Typical offers and requirements
Whatever system you’re being educated in, we require top grades in the highest level qualifications available for school/college students – most successful applicants ultimately exceed the conditions of their offer.

One of the strengths of the Cambridge admissions system is its ability to assess all applications individually, and all Colleges may modify offers to take account of individual circumstances. This means that some applicants may be set lower or more challenging offers than those listed below and in the course entries, and some offers may specify grades to be achieved in particular subjects.

Transcripts
If you haven’t taken six or more GCSEs/GCSEs or five or more Scottish National qualifications in the last three years, you’re required to submit a transcript outlining details of your qualifications as part of your application. See the College websites for subject requirements/preferences and admissions guidance.
If the qualification you’re taking isn’t listed here, please look online (www.cam.ac.uk/uginternational) as early as possible to check that it provides an appropriate preparation for the course you hope to study.

Applicants taking a mix of qualifications from different examination systems are considered providing that the individual qualifications are acceptable and any subject requirements are met. Conditional offers are made on a case-by-case basis but are normally in line with the typical offers made when the qualifications are taken on their own.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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| Sixth Term Examination Papers in Mathematics (STEP) | • STEP Mathematics is used to assess aptitude for university study in mathematical subjects.  
• It’s used as part of almost all conditional offers from Cambridge for Mathematics and Computer Science with Mathematics. Some Colleges require/may require STEP for other courses needing strong mathematical ability.  
• The STEP content is based on core A Level/IB Higher Level/Scottish Advanced Higher (or equivalent) Mathematics material, and is taken immediately after the A Level examination period. You must speak to your school/college about registering for the STEP assessments.  
• More information and links to resources (including the free online STEP support programme) are available online at: www.cam.ac.uk/step. |
| AQA Baccalaureate                                  | • Offers are conditional on achievement in the A Levels (see p151) within the qualification, rather than the overall Baccalaureate award. |
| Cambridge Pre-U Diploma                            | • Conditional offers are set on an individual basis but are likely to require the achievement of Distinction level grades (D2 or D3) in Principal Subjects. |
| Access to HE Diploma                               | • Attainment of an Access to HE Diploma with Distinctions in all relevant subject units can be acceptable preparation for most arts subjects and Psychological and Behavioural Sciences (PBS) at Cambridge.  
• An Access to HE Diploma alone is not sufficient for sciences (excluding PBS) or Economics at Cambridge.  
• Some courses may have additional academic requirements (see online for details).  
• In all cases, contact a College admissions office for advice. |
| Advanced Diploma                                   | • The Advanced Diploma in Environmental and Land-based Studies is acceptable for Geography and Natural Sciences (Biological) Conditions apply in all cases (details online). |
| European Baccalaureate                             | • 85-90 per cent overall, with 90 per cent in subjects most closely related to the course you want to study. |
| French Baccalaureate                               | • 16 or 17 (mention très bien) out of 20, with 16 or 17 usually required in individual subjects. |
| German Abitur                                       | • Between 1.0 and 1.3 overall, with 14 or 15 in subjects most closely related to the course you want to study. |
| Advanced Placement (AP) Tests                      | • Successful applicants normally have high passes in the High School Diploma and the SAT, and 5s in at least five AP Tests in appropriate subjects. |
| VCE and Applied A Levels, GNVQs and BTECs          | • These qualifications aren’t an appropriate preparation for most Cambridge courses, although a combination of A Levels and VCE or other qualifications may be acceptable for some courses.  
• See the website for guidance and seek further advice from a College Admissions Tutor. |
| Edexcel International Diploma (Academic Route)     | • Offers are conditional on achievement in the A Levels (see p151) within the qualification rather than the overall Diploma award. |
| English language requirements                      | • If your first language isn’t English, please see p39. |

www.cam.ac.uk/entrancerequirements

Frequently Asked Questions

What extra-curricular activities will help my chances of admission?  
As our admissions decisions are based on academic criteria (ability and potential), your participation (or not) in specific extra-curricular activities isn’t taken into account (unless it’s relevant to the course you’re applying for) and doesn’t affect your chances of being made an offer of a place at Cambridge.  
However, when composing your personal statement you should consider the importance of your other university choices may place on extra-curricular activities.  

