Do other students enjoy this course?

Search for more than 50,000 undergraduate courses using **UCAS** (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) <a href="https://digital.ucas.com/search">https://digital.ucas.com/search</a>

Search for postgraduate courses using **Prospects** <a href="https://www.prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate-courses">https://www.prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate-courses</a>

Use **Discover Uni** to compare data on undergraduate courses: <a href="https://discoveruni.gov.uk/">https://discoveruni.gov.uk/</a>

## Stay in the UK after you graduate

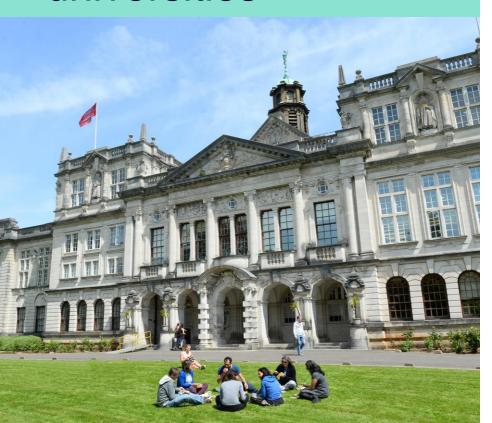
The Graduate Route allows you to apply to stay in the UK for two or three years after you finish your degree.

- Open to all international students who have successfully completed their degree from 1 July 2021 onwards.
- The route is unsponsored.
- Ability to switch to a skilled work visa once you have found a suitable job.
- Learn more: <a href="https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/after-your-studies/graduate-route">https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/after-your-studies/graduate-route</a>



# Types of universities

### Traditional universities



- Often the largest and have the longest histories.
- Located in cities.
- May have higher entry tariffs.
- Global reputations for research, with many of the prestigious 'Russell Group' universities falling into this category.

## Metropolitan universities



- · Based in cities.
- Shorter histories than accompanying traditional universities.
- Wider variety of courses on offer.
- Lower entry tariffs (although this will depend on the university and course).

### Campus universities



- Facilities that are all self-contained (lecture halls, accommodation, shops, libraries, laboratories).
- Located on the outskirts of cities or in smaller towns (although there are plenty of campus universities in cities, too).
- Feel safe and part of a community.

## Specialist universities

- Focus on a particular subject area, such as science, law, agriculture, music, dance or drama.
- Some are known as 'conservatoires'.
- Examples include the University of Law, the Royal Agricultural University, the Royal College of Music and the Royal College of Speech and Drama.



### How to apply

## Applying as an undergraduate

### Most undergraduate applications are made through UCAS.

#### To apply:

- register at <u>www.ucas.com</u>
- complete an application form
- apply for up to five courses
- pay a small application fee.
- UCAS will then contact you with any offers from your chosen universities or colleges.



## Applying as a postgraduate

### For postgraduate courses, you apply directly to your chosen university in the UK.

- Applications are straightforward.
- Check and compare courses between universities.
- Complete an application form.
- Apply for as many courses as you like.
- More information:
- UCAS postgraduate website: www.ucas.com/postgraduate
- · Visit universities' own websites.



## Undergraduate application deadlines



#### 15 October

- Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.
- Most courses in medicine, veterinary medicine/science and dentistry.

#### 25 January

Most undergraduate courses.

#### March

Some art and design courses.

#### 30 June

- Late deadline for most undergraduate courses.
- Applications after this deadline go into Clearing, so you will not be guaranteed your first choice.

For more information about undergraduate courses in the UK, visit <a href="https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/plan-studies/apply/undergraduate">https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/plan-studies/apply/undergraduate</a>

## Postgraduate application deadlines

### Deadlines for postgraduate courses in the UK are flexible.

- Courses close once they are full.
- Early applications recommended.
- Check deadlines with university.
- You may need to apply for a visa, so give yourself ample time to apply.



### Your application form



### There is a range of information you will need to provide on your application form.

#### This includes:

- your email address and contact information
- your education history
- your employment history (including any unpaid or voluntary work)
- a reference
- your residential status
- any support you may need while at university.

### Your personal statement



Your personal statement is where you get the chance to outline:

- your skills
- your hobbies and interests
- any relevant work or voluntary experience
- why you have chosen this course.

As an international student, you should also share:

- why you want to study in the UK
- your English language skills
- why you want to be an international student.

Word count: **500 words** for undergraduates (often around the same for postgraduates, check your university's requirements).

There are lots of templates online that help with your personal statement, such as the **UCAS Personal Statement Tool**, at <a href="https://www.ucas.com">www.ucas.com</a>

## Applying for a UK visa



### As an international student, it is most likely that you will apply for a student visa through the Student Route.

- Once you have an unconditional offer, you can apply for your student visa.
- It costs £363 to apply for this student visa outside of the UK.
- Your student visa will allow you to live and study in the UK throughout your course.
- For more information on the student visa and your options, visit <a href="https://www.gov.uk/student-visa">https://www.gov.uk/student-visa</a>

If you are a student from an EU country, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland, you can use the 'UK Immigration: ID Check' app to complete the identity stage of your application.

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-the-uk-immigration-id-check-app

### Applying for a UK visa



### A student visa through the Student Route is appropriate for most international students.

Other visas may better suit your situation.

www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa offers information on:

- type of visa to apply for
- · where you can study in the UK
- when you should apply
- taking an English language test
- · bringing a family with you
- renewing a visa application.

You can also visit: <a href="https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/moving-uk/student-visas">https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/moving-uk/student-visas</a>

### University fees



- For international students, undergraduate fees range from around £10,000 to £26,000 per year for lecture-based degrees.
- For medical degrees, you can expect to pay up to £58,600 per year.
- Postgraduate degrees in the UK are shorter and cheaper.
- Most postgraduate degrees can be obtained in just one year, making them excellent value for money.
- Postgraduate degrees typically range from £15,000 to £30,000.

## Scholarships and funding



There are many options available to international students who are looking for help funding their studies in the UK.

- UK government scholarship programmes (e.g. Chevening Scholarships, Commonwealth Scholarships, GREAT Scholarships)
- Fully-funded postgraduate studentships (PhDs). <a href="http://www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/">http://www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/</a>

UK universities offer:

- scholarships by subject or department
- scholarships by region or country
- scholarships based on academic merit.

Always check different institutions' websites to find out what's available.

You can search for a scholarship on the Study UK website <a href="https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships-funding">https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships-funding</a>

## Thank you for listening

