

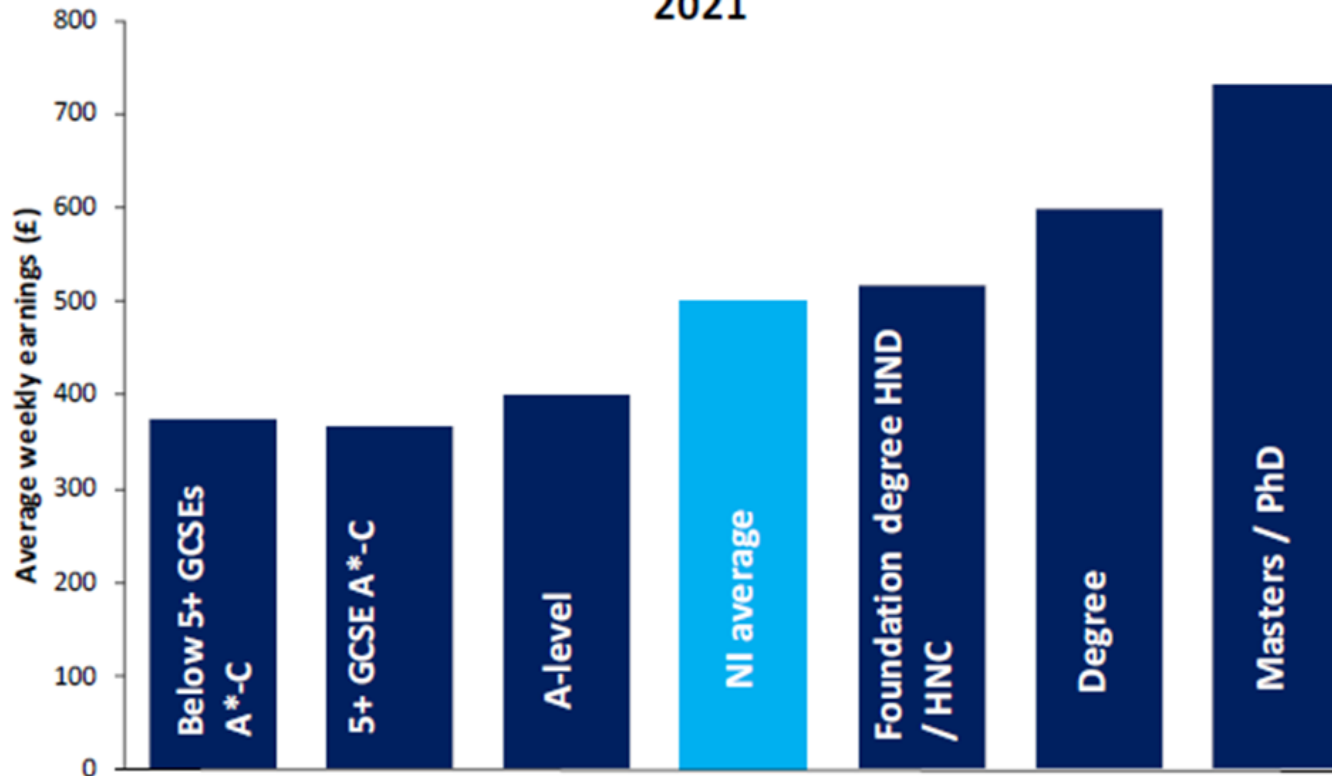


Applying to University

UCAS Apply 2023



**Average weekly earnings (£) by qualification level, NI, Q3
2021**

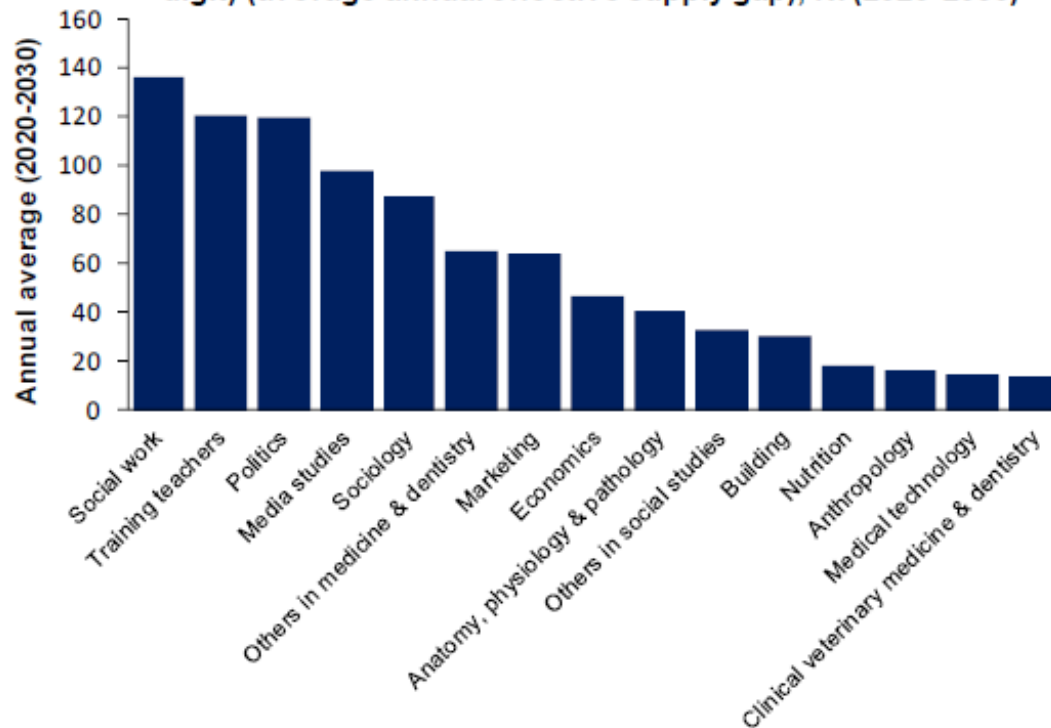


Source: Labour Force Survey, UUEPC analysis

Note: Figures are based on a 4-quarter rolling average



Top 15 most oversupplied NQF level 6+ subjects (JACSSs, 2-digit) (average annual effective supply gap), NI (2020-2030)