What work experience do I need to have?  
Work experience isn’t expected or required. However, for vocational courses, such as Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, having some relevant work experience is useful and recommended. It demonstrates commitment to your intended career and gives you the opportunity to acquire greater understanding of the realities and pressures associated with that career.  

I go to a state/private school – will this matter?  
We don’t discriminate for or against applicants because of the type of school they attend, and research shows that students from different educational backgrounds do equally well at Cambridge.

Can I take a gap year?  
Around six per cent of students accepted to Cambridge take a gap year. You should state your intention to defer entry in your UCAS application and be prepared to talk about your proposed year out at interview (if interviewed).  
Please also refer to the specific course pages if you’re considering applying for Engineering (p66), Mathematics (p87) or the Graduate Course in Medicine (p91).  

Can students at other UK universities apply?  
The Cambridge Colleges will only consider applications to Cambridge from students enrolled on degree courses at other UK universities in very exceptional circumstances. Any application to study at Cambridge would need strong support from your course director or other academic tutor at your current university. A reference or letter of recommendation from that person would be required before a Cambridge College would consider an application, and such applications would still be subject to the same academic assessment as any other application to the University. Contact a College admissions office for advice.
Open Days and Events

You don't have to visit Cambridge to apply to the University but our open days and events offer opportunities to get a feel for the place, talk to staff and students, and ask any questions.

Cambridge Open Days 5 and 6 July 2018

The Cambridge Open Days for prospective applicants in Year 12 (or equivalent) will be on 5 and 6 July (booking is essential).

All subjects will be offering course presentations and/or information stands. Tours and additional sessions may also be available in subject departments, for which separate bookings may be required.

Many Colleges will be open all day for Cambridge Open Day visitors. However, some will be holding their own College-specific event, for which a separate booking with that College is required.

See the Undergraduate Study website for more details, booking instructions and information about department and College open days.

Further information www.cam.ac.uk/opendays

College open days

During College open days you can pick up a range of information and get a sense of College life, but remember that visiting a particular College doesn't commit you to applying to that College. See the individual College entries (p121-49) for dates confirmed at the time of going to print, and refer to the relevant websites for more information and booking instructions. Additional dates may be offered so please check online for updates.

Department open days

Department open days focus on the specific course(s) in that faculty or department. You get to meet some lecturers, and see the library and other facilities. See the separate booking with that College is required.

Each subject-specific Masterclass involves two or three taster lectures, an overview of the admissions process and chance to speak to current undergraduates.

Masterclasses are for students in Year 12 (or equivalent) and take place on selected days throughout the year – booking is required, and usually opens approximately two months before each Masterclass.

Events information for teachers and HE advisers

Events for you

A number of events for teachers and HE advisers are organized by the Cambridge Admissions Office and several of the Colleges to provide up-to-date information about the University, application procedure and outreach activities offered. Details are available in the teachers’ and advisers’ area of our website at: www.cam.ac.uk/teachers.

Events for your students

In addition to those already mentioned, we offer a number of other events that you may wish to consider or highlight to your students in the next academic year:

- The Subject Matters (Year 11 or equivalent)
- regional Oxford and Cambridge Student Conferences (Year 12 or equivalent)
- subject-specific residential Sutton Trust Summer Schools (Year 12 or equivalent)
- CUSU’s residential Shadowing Scheme (Year 12 or equivalent; and prospective mature students)

Some are open to any students in the relevant school year but some have eligibility criteria, and booking/application procedures vary. See the Undergraduate Study website (www.cam.ac.uk/outreach/events) or CUSU website (www.applytocambridge.com/shadowing) for details.

College Area Links Scheme

The Scheme links every local authority area in England to a specific Cambridge College. There are also links between Cambridge Colleges and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

It was established to build effective relationships with UK schools and colleges by enabling the Cambridge Colleges to develop knowledge and understanding of particular regions, and providing schools and colleges with specific contact points for the University. If you’d like information about the University or to arrange a school visit to or from Cambridge, your link College is keen to hear from you! Each College runs its own programme of activities for schools/colleges in their link regions. For more details visit: www.cam.ac.uk/arealinks.

