Application to UK universities UCAS Cycle 2025-2026



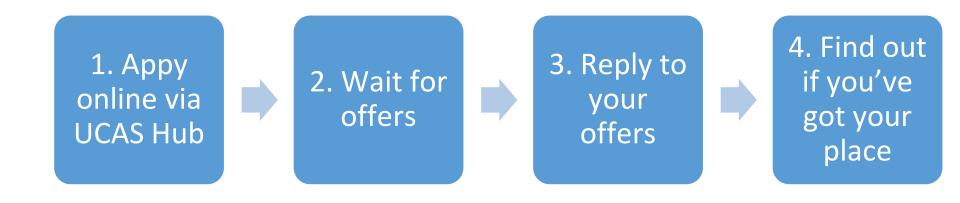


Overview of Briefing

- UCAS Application Process
- UCAS Application Form
- Admissions Tests
- Personal Statement Guide
- Oxbridge/ Medicine/ Dentistry applicants to stay back

UCAS Application Process

(for applying to a UK university or college)



- Register and create an account in UCAS Hub: www.ucas.com/hub.
- Explore options
- Dive deeper into different subjects
- Start application: key dates, overview of process
- Access to resources by industry experts and resources that will develop your application knowledge and skills

- Already started application: add the buzzword
- Starting the application:
 - 'Are you applying from a school, centre or college?' -> 'YES'

The application can only be submitted after all areas are completed, including the reference.

Taking a gap year

Apply for deferred entry (ie: apply in this cycle, start course in the next)

- Same application deadlines as those applying this year
- Before applying, contact universities / colleges to check they consider deferred applications.

Admissions tests

To sit for at the start of academic cycle. Register asap. Find out more: www.ucas.com/admissions-tests

- Check registration deadline, when it is conducted, what it includes, deadline for UCAS application
- Check the courses you are interested in and ensure you sit for the necessary admissions test BEFORE the deadline for the application.

Key Information

Buzzword for ACJC applicants: TBIYTB2026



UCAS Application Deadlines		
Types of Applications	ACJC Deadline	UCAS Deadline
(Conservatoires) Inform FT of application and obtain confirmation from your teacher referee. FT will pass predicted grades to teacher referee.	1 August 2025	N.A.
 Application to music conservatoires. Application for dance, drama and musical theatre courses may have different deadline. Check individual school's website for information. 	16 September 2025, 1800 (SG Time)	2 October 2025, 1800 (UK Time)
(General UCAS) Request for Predicted grades from FT and obtain confirmation from your referee. Submit 'ACJC UCAS Application form'.	Before 1 December 2025	N.A.
Equal consideration for majority of applications (that do not fall into earlier categories)	2 January 2026,1800 (SG Time)	14 January 2026,1800 (UK Time)

Application Deadlines

1. By the ACJC Internal deadline

- **Applicants** must complete the application form and pay for the application. (Oxbridge applicants please note that the Preliminary Oxbridge Application form deadline is earlier)
- Teacher Referees must complete the reference letter and fill in predicted grades.
- Between the 2 deadlines
 HECG dept will vet the forms and contact students and teachers about any necessary changes.
- 3. <u>By the UCAS Official deadline</u> HECG dept will submit the vetted and edited application form and reference letter with predicted grades to UCAS.

Identify a Suitable Teacher Referee

- The teacher referee needs to write about your ability in a subject that is related to your university course.
- Please approach a subject tutor of one of the subject requirements for the university course **in advance**.
- Make your request via email and ensure that you get a confirmation via email / whatsapp from your teacher referee.



Identify a Suitable Teacher Referee

E.g. Computer Science

Course requirements

No prior knowledge of programming is required.

Computer Science

Required by all Colleges: A Level/IB Higher Level Mathematics

Required by some Colleges: A Level/IB Higher Level in a second or three science/mathematics subjects and/or particular subjects

E.g. Human, Social, and Political Sciences

Course requirements

Required by all Colleges: no specific subjects Useful preparation: An essay-based subject

Request for your tutor of an essay-based subject (Geog, Hist, ELit, GP/KI, Econs) to write the recommendation letter

Computing/Math tutor to write

the recommendation letter.

Request for your

Request for References and Predicted Grades

(It is the applicants' responsibility to communicate to FTs and your desired Teacher Referee about what is required for the UCAS application)

- Form Teacher(s):
 - Make a request to your FT(s) via email to collate your predicted grades from your subject tutors. You should get a confirmation via email / whatsapp from your FT.
 - Let your FT know who your Teacher Referee is
 - Your FT will send the predicted grades to your teacher referee.
- Teacher Referee: will enter the predicted grades on UCAS.
- In the entire process, you will **not** be told of your predicted grades as it is confidential.

Predicted grades

- Provide the university with an assessment of the candidate's likely actual A-level grades (and academic capacity)
- Forms the basis for the conditional offer from the university
- Must be realistic
- Confidential to student

Request for References and Predicted Grades

TIP1: Let your FT and Teacher Referee know the application deadlines so that the predicted grades will be submitted punctually!

TIP 2: Follow the deadlines stated in Slide 8.



IMPORTANT

You are responsible for finding out if your desired courses of study require admission tests.

It is also your responsibility to find out when these admission tests occur, register for them promptly and take the tests (must avoid clashes with A level exams).

2. Waiting for Offers

- There are 2 types of offer
 - Unconditional offer: already met the entry requirements
 - Conditional offer: if offer is based on exam results. University / college will update status when they receive your results.
- If you used all 5 choices and did not receive any offers or declines the offers received, you can use 'EXTRA' to apply for more choices, one at a time.
- Unsuccessful: Use 'CLEARING' to apply for more courses.

Conditional offer

- Expressed as grades eg AAB with A in subject related to degree course
- Not a guaranteed place
- Applicants must achieve results equal or better than the offer grade
- If the applicant achieves lower than the conditional offer they will not get the place
 - Eg if conditional offer is AAB and candidate gets ABB the university will not accept the applicant.
 - The **actual** results count more than the predicted grade for final offer.



https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-to-university

- When to apply
- Filling in your application
- How to get a reference
- Writing your personal statement
- International and EU Applicants
- How to apply through UCAS Conservatoires
- After you apply
- Individual needs (inclusive environment)

JC/S Applying through Conservatoires

https://www.ucas.com/conservatoires/how-apply-through-ucas-conservatoires

UCAS Application Form



Apply Through school / college



The Buzzword to apply as an ACJC student is TBIYTB2026



Fill up all fields that are applicable to you



E.g. Passport details, full contact details such as mailing address, full name of all GCE O level subjects, Qualifications, Course choices



Fields that are not applicable can be left blank (E.g. Unique Learner Number, Dual citizenship)



Contact details (Provide details that allow the university to contact you between Jan-Aug 2026)



Singaporean students: Use personal email address. DO NOT use ACJC email address.



Foreign students: Consider using address and contact number in home country, email domains that are accessible in your home country



You must enter all your qualifications from secondary education onwards



If you are awaiting your A Level results, please request for your Teacher referee to key in your predicted grades into the system (confidential information which will **not** be shared with you)



Personal Statement and Teacher Reference (also **not** shared with you)



Select your course choices



DO NOT leave applying until the last minute



You do not have to complete the application all at once



Only apply once in a cycle as your new application will be cancelled and you will not receive a refund.



Fill in Google form after submitting your UCAS application so that the HECG department can keep track of your application.

ACJC UCAS Application form

ACJC UCAS applicants (NOT Oxbridge/ Medicine/ Dentistry/ Vet Science applicants) MUST complete the 'ACJC UCAS Application form' BEFORE 1 December 2025.

In your form, you indicate the name of your teacher referee so that your application can be linked to your teacher referee.



https://go.gov.sg/acjc-ucas-applicat ion

https://go.gov.sg/acjc-ucas-application

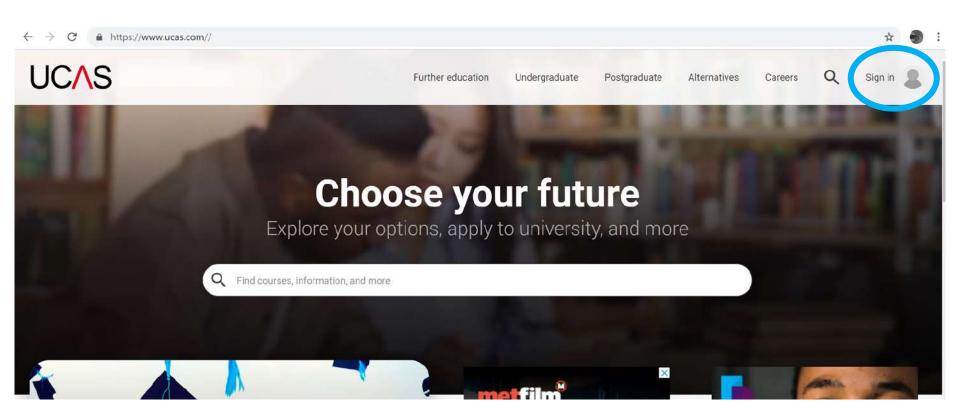


Sections to be completed

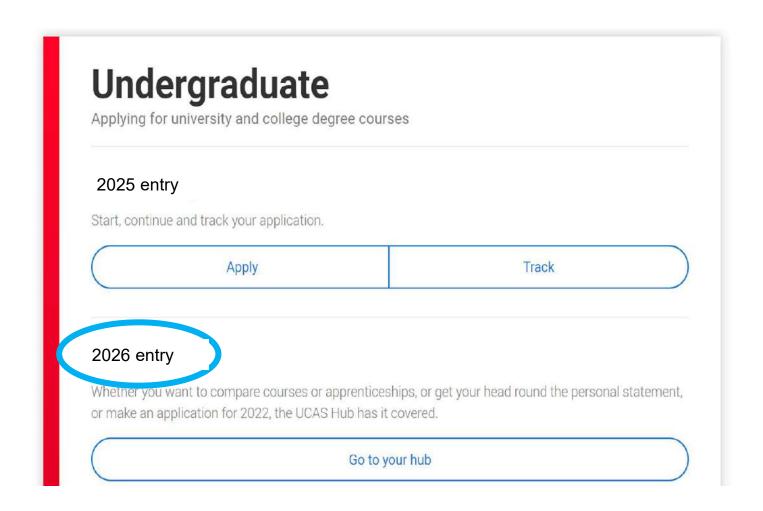
- Personal details
- Nationality details
- Where you live
- Contact details
- Supporting information
- Finance & funding

- More about you
- Education
- Employment
- Personal statement
- Choices

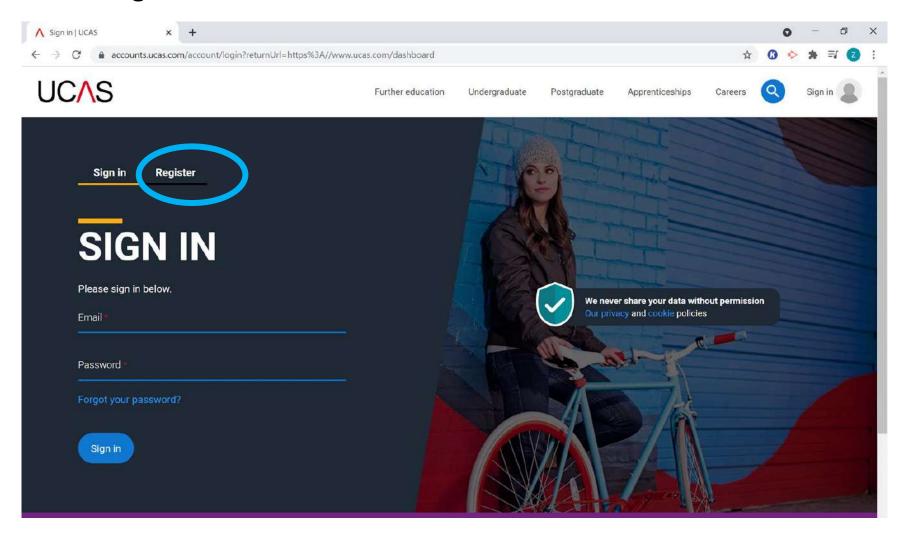
- Website: www.ucas.com/hub
- Click on Sign in



- At the section on Undergraduate, go to 2026 entry
- Click Go to your hub

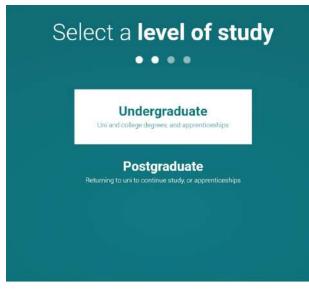


• Click on register



Setting up your account



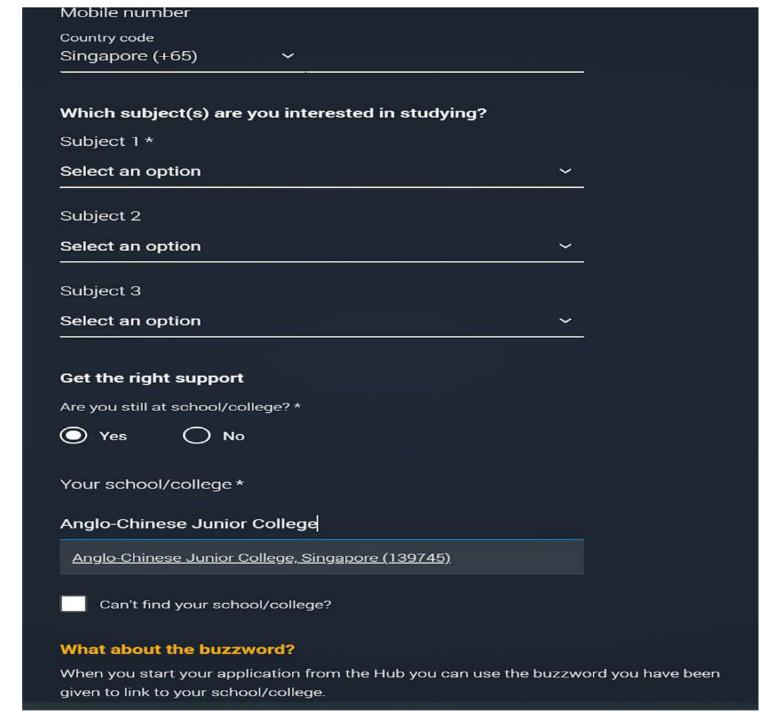




Would you like additional information on:

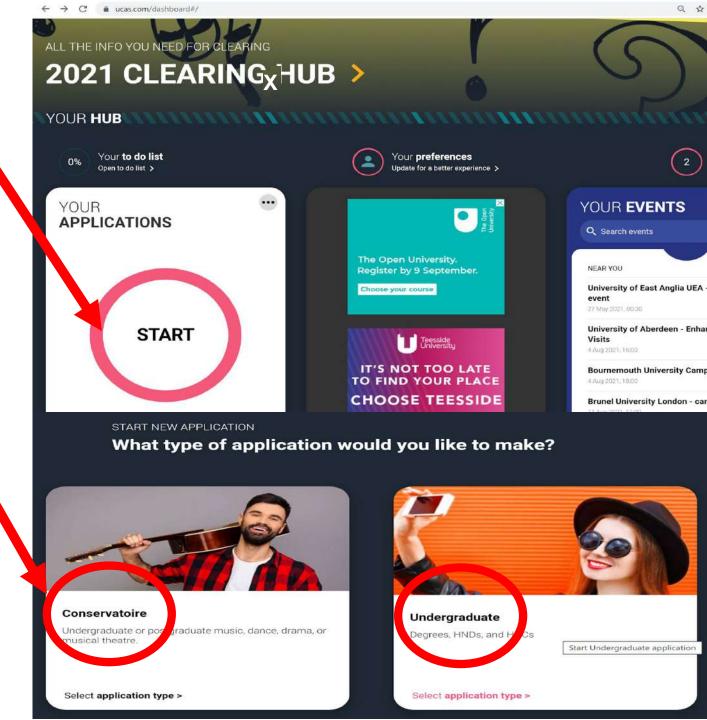


Setting up your account



Start your application

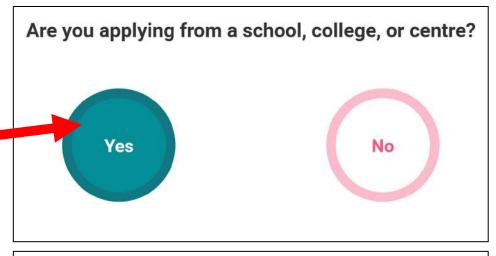
 Depending on your courses, select Undergraduate OR
 Conservatoire

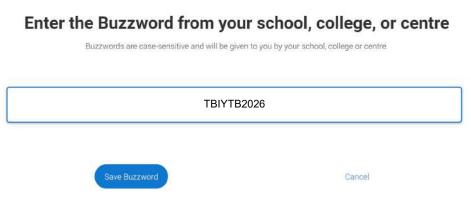


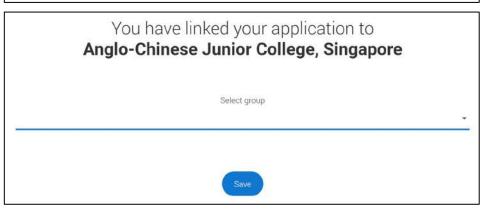
Starting your application

- Select 'Yes'
- Enter the buzzword to link your application to ACJC
- ACJC Buzzword: TBIYTB2026

- Selecting your group:
 - Current students Form class
 - Alumni year of graduating from ACJC





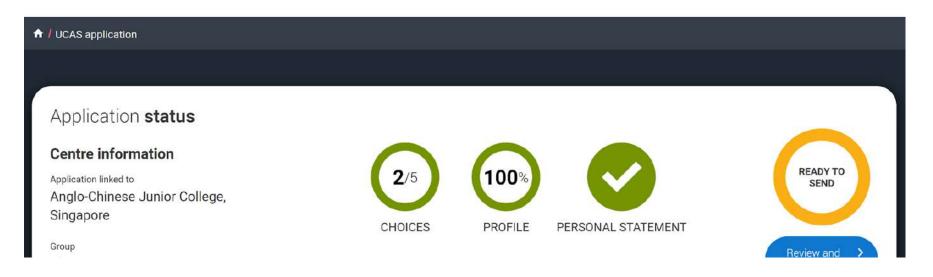


Take note of your Personal ID. You need it for

- Customer service / support
- Applying for some admission tests
- Verify your email address

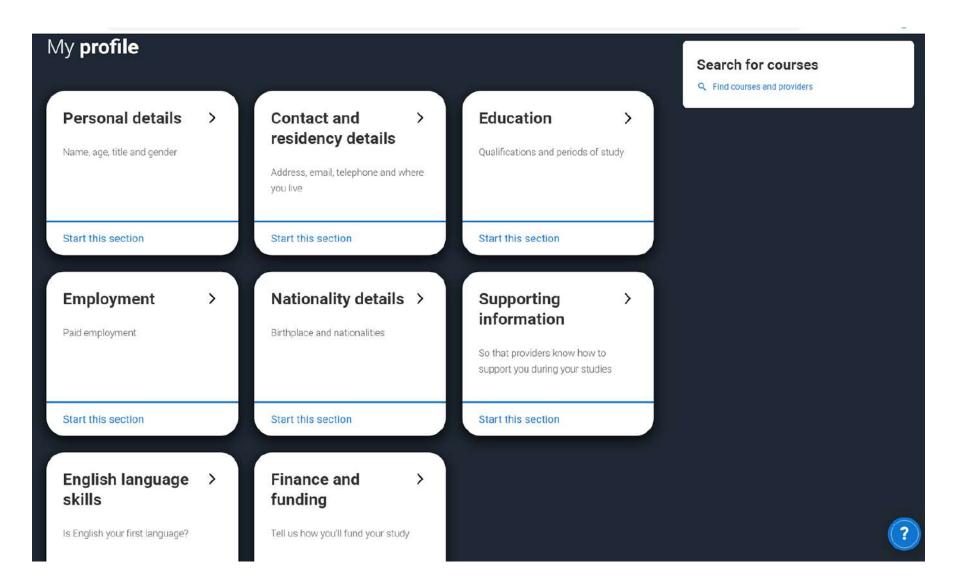
UCAS APPLICATION

2026 Undergraduate application



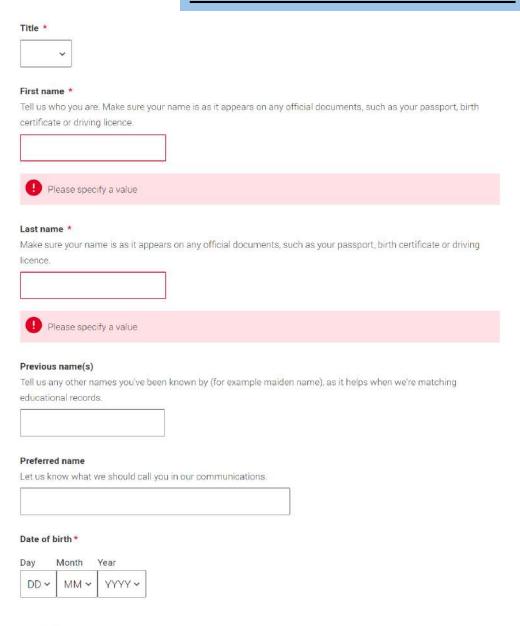
Your Personal ID number

- Click on the panels to start filling up your profile.
- Do not leave out any part of your address or contact details



Section: Personal Details

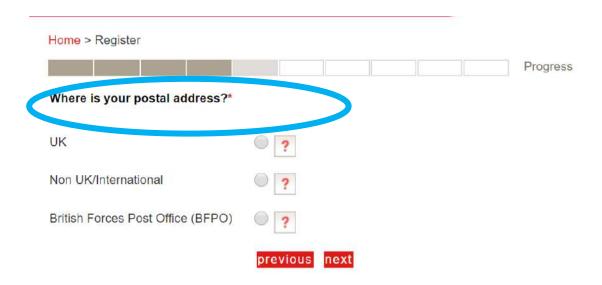
• Fill in the required information.



Gender *

Select the gender you most identify with at this time. You can tell the university or college directly if you'd fee gnore comfortable identifying in another way, or if this changes.

• Select Non UK / International postal address



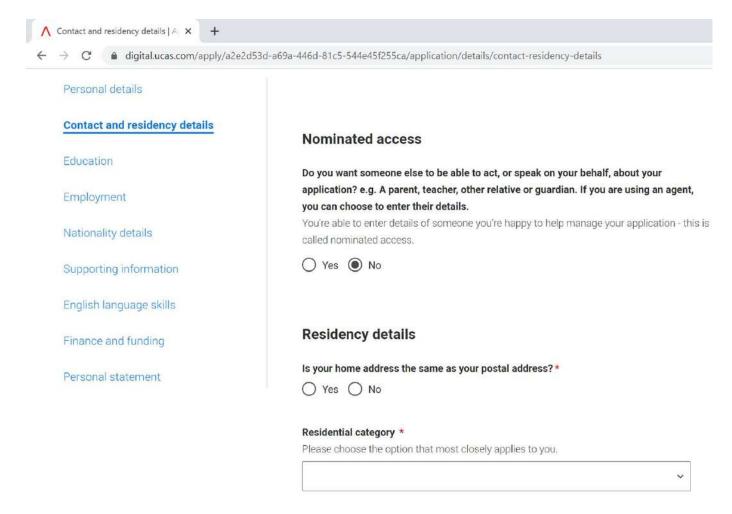
• Fill in your **FULL postal address**

(This must be one where you can receive mail between Dec 2025 – Aug 2026. Offer letters and admission packages may be sent to this address.)

Postal address
Address type *
Non-UK address 🗸
Address line 1 *
Address line 2
Address line 3
Address line 4
Country *

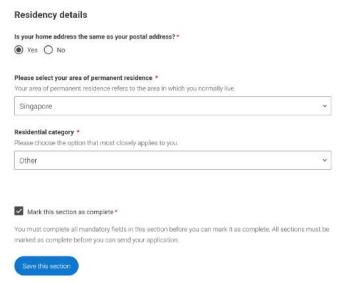
'Nominated access'

- This is not compulsory, so you may choose to leave it blank.
- If you wish to nominate someone, it should be someone who can make a decision about your university options on your behalf.



 Make sure you are contactable at the given email and phone numbers between Dec 2025 – Aug 2026.

For local students



- Contact details should be kept up-to-date.
- Use personal email address instead of the ACJC email address

For international students

Your home
ddress here)
adicos liere
0.0
~

Section: Nationality details

Nationality Details

- 1. Expected date of entry to UK Refer to starting date of university courses when choosing universities
- 2. Student visa 'Yes' in majority of cases.
- Passport number, Issue date, Expiry date – <u>Fill up all three</u> fields!

(This is for the university to support your visa application in the situation where you accept a place at their uni.)

Do you need a student visa to study in the UK?
Yes No
Have you previously studied on a student or tier 4 visa?*
○ Yes ○ No
Do you currently have a passport?*
Where relevant, UCAS collects applicants' passport information on behalf of universities and colleges, who need it for
purposes of visa application and checks with the UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI). For further details about UK Visa
and Immigration please visit the UKVI website.
● Yes ○ No
Passport number *
Valid from *
Day Month Year
DD ~ MM ~ YYYY ~
Expires *
Day Month Year
DD V MM V YYYY V
Place of issue *

Update the Education section with the names of

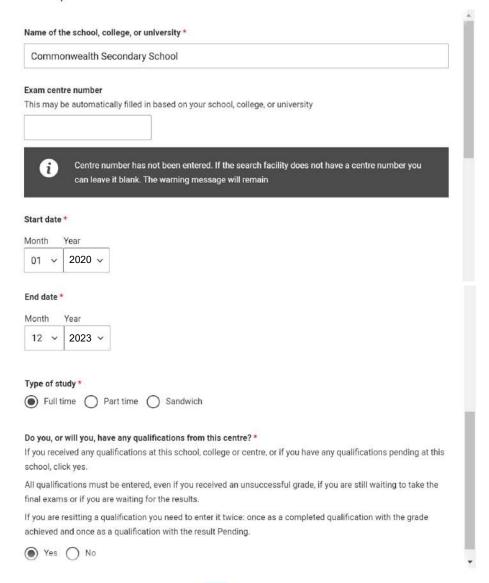
- 1) Your secondary school(s) and
- 2) 'Anglo-Chinese Junior College'

Notes:

- Many Singapore secondary schools cannot be found on UCAS; You will need to opt to enter the school name manually.
- You need to input all achieved and pending qualifications that has been / will be certificated.

Sample for secondary school

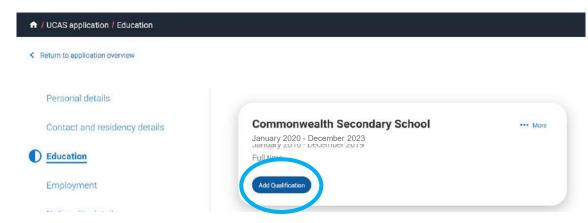
Edit place of education





Click on 'Add Qualifications'. EDUCATION

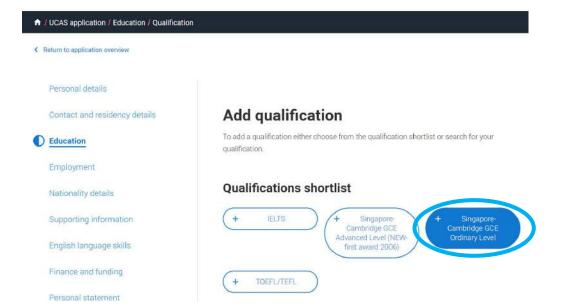
2026 Undergraduate application



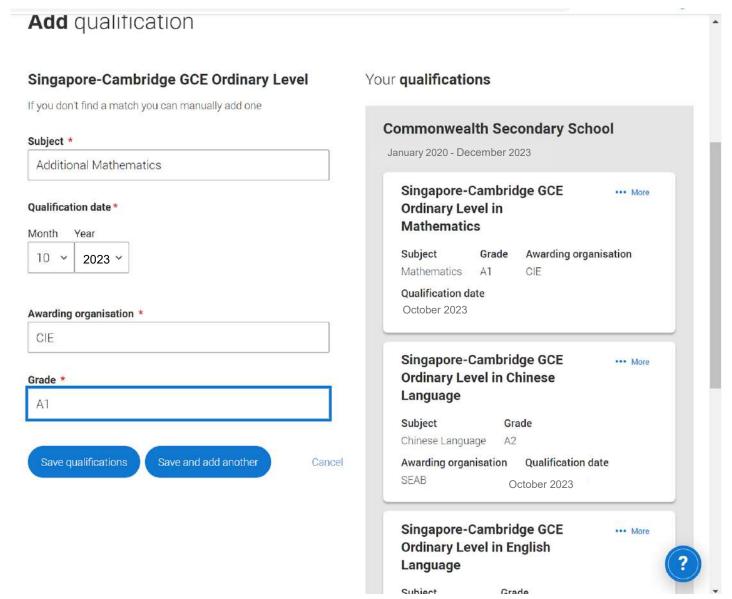
 Use Search tool and click on 'Singapore-Cambridge GCE Ordinary Level'

QUALIFICATION

2026 Undergraduate application



 Fill in details and click 'Save' and 'Add Similar' to record grades for all GCE O Level subjects.





Education Section – O level Qualifications

- 1. Select 'Singapore-Cambridge GCE Ordinary Level'
- 2. Type the title of your O level subjects, <u>according to that shown on your O level certificate</u>.

E.g. English Language (not English) and Literature in English (not English Literature)

- 3. Select / Enter the examination body for the subject:
 - SEAB Mother Tongue languages and MT literature
 - CIE English Language, subjects in arts, humanities, sciences, mathematics
- 4. Enter the date of exams
 - 10/2022 For MTL taken in Sec 3 (2025 J2 batch)
 - 10/2023 For all subjects taken in Sec 4 (2025 J2 batch)
- 5. Enter the grades as A1, A2, B3, B4 etc., not A, B, C

Education Section – O level Qualifications

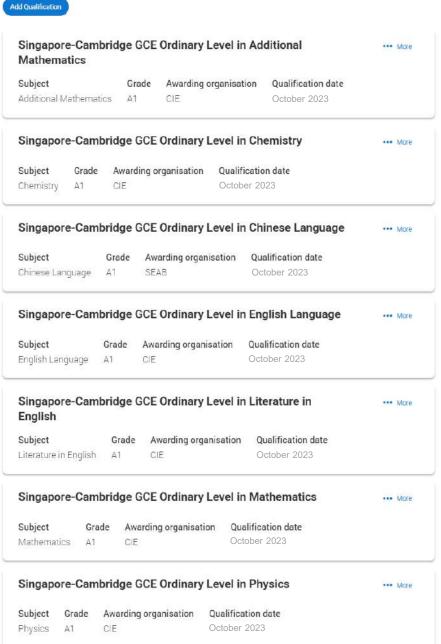
Sample of O level qualifications

Commonwealth Secondary School

January 2020 - December 2023

Full time





Section: **Education**

• Sample for JC.

Add place of education

Anglo-C	hinese Junior College, Singapore
Exam cent	re number
This may b	e automatically filled in based on your school, college, or university
6	Centre number has not been entered. If the search facility does not have a centre number you can leave it blank. The warning message will remain
Start date	
Month	Year
02 🗸	2024 🗸
nd date*	
Month Y	'ear
12 ~	2025 🗸
ype of stu	dy*
Full tin	
	vill you, have any qualifications from this centre? *
f you receiv school, clicl	red any qualifications at this school, college or centre, or if you have any qualifications pending at this k yes.
All qualifica	tions must be entered, even if you received an unsuccessful grade, if you are still waiting to take the
inal exams	or if you are waiting for the results.
encourage and ac-	sitting a qualification you need to enter it twice: once as a completed qualification with the grade
	d once as a qualification with the result Pending.

Section: Education

 Add your qualification by clicking on 'Singapore-Cambridge GCE Advanced Level (NEW-first award 2006) '

Add qualification

To add a qualification either choose from the qualification shortlist or search for your qualification.

Qualifications shortlist





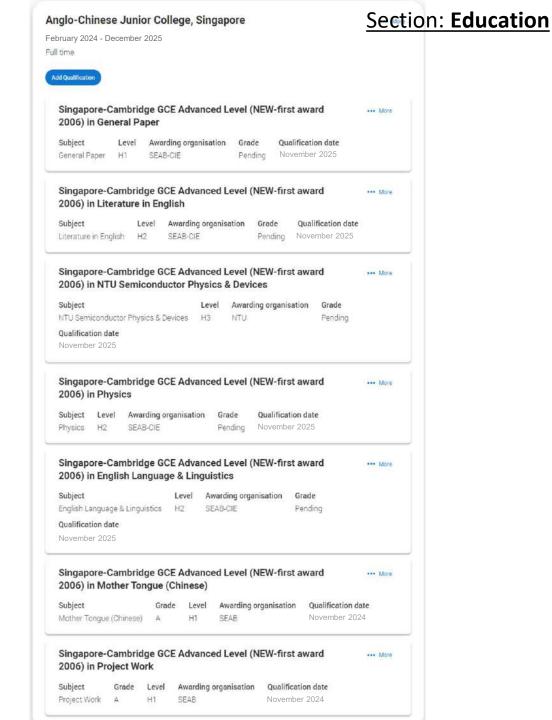




- 1. Select 'Singapore-Cambridge GCE Advanced Level'
- 2. Select your A level subject and H1/H2/H3 level from the drop down lists
- 3. Select / Enter the examination body for the subject:
 - SEAB Project Work, Mother Tongue languages and MT literature, General Studies in Chinese
 - SEAB-CIE GP/KI, subjects in arts, humanities, sciences, mathematics (in H1/H2/H3)
 - NUS, NTU, SMU relevant H3 subjects, e.g. H3 Game Theory
- 4. Enter the date of exams and grade awarded
 - 11/2024 PW and H1 MTL (enter the grade awarded)
 - 05/2025 OR 11/2025 H3 taken, including those from local universities (enter the grade as Pending)
 - 11/2025 GP/KI and other H2/H3 subjects (enter the grade as Pending)

Education Section – A level Qualifications

Sample of A level qualifications



'Reference numbers'

Save this section

• ULN is only applicable for students who have been studying in the UK. Leave this blank.

Unique Learner Number (ULN) The Unique Learner Number (ULN) is a 10-digit reference number which is used alongside and to access the Personal Learning Record of anyone over the age of 13 involved in UK education or training. If you don't have one, or don't know yours, leave this blank.		
Please state the highest level of qualification you expect to have before you start your course *		
Below honours degree level qualifications 💙		
✓ Mark this section as complete *		
You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.		

Education Section – Highest level of qualifications

Select 'Below honours degree level qualification'

Unique Learner Number (ULN) The Unique Learner Number (ULN) is a 10-digit reference number which is used alongside and to access the Personal Learning Record of anyone over the age of 13 involved in UK education or training. If you don't have one, or don't know yours, leave this blank. Please state the highest level of qualification you expect to have before you start your course * Below honours degree level qualifications

✓ Mark this section as complete *

You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.

Save this section

English proficiency tests and exams are taken by students who don't speak English as their first language. Is English your first language?

This question is to find out whether you have taken an IELTS or TOFEL English proficiency test. The answer to this question is not passed on to your choices.

- •If you click yes, you won't be asked any additional questions and can mark this section as complete.
- •If you click no, and have taken English proficiency tests, you can add your certificate numbers and we'll pass them on to your chosen universities and colleges when you submit your application.
- If you click no and haven't completed any tests, for example because Welsh is your first language, you can leave the remaining fields blank and then mark this section as complete.



✓ Mark this section as complete *

You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.

There are 3 common sources of funding that you may select:

- Private finance if your family is funding your university studies
- International organisation if you have already been offered a scholarship for university studies (applicable to alumni)
- Not known If you are planning to apply for / waiting for the outcome of scholarship applications.