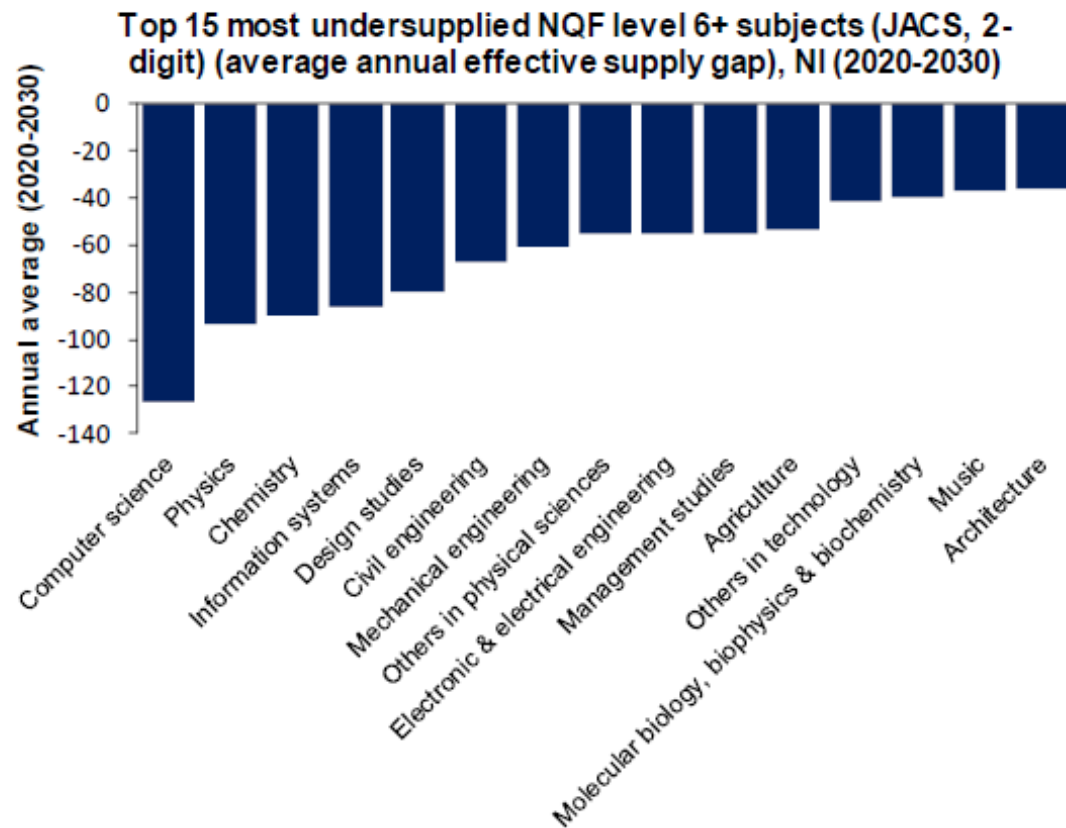


The social work category includes health and welfare; childcare; youth work; community work; careers guidance; probation/after-care; and social work not elsewhere classified.

Source: UUEPC analysis , HESA

The top 5 oversupplied subjects (JACS, 2-digit) account for 52% of total oversupplied subjects.





Source: UUEPC analysis, HESA

The top 5 undersupplied subjects (JACS, 2-digit) account for 25% of total undersupplied subjects.



Careers Programme in U6th and L6th

Virtual and In-
person
Workshadowing
Events

University Talks

UCAS Exhibition

Lower 6 UCAS
Programme

Individual
Interviews in L6th
and in U6th

Open Days at
Local Universities

PATHWAYS 2023 –
15th September

UNIFROG

Interview Skills
Day



Admission Tests

UCAT – all medicine applicants

LNAT – some law applicants

BMAT – Medicine at Oxbridge & few others

NSAA, MAT, PAT etc – Oxford and Cambridge

TMUA - Durham University, Lancaster

University, the University of Warwick, the
University of Sheffield or the University of
Southampton,





- Over the summer, students were advised to have researched what they want to study and where to study.
- They have been told that the most important thing is the **COURSE**.
- UNIFROG is a great tool for research for both courses and universities.



Things they should consider:

Make sure they are on target to meet the entry requirements required

Check A Level or equivalent of requirements as well as those at GCSE level

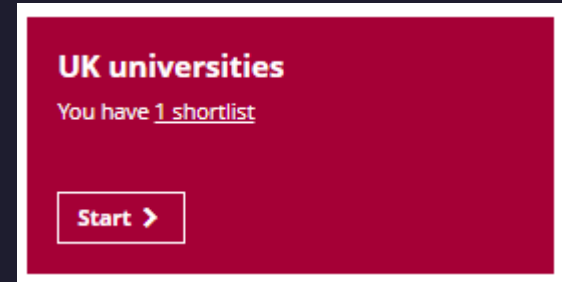
Are they required to sit an entrance exam, aptitude test or attend an interview?


Are they aware of what qualification you will achieve from your chosen degree?



Using the UK Universities tool

Unifrog has a tool that allows them to search for universities in the UK based on the factors most important to them. Log into Unifrog and scroll down to the 'UK universities' tool.