CUSU Target Scheme

The Target Scheme is a student-run initiative whereby current Cambridge undergraduates visit state schools/colleges across the country (where possible, in their home region). The visits are intended to give information to Year 12 (or equivalent) students and provide an opportunity for them to hear about the University from a current student’s perspective. The Target Scheme can also offer sessions on post-A Level choices to younger students.

Information about the Scheme and how to request a visit can be found online at: www.target.cusu.co.uk or by contacting the CUSU Access Officer (see p156).

Other events

Subject Masterclasses

Subject Masterclasses provide an opportunity to explore topics of interest beyond what’s covered at A Level/IB Higher Level, and to experience typical undergraduate teaching at Cambridge. Each subject-specific Masterclass involves two or three taster lectures, an overview of the admissions process and chance to speak to current undergraduates.

Subject Masterclasses are for students in Year 12 (or equivalent) and take place on selected days throughout the year – booking is required, and usually opens approximately two months before each Masterclass.

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Finding Out More

Should you have any further questions after reading this Prospectus, please get in touch.

Cambridge is a small and busy city that wasn’t built with modern traffic flows in mind, so it’s best to visit the centre – where many of the University buildings and Colleges are situated – on foot.

Distances to Cambridge

- Aberdeen 460 miles
- Edinburgh 335 miles
- Newcastle 230 miles
- Leeds 150 miles
- Manchester 170 miles
- Nottingham 85 miles
- Birmingham 100 miles
- Cardiff 200 miles
- London 60 miles
- Southampton 130 miles
- Exeter 240 miles

By car
If you’re planning to drive to Cambridge, we strongly recommend that you use the Park and Ride scheme as parking is limited and several city centre roads have restricted access. Information is available online at: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/parkandride.

Disabled parking is available in the city’s car parks and on some streets. Please check in advance with the Cambridge Tourist Information Centre (see opposite) or on our website at: www.cam.ac.uk/disability/guide/city.

By bus
Cambridge bus station is centrally located, and there’s a ‘Universal’ bus service which runs from the Madingley Road Park and Ride site through to Addenbrooke’s Hospital (Monday to Saturday).

By train
Cambridge is well-connected by train and the main station is located about one mile from the city centre (around 20 minutes on foot). Buses run frequently between the station and city centre, and there’s a taxi rank outside the station.

By air
The nearest airports to Cambridge are Stansted (30 miles) and Luton (40 miles). There’s a direct train link to Cambridge from Stansted, and Heathrow and Gatwick are also easily accessible by train. In addition, buses regularly run from Stansted, Luton, Heathrow and Gatwick to the city centre.
Example journeys

5 minutes
To Cambridge North Railway Station (CMB)

15 minutes
To M11 JUNCTION 12 and Barton

10 minutes
To M11 JUNCTION 11 and A14

35 minutes
To West Cambridge Site

Colleges

1. Christ's College
2. Churchill College
3. Clare College
4. Corpus Christi College
5. Downing College
6. Emmanuel College
7. Fitzwilliam College
8. Girton College
9. Girnville & Causa College
10. Homerton College
11. Hughes Hall
12. Jesus College
13. King's College
14. Lucy Cavendish College
15. Magdalene College
16. Murray Edwards College
17. Newnham College
18. Pembroke College
19. Peterhouse
20. Queens' College
21. Robinson College
22. St Catharine's College
23. St John's College
24. St John's College
25. Sidney Sussex College
26. Trinity College
27. Trinity Hall
28. Wolfson College

www.cam.ac.uk/map
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About this Prospectus

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this Undergraduate Prospectus at the time of going to print. However, changes and developments may occur, eg to fees, courses, staff and services described in this Prospectus. Any course changes need the approval of the University’s Education Committee, which has student representation on it and is keen to never disadvantage students.

In order to ensure that you have all the important information you require to enable you to make any decisions please check the Undergraduate Study website (www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk) and other websites (as indicated in this Prospectus) for the most up-to-date information.

The Colleges are responsible for the information provided by them for the Prospectus, and for complying with admissions procedures and making decisions on undergraduate admissions. Any concerns about this should be directed to the relevant College.

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For more information contact one of the College admissions offices or:

Cambridge Admissions Office
Fitzwilliam House
32 Trumpington Street
Cambridge CB2 1QY

01223 333308
admissions@cam.ac.uk
www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk