

Early UCAS Applicants: Guidance Note 2018

It is **your** responsibility to fully research the course(s) you intend to apply for and to understand the requirements of the institutions you are applying to.

UCAS apply

As a first step you will register with **apply** through the school at an initial workshop in August. Keep this **guidance leaflet** as you will need it later.

Make sure that you attend any subsequent group events – watch the notices. You must also **check your e-mail and respond to any communications**.

While you are completing your application you will meet with a member of the senior management team on a one-to-one basis on 5 or 6 occasions. It is important that you meet any deadlines set so that they can maximise the support and guidance they can offer you.

Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine

It is essential that you have undertaken a **minimum** of two relevant work experience placements. Preferably these should be in advance of your application, but you must at least be able to confirm when you are doing them in your application.

- Make sure you register for any additional assessments by the due date
- Dentistry requires evidence of high level manual dexterity

Oxford and Cambridge

You can apply to only one of the two universities. Both of their web sites have a wealth of information about the application process including guidance on interviews.

- You can apply to a specific **college** or make an **open** application. It will make no difference to how your application is treated. We do encourage you to research individual colleges thoroughly (web sites) as this will provide you with a better insight into how the university as a whole works and if this is the right environment for you.
- If possible you should attend an open day and/or visit your chosen college.
- Make sure you know if you have to sit any additional test or submit examples of your work.

Additional Tests or Papers

You may well have to sit an online assessment such as the **BMAT, UKCAT** and **LNAT** tests. The **apply** system will usually prompt you, but you have to register yourself for the test, pay the fee and turn up to sit it at the test centre. (These are not sat in school.)

It is **essential** that you prepare for them and seek to score as highly as possible. Every university takes a different approach and places a different weighting on the tests, but they all set minimum scores or apply a weighting to your application based on your score. You may simply be rejected if you do not score well enough.

[UKCAT Preparation](#) [Preparing for BMAT](#) [LNAT Preparation](#)

For many **Oxbridge** courses you have to sit a specific written assessment in advance. The university web site will tell you this. Please speak to us about such assessments and we will help you make the necessary arrangements. The school is an approved centre for some of these tests.)

- If you need to submit examples of course work, then you should print off a copy of the requirements and present them to the relevant class teacher as soon as possible.
- **You** must meet any deadlines.
- Subjects like **mathematics** may require you to sit advanced papers such as **STEP**. While the school can register you and arrange for you to sit the exams which take place in the following June, we cannot provide teaching. You may need to arrange private tuition/support.

If at any time you are uncertain as to how to proceed, then you should speak to your referee immediately.

Please read the information on the school web site. You will find a wealth of information and links here and on the Careers page.

<https://www.jordanhill.glasgow.sch.uk/ucas/>

Further guidance and advice will be published here as the term progresses.

Entry Requirements

The universities specify **minimum** requirements. Unless you have a very unusual set of personal circumstances, our experience is that they will simply reject your application at the first sieve if you do not meet these minimum requirements even if they have said you can still apply.

You should assume that almost every applicant for these courses will have 5As at Higher Grade in S5 and straight As in S4. If the universities have roughly 7 applicants per place, then even to be considered you will need to have some characteristics that make you stand out.

- As many Band 1 awards at Higher as possible
- A standardised test score that places you in the top quartile of all applicants
E.g. UKCAT score total above 2800
- An application which shows real insight into the course you are applying for coupled with significant and relevant work experience where this is relevant (Medicine, Dentistry, Vet Medicine)

Each university adopts a different approach. Check their web sites for information and advice.

Resources for Medicine and Dentistry

The Library has an extensive range of materials. Please speak to the librarians for help.

Reading List for Medicine

The following texts have been recommended by parents working in the medical field.

About applying to medical school and studying and practicing medicine

- Learning Medicine: How to Become and Remain a Good Doctor by Peter Richards
- Getting Into Medical School by Simon Horner Trotman
- So you want to be a doctor? by Adrian Blundell

More general reading

- The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat by Oliver Sacks
- The Citadel by AJ Cronin
- The Complete Sherlock Holmes by AC Doyle
- The Diving Bell and the Butterfly by Jean-Dominique Bauby
- A Fortunate Man: The Story of a Country Doctor by John Berger