 What do you need to know about **UK universities?**

UK Universities

World class	In the QS world university rankings, four UK universities feature in the top 10, while a further 26 rank in the top 200. Generally the UK is considered second only to the US in terms of the number of top universities.
Earning potential	In the UK jobseekers without a degree earn up to £12,000 a year less than their graduate peers entering the job market, the equivalent of more than £500,000 over an average working life.
Sweet deal	British students studying at UK universities can get government loans to cover fees and living costs; the loans don't have to be paid back until after they are earning at least £26,575 a year, and even then the loans are paid back only gradually. EU students are (for the moment) entitled to the same treatment. Students from elsewhere in the world pay more to study at UK universities.
Applications	Students apply directly for specific degree programmes, eg 'History at Birmingham University'. This is unusual compared to other university systems, where students often only decide what they will major in in their second or third year of study.
Hierarchy	In the UK some universities are widely perceived as more prestigious than others, and have higher entry requirements. Unifrog gives you all the data you need to assess how prestigious universities are perceived to be - but our advice is to take this into consideration along with other factors, such as how your chosen subject area is taught.
UCAS	You can apply to a maximum of 5 degree programmes per year, all via one form on UCAS. Although it takes some effort to make your application as strong as possible, the process is straightforward compared to most other university systems.

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




Using the UK Universities tool

Enter the potential grades and select up to 10 subjects related to what they wish to study.

Select courses below

Pick the best courses for you by ranking, filtering and searching. Click next when you're done.
Stuck on a strange term? Check out the [glossary](#) ▾

Rank ▾ Filter ▾

Aspirational (4) Top of your range	Solid (11) In the middle	Safe (70) At the bottom
 Liberal Arts - 3FT BA (Hons) Durham University RG A Level: A*,A,A	 Liberal Arts - 3FT BA (Hons) King's College London, University of London RG A Level: A,A,A	 German and Russian Studies - 4FT MA (Hons) The University of Edinburgh RG A Level: A,B,B-A,A,A
 European Social and Political Studies (4 years) - 4FT BA (Hons) UCL (University College London) RG A Level: A*,A,A	 Liberal Arts - 4FT MLibArts Queen's University Belfast RG A Level: A,A,A	 Liberal Arts - 3FT BA (Hons) University of Bristol RG A Level: A,B,B-A,A,A
 German and Beginners' Russian - 4FT + Abroad BA (Hons) University of Oxford	 Liberal Arts - 3FT BA (Hons) University of Nottingham RG A Level: A,A,A	 Liberal Arts With Study Abroad - 4FT MLibArts University of Bristol

The longlist will show every relevant course. It's sorted into Aspirational, Solid, and Safe options.



Potential Grades

The College adopts an optimistic, consistent and evidence-led approach across the student body when determining predicted grades. In coming to an honest professional judgement, departments will use:

AS results (where AS examinations have been taken)

UMS scores for consideration of whether a student sits close to a higher grade boundary or for predicting the A* grade

Internal Assessment results for final L6 examinations (linear subjects)

Evidence of commitment and work ethic in L6

A College record of contextual factors which may have caused temporary underperformance

Substantive internal assessment evidence in U6*



In summary, the College's process is **evidence-based** utilising tangible data, **realistic** and draws on staff's **professional judgement**.

In line with UCAS guidance, departments will not base predicted grades on what students require to apply for a particular course or university or on the basis of their promise to work harder to achieve it. Inflated predicted grades lead to a poor correlation between predictions and outcomes, undermining the integrity of our predictions with many universities.



Queries and Appeals

Students are encouraged to discuss their predicted grades with their Careers Tutor. A student can appeal their predicted grade by requesting and completing a *Predicted Grades Appeal Form* from their Careers Tutor. Appeals will *only* be considered against the criteria outlined in the *Process for Predicted Grades* set out above. Appeals will not be considered because a student or parent/guardian wishes to have a higher grade for a particular course or because of a commitment to work harder.



For the appeal to be successful, the department will use the information provided in line with the criteria outlined above. They must be secure in their judgement that these could reasonably result in a higher predicted grade to uphold the consistency and fairness of the process for all students. It should be noted, a pupil can also appeal their predicted grade on the basis of assessment evidence in the first half term of U6th; the assessment evidence used must be substantive and should be discussed with the teacher in advance. The result of an appeal will be communicated by the Careers Tutor.

