



# UCAS – What Happens Next?

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# The Aim of this presentation is to understand what the next stages are in the UCAS application process

- This session includes information on UCAS Track and accepting offers.
- We will cover UCAS Extra and Clearing
- We will also cover some of the details about accommodation and student finance.

# What is UCAS Track?

- Track is where most Universities will update you with information about your offers and interviews or portfolio submissions.
- Once you have submitted your UCAS application you will be sent details of how to log in to your UCAS Track.
- You will receive notifications of when your Track has been updated.
- Not all Universities use Track to notify you of interviews – check your emails!



# Types of Offer

- Most offers will be Conditional. This means you have to meet certain entry criteria, usually specific grades.
- Some offers will be Unconditional. This means the university are accepting you based on the information on your application form alone.



# Accepting Offers

- You can only accept an offer in Track once you have received all your replies.
- Assuming you receive 5 offers you need to accept one as your FIRM choice, one as your INSURANCE choice and decline the other three.
- If you have received an offer you really want to accept but have not received all your replies you can withdraw an application but it is always better to wait.
- If you accept an Unconditional offer as your Firm choice you cannot select an Insurance choice and you must decline all other offers.
- You will have a Reply Deadline based on when you have received all your offers – everyone's reply deadline can be different.

# How to Chose

- Chose offers that are realistic and do not be panicked into accepting an Unconditional offer that is not where you really want to go.
- Think about how the course is taught and assessed as well as location and support available.
- If you are unsure of how to chose please ask for help from your school or college teachers or careers advisors.
- If you change your mind about your application and have not used all your choices, you can add another choice through UCAS Track.



# UCAS Extra, Clearing and Adjustment

- If you are not holding any offers you can add another choice through UCAS Extra
- UCAS Extra opens on 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 and allows you to add other choices, one at a time. Further details on Extra can be found here:

[UCAS Extra | No Offers? Add More Choices With Our 'Extra' Service](#)

- UCAS Clearing opens 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 and can be used for late applications and for applicants that decline offers or change their minds about their application.
- Adjustment can be used after results days and is the opportunity to apply to a different University should your grades come out higher than expected.

# Accommodation

- If you are moving away to University you will need to book your accommodation.
- Once you have selected somewhere as your firm choice that University will contact you with details of their accommodation.
- Many Universities offer places in Halls of Residence as a priority to all first year students.
- Prices of accommodation vary and may be university or privately owned.



# Student Finance

- Applications for student finance are made online through the website:  
<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>
- Loan applications open in the Spring, this year it is expected that the system will open in March for the 2021/22 academic year.
- There is a Student Finance Application deadline in May.
- You have to re-apply for your loan every year.
- There are two main sections to student finance, Tuition Fee Loans and Maintenance Loans.



# Student Finance Continued

- Tuition fee loans go directly to the University or College termly to pay for your course.
- Maintenance loans come to you directly every term and you can use this to pay your living costs.
- The amount of maintenance loan you receive is household income assessed.
- Repayments start when you are earning more than £26,500/yr



## Other Financial Support

- Look out for Bursaries and scholarships – this is free money you do not need to repay.
- Apply for your DSA – Disabled Students Allowance. DSA can fund support you may need to be successful at University for example a CSW.
- Further information on DSA can be found here:

[Help if you're a student with a learning difficulty, health problem or disability - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)



# Summary

- Review your offers in UCAS Track.
- Remember to check your emails for interview dates or portfolio submissions.
- Think about your offers and chose the right one for you.
- Know your Reply Deadline
- Apply for you student finance by the deadline at the end of May.
- Apply for your accommodation.
- Ask for support with your decision making if you need it.