What will be your main source of funding for your studies? * Select an option from the drop-down list to tell us how you expect to pay for your tuition fees Most applicants from the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, and the EU will be in the category UK, Chl, IoM, or EU student finance. This guidance has been created in the absence of full Brexit arrangements being available and you should give your answer as guided. Universities and colleges are aware that EU applicants will be selecting the UK, ChI, IoM or EU student finance option. Mark this section as complete * You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.

Save this section

Section: Choices

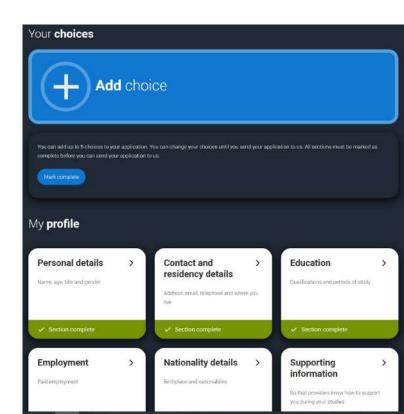
Choices

What you need to know:

- Maximum of 5 choices, but not necessary to fill up all 5
- No order of priority / preference
- Each university will not know of your other options
- All 5 choices will receive the same personal statement
- Medicine / Dentistry / Veterinary medicine applicants: UCAS allows a maximum of 4 medicine courses, the fifth choice must be non-medical but can be related e.g. biomedical engineering

Implication: Write about your interest in ONE subject area / career in the personal statement

Apply for courses related to that subject / career



Some UK pre-Admissions Tests

This list is not comprehensive. Please conduct your own research for the requirements for the courses that you have selected. Do sign up promptly for the tests required.

Why have admission tests?

- State exams (such as A levels and other public exams)
 are a good indication of a student's ability.
- Courses that use these tests receive high volumes of applications who have, or are predicted to achieve the highest grades.
- Admission tests allow applicants to demonstrate:
- Skills (e.g. mathematical problem-solving ability)
- Subject knowledge
- 3. Understanding of topics related to chosen course
- Benchmark applicants across qualifications

Some Admissions tests

This list is not comprehensive. Please conduct your own research for the requirements for the courses that you have selected. Do sign up promptly for the tests required. Ensure that admission tests DO NOT clash with A level dates or Prelim Exam dates.

- ESAT: Engineering and Science Admission Test
- TMUA: Test for Mathematics for University Admission
- LNAT: Law National Aptitude Test
 Conducted by Pearson VUE
- TSA: Thinking Skills Assessment
- UCAT: Clinical Aptitude Test
 This replaces BMAT in 2024. UCAT is conducted by Pearson VUE.
- MAT: Mathematics Admission Test

If there are any unavoidable clashes between the Admissions test(s) that you intend to take and your A level examination papers, please inform Mrs Lovy Tan and Mrs Daphne Teo ASAP at lovy_tan@acjc.edu.sg and daphne_teo@acjc.edu.sg

ESAT and TMUA Key Dates 2025

2 June	Applications for bursaries and AA open	
31 July	Test booking opens	
8 Sept	Test booking deadline for candidates with AA	
29 Sept	Test booking deadline	
9 and 10 Oct	ESAT test dates	
13 and 14 Oct	TMUA test dates	
15 and 16 Oct	TARA test dates	
14 Nov	Results released to candidates	

Prepare for ESAT and TMUA by doing past papers and reviewing Alevel Maths exams

Admissions tests ESAT, Engineering and Science Admission Test

https://esat-tmua.ac.uk/register/

- Access Arrangement application deadline: 8 Sept 2025, 6pm BST
- Registration is open from 31 July 2025 till 29 Sep 2025
- Testing takes place from 9 or 10 October 2025
- Applicants must refer the website to proceed with timely registration.
- All fees to be made at applicants' cost
- This is a computer-based admissions test delivered in partnership with Pearson VUE.
- Take note that Baccalaureate Service is on 10 October. Sign up on the appropriate date for yourself.

Admissions tests TMUA, Test for Mathematics for University Admission

https://esat-tmua.ac.uk/register/

- Access Arrangement application deadline: 8 Sept 2025, 6pm BST
- Registration is open from 31 July 2025 till 29 Sep 2025
- Testing takes place from 13 or 14 October 2025
- Applicants must refer the website to proceed with timely registration.
- All fees to be made at applicants' cost
- This is a computer-based admissions test delivered in partnership with Pearson VUE.

Admissions tests

TARA, Test of Academic Reasoning for University Admission

https://esat-tmua.ac.uk/register/

This is a new test for 2026 entry for some universities. You must check the university webpages for your chosen course to see if TARA is required.

- Access Arrangement application deadline: 8 Sept 2025, 6pm BST
- Registration is open from 31 July 2025 till 29 Sep 2025
- Testing takes place from 15 or 16 October 2025
- Applicants must refer the website to proceed with timely registration.
- All fees to be made at applicants' cost
- This is a computer-based admissions test delivered in partnership with Pearson VUE.

Admissions tests LNAT, The Law National Aptitude Test

- https://lnat.ac.uk/
- For selected Law courses in
 - University of Bristol
 - University of Cambridge
 - Durham University
 - University of Glasgow
 - King's College London, University of London
 - London School of Economics (LSE)
 - University of Oxford
 - SOAS University of London
 - UCL Faculty of Laws

This list may not be exhaustive. Do your own research.

Refer to this if you wish to practise law in Singapore: https://www.sile.edu.sg/united-kingdom-approved-universities

Admissions tests LNAT, The Law National Aptitude Test

- Applicants must refer to LNAT website to proceed with timely registration
- All fees to be made at applicants' cost
- Some key deadlines:

	Oxbridge	King's College, London and LSE	Other LNAT Universities
Register by	1 Aug – 15 Sep 2025		Mid-Sep 2025 – 20 Jan 2026
Completed by	15 Oct 2025	31 Dec 2025	29 Jan 2026

Admissions tests

TSA, Thinking Skills Assessment

• Information:

https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/guide/admissions-tests/tsa

- Access Arrangement application deadline: 19 Sep 2025
- Registration is open from 18 June 2025 till 19 Sept 2025
- Book your test from 18 Aug 2025 till 26 Sept 2025
- Testing takes place on 21, 22, 23, 24, 27 October 2025 at Pearson VUE test centres.
- Applicants must refer to the website to proceed with timely registration.
- All fees to be made at applicants' cost

Admissions tests TSA, Thinking Skills Assessment

IMPORTANT

A-Level Physics Practical exam and Oxford TSA fall on the same day: **22 October 2025.**

You **SHOULD NOT** be taking your Oxford TSA on the same day as your A level Physics practical exam by registering early.