Should the predicted grade remain unchanged on appeal, the student may make a further appeal to the Vice Principal (Curriculum), using the section of the form provided. The Vice Principal (Curriculum) will review the appeal and make a final decision.



Daisy's UCAS Application

Personal details

COMPLETE ✓

Title	Miss
First name	Matilda Daisy
Last name	White
Previous name(s)	
Preferred name	Daisy
Date of birth	12 January 2006
Gender	Woman

Contact & residency

COMPLETE ✓

Mobile number	07896926321
Other telephone number	02890205205
Email address	matildadaisywhite@yahoo.com
Postal address	22 Kingsway Gardens, Belfast, County Antrim, BT5 7DQ

Nominated access

Do you want someone else to act, or speak on your behalf, about your application?	Yes
Full name of nominee	James White
Relationship to you	Father

Residency details

Is your home address the same as your postal address?	Yes
Area of permanent residence	Belfast
Residential category	UK Citizen - Northern Ireland



Daisy's UCAS Application

Nationality

COMPLETE ✓

What is your country of birth?	United Kingdom
What is your nationality?	UK national
Dual nationality	Irish
Do you have settled or pre-settled status in the UK?	No

Supporting information

COMPLETE ✓

Have you ever lived or worked in the EU (excluding the UK), European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland?	No
Do you have a parent, spouse or civil partner who is an EU (excluding the UK), EEA or Swiss national?	No

English language skills

COMPLETE ✓

English proficiency tests and exams are taken by students who don't speak English as their first language. Is English your first language?	Yes
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This question is to find out whether you have taken an IELTS or TOEFL English proficiency test. The answer to this question is not passed on to your choices, only the proficiency test certificate numbers, where provided.

Finance & funding

COMPLETE ✓

What will be your main source of funding for your studies?	02 UK, Chl, IoM or EU student finance services
Student support arrangements	Belfast

Diversity & inclusion

COMPLETE ✓

Equality monitoring

Ethnic origin	White
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Care support information

Have you been in care?	No
Parental education	Yes
Occupational background	Accountant

Daisy's UCAS Application

More about you

COMPLETE ✓

Every year, over 60,000 students with a physical and/or mental health condition, long-term illness, or learning difference apply through UCAS to study at a university or college in the UK, and access a range of support available to help with their studies, day-to-day activities, travel, or lifestyle.

Would you consider yourself as living with any of the following?

A learning difference (e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia, or AD(H)D)

Further details about your disability

I have extra time in the examinations

Would you consider yourself estranged from your parents (i.e. you're not in contact with and supported by your parents)?

No

Do you have any caring responsibilities?

No

Are you a parent or do you have parenting responsibilities?

No

Do you have official refugee status or limited leave to remain, or are you seeking asylum?

No

Do you have a parent or carer who currently serves in the UK Armed Forces, or who has done so in the past?

No

Have you ever served in the UK Armed Forces?

No

Are you currently receiving free school meals, or have you been in receipt of free school meals during your secondary education?

No



Daisy's UCAS Application

Methodist College Belfast September 2017 - June 2024

National centre number: 71237

Full time

GCE Advanced Level (A-Level)

Biology

Grade: Date: August 2024 Awarding body: CCEA

French

Grade: Date: August 2024 Awarding body: CCEA

GCE Advanced Subsidiary

Biology

Grade: Date: August 2023 Awarding body: CCEA

Biology

Grade: Date: August 2024 Awarding body: CCEA

French

Grade: Date: August 2023 Awarding body: CCEA

Government & Politics

Grade: Date: August 2023 Awarding body: CCEA

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Cert RQF (360) (2016 to Present)

Sport

Grade: Date: August 2024 Awarding body: Pearson

Module name	Module date	Module grade
Anatomy and Physiology	March 2023	Pass
Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Spor	August 2024	
Professional Development in the Sports Industry	August 2024	
Sports physiology	August 2024	



Daisy's UCAS Application

Employment

COMPLETE ✓

Tesco

Dates	Address	Full-time / part-time	Description
April 2023 - Present	BT8 6PZ	Part-time	Shop floor

Extra activities

COMPLETE ✓

Activities in preparation for higher education: 1

Type of activity	Online
Activity provider	FutureLearn
The name of the activity/programme	Use of AI in Physiotherapy Manchester University Online Course
Start date	02 April 2023
End date	03 May 2023

Personal statement

NOT STARTED ○

No personal statement details provided.

