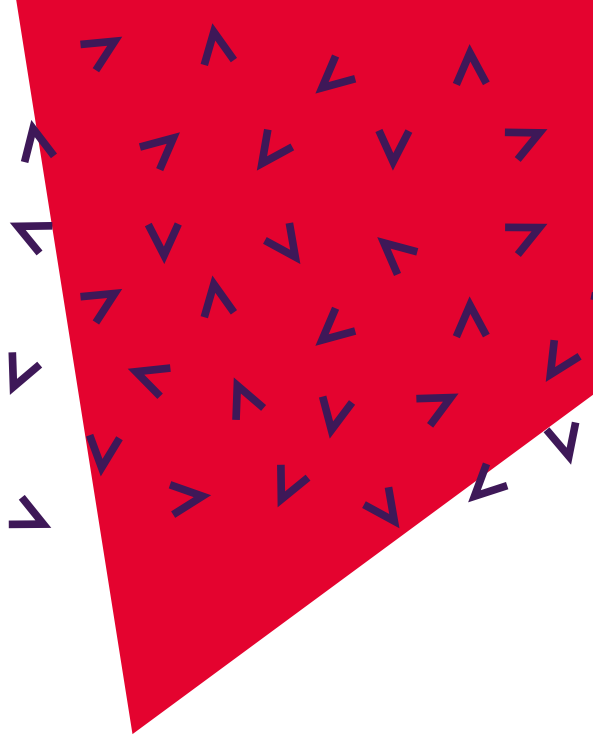# UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Apply:
Cambridge

What is Apply: Cambridge?

Apply: Cambridge is a specialist and free programme designed to support high attaining students from underrepresented backgrounds and areas to make successful applications to the University of Cambridge.

The programme will be delivered by Cambridge staff and Admissions Tutors who will be sharing their expertise on the application process.

"Apply: Cambridge is a great programme, it gave me confidence in my application. I don't know of any other resource that was as supportive."

What do you have access to on the programme?

There are two strands of the Apply: Cambridge programme: with mentoring or without mentoring.

Apply: Cambridge **without mentoring** will run from July 2023 to October 2023 and will be entirely online. We will work with you every step of the way over this 3-month period, helping you navigate the process and effectively prepare for your Cambridge application. The programme will include:

- Information webinars
- Interactive workshops
- Guided learning opportunities
- Q&A sessions with Admissions Tutors and current students

Apply: Cambridge **with mentoring** will run longer, from July 2023 until January 2024. It will include all of the above, as well as mentoring from a current student at the University of Cambridge. Mentoring includes:

- Virtual 1-1 mentoring over a text based app and website
- Monthly group mentoring meetings with your mentor over Zoom
- Personal statement feedback

Why might you want to take part?

Participants in 2020 were **significantly more likely** than other Cambridge applicants to receive an offer from the University. For example, participants in receipt of Free School Meals were 1.6x more likely to receive an offer than those who did not receive our support.

97% *of participants said they would recommend participating in the programme to other prospective Cambridge applicants.*

Who can apply?

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Be eligible for UK home fee status

- Be a student at a state school or college in the UK

- Be intending to make an application to Cambridge in October 2023

- Be studying for qualifications at your school/college that meet the entry requirements for your chosen course at Cambridge

- Be on track to achieve **at least the minimum grades** required for entry. A*A*A for most sciences courses (excluding Veterinary Medicine which has an entry requirement of A*AA) and A*AA for arts & social sciences courses (excluding Economics or Psychological and Behavioural Sciences which have an entry requirement of A*A*A). **See here for more details.**

- Be committed to undertaking the necessary work attached to participation in the programme, places on the programme are competitive and we expect students chosen to be engaged with all aspects of the programme

It may not be possible to offer every applicant a place on the programme but we would encourage ALL students meeting the eligibility criteria to apply.

"*Without the support of the programme I would have struggled to submit an application to the University of Cambridge. Securing a place on the programme helped me to show my teachers that I was committed and ambitious.*"

Priority criteria

Where spaces are limited, students who meet **one or more** of the following criteria will be prioritised. The criteria below are organised in order of their priority i.e. being care experienced is of the highest priority.

- Students who are care experienced
- Students who are an asylum seeker or refugee
- Students who are estranged from both primary carers (e.g. both parents/carers)
- Students who are eligible for the 16-19 Bursary/Pupil Premium and/or those who have been in receipt of Free School Meals at any point in the last 6 years

Students who come from an under-represented ethnic group:

- Black African and Black Caribbean
- Pakistani and Bangladeshi
- Gypsy, Roma and Traveller
- White Students from Lower Socio-Economic Backgrounds (ever6 FSM)
- Students who are a young carer, defined as being the primary carer for a parent or sibling

Students who have experienced disruption to their education such as for the following reasons:

- Medical/health issues (including mental health), particularly those that have resulted in long or extended periods of absence (over 8 weeks) from school in the last 6 years
- Bereavement of a close family member (e.g. parent/carer) in the last 6 years
- Becoming a parent
- Moving schools 2 or more times in the last 6 years
- Being from a UK Armed Forces family
- Experience of close family imprisonment (e.g. parent/carer)
- Experience of homelessness
- Other disruption (to be specified)

- Students from schools with historic low progression to Oxbridge
- Students who live in POLAR4 Quintiles 1&2 or IMD Quintiles 1&2 target wards
- Female students applying for Mathematics or Computer Science and male students applying for Psychological and Behavioural Sciences or Veterinary Medicine
- Students who have been participants on other programmes offered by the central Cambridge Admissions Office
- Students who attend an HE+ or Insight school

"Thanks for this opportunity, the programme has been extremely useful in helping me to get through the admissions process and prepare myself for the interviews."

Please note:

Educational disruption due to COVID-19 is NOT regarded as a marker of disrupted education.

How can you apply?

If you would like to be considered for the programme, you will need to complete and submit the application form by **11am on Wednesday 17 April 2023**

What is the application timeline?

Monday 17 April 2023	Applications Open
Wednesday 17 May 2023 at 11am	Applications Close
Wednesday 24 May 2023 at 9am	Deadline for teachers to confirm academic eligibility of applicants
Wednesday 21 June 2023	Selection decisions communicated to all applicants
Wednesday 5 July 2023	Deadline for applicants to accept their offer of a place
Saturday 17 July 2023	Programme begins

Please note: Participation or non-participation with this programme is completely separate from the admissions process and will not be taken in to account in any university application.

Please note:

Along with some basic personal details, the form asks you to provide an idea of the Cambridge course you are considering applying to and your past and predicted grades. It may be helpful to have this information to hand when completing the form.

You will also need to provide an email address for a staff member at your school/college so please ensure you have verified their details and consult them where necessary (particularly in regard to predicted grades).

We will then email a copy of your application to them in order to verify that the information you have provided is correct. Please therefore ensure all the information is accurate upon submission.

Further Questions

If you have any questions or if you would like to discuss anything further before submitting an application then please email the team on **applycambridge@admin.cam.ac.uk** and write your full name in the subject line.