Admissions tests UCAT, University Clinical Aptitude Test

- Info for registration is available on UCAT website https://www.ucat.ac.uk/register/booking-your-test/
- Refer to list of universities here
 https://www.ucat.ac.uk/ucat/universities/
- Access Arrangement application deadline: 16 Sep 2025 (12 noon BST)
- Registration is open from 17 June until 19 Sep 2025 (12 noon BST)
- Testing takes place from 7 July to 26 Sept 2025
- Applicants must refer to UCAT's website to proceed with timely registration.
- All fees to be made at applicants' cost

UK Personal Statement

https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/writing-personal-statement

What is the UCAS Personal Statement?

Use it to tell us more about you

- H.E. Institutions receive thousands of applications
- Grades are not enough
- Personal Statement gives extra information
- Demonstrate your academic interest and suitability

Don't waste this opportunity, other students won't!

"The personal statement is a powerful way to help you stand out from others with similar academic profiles."

Length:

- 3 sections at least 350 characters per section
- 4,000 characters overall (not words, so this includes spaces)

UCAS Personal Statement

For 2026 entry, personal statements will be structured into three distinct sections, each addressing a specific question:

- 1. Why do you want to study this course or subject?
- 2. How have your qualifications and studies prepared you for this course?
- 3. What experiences outside of education have helped you prepare, and why are they valuable?

What the UK people are looking for in the Personal Statement

- Genuine passion for the subject(s) you're applying for.
- Quantify your accomplishments and insights that have shaped your decision to pursue this course.

Since your academic achievements are covered elsewhere in your application, focus on:

- Your enthusiasm for the subject What excites you about studying it?
- Your skills and aptitude What strengths make you a good fit for the course?
- Relevant super-/extra-curricular activities How have these experiences helped you develop?

We do not have a preference for how you split your personal statement between the 3 questions.

Make sure you have enough space to talk in detail about your academic interests.

You can include this in any section.

Personal Statement - Q1: Why

Evidence your curiosity, interest and knowledge of your subject area

Motivations for studying this course	Knowledge of this subject area and interests	Future plans; demonstrate why this course/subject is a good fit
Have you been inspired by a key role model or moment in life?	Is there a particular subject area you've researched and are excited to learn more about?	Do you have a particular career path or future in mind?
What do you love about the subject and why do you want to pursue it further?	Have you read/watched/listened to something that's sparked your interest?	How might the knowledge gained from this subject help you achieve your future goals?
How has your path led you to this course or subject area?	What have you done that demonstrates independent engagement with the subject?	Demonstrate that you understand the area and the qualities required to succeed in it

Personal Statement – Q2: How do your studies relate to your chosen subject?

Focus on what's most recent and relevant to the subject or course(s)

How do your studies relate to your chosen subject?	What relevant/transferable skills do you have?	Any relevant educational achievements
Don't waste space listing subjects or grades – be specific	What core skills do you have relevant to the subject area?	How will these help you succeed in this subject area?
Evidence the skills and experiences you've gained from formal education	Have you developed these through a particular module or topic?	Demonstrate an understanding of the subject area and the qualities, skills and knowledge it could provide
Be specific about how these skills and experiences will help you succeed in chosen subject	Have you completed any relevant projects or tasks that have helped you understand where your interests and strengths lie?	Examples could include EPQ, competitions, projects, specific modules/topics, representing the school/college

Personal Statement – Q3: What else have you done to prepare outside of education and why are these experiences useful?

Examples should be reflective and demonstrate further suitability for the subject or course

Personal life experiences or responsibilities	Work experience, employment, volunteering	Hobbies, super-curricular or outreach activities	Achievements outside of school or college
Have your personal experiences or responsibilities influenced your subject choice?	In-person or virtual experiences	Think reading, community work, trips, summer schools, podcasts, documentaries, events	Possible examples: Courses Qualifications Tutoring or mentoring Shadowing Competitions
Have your personal experiences helped you develop key qualities for the course?	Reflect on how the experiences and skills gained are relevant to chosen subject area	Any activities outside of school/college studies that showcase why you're a good fit for the course	

UCAS Personal Statement

There is no perfect statement but should include

75 – 90% academic interests

- Knowledge and exploration of subject
- Why university level study and their motivation
- Supercurricular activities are key

10 – 25% extra-curricular

- School or non-school based activities
- Evidenced and reflecting on your skills

Activity, Benefit, Course

Personal statement tips to remember

- Research your courses keep it relevant
- Be honest you may be asked in interview
- Don't plagiarise UCAS check with plagiarism detectors
- Write directly and literally; you're not being assessed based on your creative writing skills
- Draft, re-draft and proofread (including spelling)
- Write in stages and get feedback

Personal Statement – Avoid at all costs / Don'ts

- Use clichés, quotations or "fancy" language which you wouldn't use in everyday life - the statement should sound like you (N.B. you can use subject-specific technical terms and jargon where relevant and you don't need to provide dictionary definitions for these)
- Make jokes this is a professional and academic piece of work and should be treated as such
- Reference one specific university/course your application needs to appeal to each of the five universities you are applying to (N.B. the exception is when you are referring to super-curricular activities/ideas you've engaged with via university outreach programmes, competitions, or summer schools)
- Repeat, generalise, or waffle you don't have space to waste on unnecessary detail or 'filler'
- Start every sentence with 'I' vary how you begin your sentences

Undergraduate Study Website guide for writing personal statements



https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk
/writing-a-great-personal-statement

IMPERIAL.imperial.ac.uk/study/apply/unde
rgraduate/process/personal-statement/

UCAS Resources

UCAS has created personal statement guides by subject for the 2026 intake.

https://www.ucas.com/applying/applying-university/writing-your-personal-statem ent/2026-personal-statement-guides