2021: positive picture for UK 18 year old applicants, but can it last?

- **Number achieving highest grades** nearly quadrupled from pre-pandemic levels (from 5,655 in 2019 to 19,595 in 2021)
- **81%** of UK 18 year olds secured their first choice (up from 75% in 2020 and 74% in 2019)
- **11% more** UK 18 year olds accepted at higher tariff providers (up 28% from 2019)
- **24,855** 18 year olds deferred their place, up **15%** on 2020
January ECD

- **610,720 applicants (-0.9%)**
- **+5% 18 year old applicants**
- **UK 21+ applicants decline 17%**
- **+5% non-EU applicants**
- **20.8KkEU applicants (-4.9k)**
Impacts

Increased demand for university places, particularly the more selective universities and courses
### Key dates

- **17 May**: UCAS undergraduate 2023 cycle open
- **6 Sept**: Pay and send completed applications to UCAS
- **15 October**: Deadline for Oxford, Cambridge, medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine/science.
- **25 January**: Equal consideration date for undergraduate courses.
New questions

To support widening access and participation we have made some changes and added in some new questions:

- More about you
- Extra activities

Key benefits

- Students have the option to highlight individual circumstances within the application.
- Universities and colleges can make more informed decisions about an applicant’s circumstances.
- Universities and colleges can ensure supportive measures are in place.
More about you

These are self-declared questions:

- Disability and mental health (updated and previously located in Supporting Information)
- Students estranged from their parents
- Caring responsibilities
- Parenting responsibilities
- Refugee/asylum seeker/ limited leave to remain
- Have a parent/carer in the UK Armed Forces
- UK Armed Forces veterans/Service leavers
- In receipt of free school meals (FSM)

Non-UK applicants will only see the disability and mental health question
Extra activities

Activities in preparation for higher education.

- Only for UK home address students.
- Previously location in ‘Diversity and inclusion’ section.
- If haven’t attended any activity, please leave this section blank.

The existing questions about care experience will remain in the Diversity & Inclusion section.
Adviser toolkits

For some students, their individual circumstances can have a significant impact on their decision to go to university or college – and on their experience when they are there.

To make sure all your students feel informed and prepared at each stage of their application journey, we've worked with expert organisations to bring together practical tips and useful resources for those who are advising students about their next step.

In this guide, you will find practical information on how to support the following groups:

1. Disabled students (including long-term illnesses and learning differences)
2. Students with mental health conditions
3. Care-experienced students
4. Students estranged from their parents
5. Refugees and asylum seekers
6. Students with caring responsibilities
7. Students with parenting responsibilities
8. Children from UK Armed Forces families (Service children)
9. UK Armed Forces veterans and Service leavers

ucas.com/advisers/toolkits
UCAS is seeing a great demand for apprenticeships from students

342,000 out of 750,000 people who set up a UCAS account ready for next year say they’re interested in an apprenticeship.

Almost 50%

18.3% of UCAS applicants said they applied for a degree apprenticeship last year.

Around 50,000

Source: UCAS PAD/New Applicant Survey
Almost a third (31%) of students said it was ‘very easy’ to access information about higher education compared to just 6% who said the same about apprenticeships.
Careers focus

- Learning from others – chat to uni students and read blogs.
- Careers advice– browse careers to explore different career roles and pathways.
- Take the UCAS quiz to find out more about individual strengths and what roles may suit you.
- The Career Finder tool is ideal for considering options after education, including searching for apprenticeships.
APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Government Economic Service Degree Apprenticeship Programme (GESDAP)
Birmingham, Bristol, Darlington, Fareham, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Newport
£22,450 minimum (London based), £20,042 minimum salary (national)

Logistics Degree Apprenticeship

Found 378 jobs

The Government Economic Service Degree Apprenticeship Programme (GESDAP)
- Birmingham, Bristol, Darlington, Fareham, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Newport
- £22,450 minimum (London based), £20,042 minimum salary (national)
- Government Economic Service

The degree apprenticeship offers you the opportunity to work in a central government department or agency tackling some of the most important social challenges.

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View 0 courses at your favourite locations

View 0 courses at your favourite locations

Suggestions are based on your favourites

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Create special effects for movies.
Bringing UCAS to the classroom

To help you we’ve developed:

- lesson plans
- accompanying PowerPoints
- New UCAS quiz resources

These can be combined with other resources, such as student packs and Hub live sessions.
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