Choices

COMPLETE ✓

Ulster University (U20) - Physiotherapy (B160)

Campus	Live at home while studying?	Start date	Deferred entry?	Point of entry:
Magee, Londonderry		September 2024	No	Year 1



A personal statement is:

a brief and focused summary about your career or research goals, and is required for applications to universities, colleges, and jobs.'



They are important because

Competition for places is very high!

Most courses do not interview; the Personal Statement is *their* responsibility (Not their teachers', UCAS tutor, the College or their parents).

An Admissions Tutor can see hundreds of forms in a day.

An interesting but succinct personal statement makes all the difference.

A good personal statement will give a student the edge over other fellow applicants.



Good points

Interest in
course

Work experience

Voluntary
experience

Skills

Academic
Achievements

Clubs &
Societies

Duke of
Edinburgh
Award

Personal
experiences

Travel

Hobbies



These may not be a good idea to include

Irrelevant sob
stories

Personal
weaknesses

Spelling mistakes

Don't repeat
yourself

Bad grammar

Waffle

Swearing

Indecisiveness

Lies

Excuses

"Ever since I
was..."

Too much

Too little

Abbreviations...lol!

Smileys



What are admissions tutors looking for?

- Students with the **academic potential** to benefit from the course.
- Students who are **motivated** towards studying this particular kind of course.
- Students with **relevant experience** for the course.
- The **personal skills** a student can bring to the course.
- The **interests** that a student has.
- Remember that although each university cannot see the student's other choices, they will all see the personal statement.



UNIFROG – Personal Statement Tool

- ① **Why this subject** ② Your suitability ③ Other interests

Section 1: Why do you want to study this subject?

This part should make up 30% of the total statement

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Examples of what you may want to write about:

- + 1. What sparked your interest in the subject area
- + 2. What specific topics are you most interested in?
- + 3. What skills do you hope to develop in studying this subject?
- + Personal Statement Dos
- + Personal Statement Don'ts



When ready to send

- All sections ticked
- They must agree to share information with us
- Pay fee online - £27.50
- Remember to click to allow the College access to your TRACK
- Click on “Send to Referee”
- Signed Paper copy to their Careers tutor



School Deadline

All Early Deadlines forms must be ready to hand in on **Friday 22th September.**

All other Forms should be ready for **Wednesday 24th November**



What happens next?

- Writing Reference and checking
- Full check of application form
- Sort out queries with student
- Corrections
- Send to UCAS



- Might look to you that nothing is happening!
- BUT IT IS.
- Early deadline applications take priority.



- UCAS sends application to universities
- Some respond quickly
- Some wait until after closing date before deciding
- Interviews?
- Offers/rejections!
- Given reply date – provisional 6th June 2024



- Students choose 2 of their offers
- CF – 1st Choice
- CI – 2nd Choice
- Don't withdraw without seeing me!
- Provisionally – 15th August 2024
- Students should be here that day and for a few days afterwards
- Confirm destinations



CAO

- Can use alongside UCAS
- Students will receive more information concerning this during a tutorial session in November – the system will not be live till 4th November 2023
- Very different system
- We have no access to it



CAO

- CAO points system e.g. A* 185, A 156 on first 3 A levels
- High demand courses need 4 A-Levels
- Medicine? HPAT – Ireland Date to be confirmed but probably February 2024





**Their applications, their Future.
Their responsibility!**

