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Making your choices

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Top tips



Post application choices

- •Offer letters will be sent from universities and offers will also appear on UCAS track
- •Make your firm and insurance choices
- •We recommend 40 UCAS points difference between each
- •You are entering into an agreement (grades permitting) with these universities so ensure that you are happy to attend either
- •Ensure that you reply to all offers before the deadline date (failure to do so is an instant decline of an offer).





If you have changed your mind

- If you have changed your mind about your course/university choices:
- Two options:
- UCAS Extra
- Clearing.



UCAS Extra

- Decline any offers that you may be holding
- Make single applications to one university at a time
- Once offer is made you can accept/reject
- If you reject or are unsuccessful then repeat the above stages
- Late applications can be made until 30 June



What is Clearing?

- For students who achieve different grades to those predicted (over or under)
- Late applicants
- More than 50,000 students per year
- Nearly all universities offer places
- Popular courses fill quickly (especially Health and Life Sciences)



Results day

- Keep your day free and stay local
- Be brave, collect your results early
- Charge your mobile phone and top up with credit
- Take your offer letters with you
- Take your UCAS application number with you
- Try and stay calm and relaxed





• Don't panic!

If you get the grades





- Log onto UCAS track (updated that day)
- Conditional firm Unconditional firm or
- Conditional insurance —— Unconditional insurance
- · Contact the university with any questions
- Visit if you have any concerns or queries
- Complete and return the UCAS paperwork
- Organise what to take away
- Arrange your accommodation

If you get the grades but change your mind

- Re-organise your priorities
- Informally get in touch with your potential new choices
- Receive a verbal offer (can be held for ten days)
- Contact your original choice to be released
- · Await release letter and code
- · Contact new choice with code





Don't quite make the grade





UCAS track – are you holding any offers?

- 20-40 points dropped may be room for negotiation
- Phone the university if you are unsure
- Carefully consider 'change of course' offers
- Be prepared for interview
- Be flexible with time and offers
- Complete the UCAS paperwork

Disappointing results

- Don't panic
- Check that you are not holding any offers on UCAS track
- No offers UCAS automatically send you a Clearing letter (passport)
- Go back to your original research check courses and universities, make sure that you
 read the small print
- Contact universities

Continued...



Disappointing results

...continued

- Verbal offers can be held for up to ten days
- Ring as many universities as you want
- Visit potential choices
- Consider accommodation
- Accept a place
- Organise your funding not difficult!

Clearing vacancy listings

- Newspapers The Independent
- Internet
- <u>www.ucas.com</u> /university websites
- TV and radio
- Adverts
- Teletext
- Use your schools resources teachers, computers etc





What are the universities doing prior to Clearing?

- Receive results the Monday before (these will not be given out under any circumstances)
- Deciding 'borderline' cases
- Making further offers
- Working out Clearing places to be offered

Universities during Clearing





- Run Clearing help lines
- Trained Advisers to provide guidance
- Academic staff/ Admissions Tutors on the phones to make offers and decisions
- Run Clearing Open Days
- Few days after results (check websites for dates)
- Visit and tour the campus
- Tour the facilities
- Check against your original priorities



- Speak to teachers, Careers Advisers and parents if you are worried about your results
- Research courses and universities prior to results day if you think you have done better/ worse than predicted
- Contact admissions tutors personally (universities won't speak to third parties)
- Be prepared
- Be flexible
- Don't panic
- CLEARING DOES NOT EQUAL FAILURE!