For hundreds of years, Cambridge has nurtured generation after generation of students.

The collegiate University is bound together by a deep-rooted sense of community, shared purposes and a willingness to share resources and talents. Our commitment to excellence in education, learning and research is uncompromising and lived out in practice every day in our lecture theatres and supervision rooms, our libraries and labs.

My student days at Cambridge offered me the precious opportunity to challenge and deepen my knowledge. But they also provided the space and the time to broaden my intellectual horizons, allowing me to read voraciously and widely, and to interact with one of the most stimulating and diverse groups of people I had ever met – staff and students from around the globe.

At Cambridge, we continue to reach our hands outward. As we do so, we welcome an ever more diverse group of students who have the desire and ability to learn and produce new insights that shift our understanding of the world around us.

Professor Stephen Toope
Vice-Chancellor
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### A collegiate university: who does what?

Cambridge is a ‘collegiate’ university – it’s made up of faculties/departments in different academic subjects and Colleges.

**The University (through its faculties/departments):**

- determines course content  
- organises lectures, seminars, practicals and projects  
- sets and marks examinations  
- awards degrees

**The Colleges:**

- admit undergraduate students  
- organise small-group teaching (supervisions)  
- offer accommodation, places to eat and recreational facilities  
- provide pastoral and academic care

More than 65 subjects are offered within our undergraduate courses – see the Index (p160-2) for a full list of subjects.

For advice on how to choose a College see p118-20 and look through the College profiles to find out more.

Make sure to check relevant websites (referred to throughout this Prospectus) for further details, advice relevant to some students and courses, as well as the most up-to-date information.

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk
Cambridge Students

To help you to get a sense of what it’s like to study here, we’ve included comments from some of our students about how they find life at the University throughout this Prospectus. You can listen to more student perspectives online (www.youtube.com/CambridgeUniversity).

Cambridge is a fantastic place to live while studying and has everything you could want from a city, with loads of pubs and bars, museums, theatres, and cafes.

With the College and supervision systems, it’s really hard to slip through the gaps, both in terms of welfare and your academic life. Seeing your supervisor every week means if you start to struggle with your work, it’s picked up on really quickly and there are lots of provisions in place to make sure you get back up to speed.

Charlie
Stoke-on-Trent

Supervisions are great. Having like-minded people around you 24/7 really pushes you and motivates you, you get to discuss and talk about things that you never could before.

Zain
Mauritius

Cambridge is such a beautiful place to live and work, and I always feel safe when out and about. Walking down to Grantchester, visiting the orchard and tearooms is a definite ‘bucket list’ item for the summer. Seeing the Footlights at the ADC Theatre is also a great evening out and you never know if you’ll see the next big acting name when they’re just starting out!

Laura
Horsham

I chose my course because it offered flexibility to pursue different options, allowing me to not only study one subject, but a range of related topics. The course is rigorous and challenging, and always pushes you to be the best you can be while offering the resources to do so. Although the workload can be heavy, by organising myself properly I still make plenty of time for relaxing and socialising.

Making friends was one of my biggest worries coming to Cambridge, but there are so many people who share your interests. I’ve made great friends and the College system makes it really easy to meet people. I’ve joined science and sports societies as well as helping out with University outreach, so there’s really something for everyone if you want to meet people or learn something new.

Ceara
Belfast

The Careers Service is excellent – I’ve been to a number of useful events and talks. The main way I’ve benefited is through an internship scheme. It’s run by the Careers Service and places undergraduates (and recent graduates) with organisations for summer internship positions. I obtained an eight-week internship. It was a brilliant experience: I developed lots of valuable skills, made useful contributions to a charity’s work and learned an awful lot.

Bryony
Wolverhampton

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Bryony
Wolverhampton
Applying to Cambridge

If you want to apply to the University, you do so through UCAS. However, at Cambridge the process starts earlier to allow time for all of the application information to be gathered and considered. This section guides you through the process and explains what we’re looking for in prospective students and how we assess applications.

1 Course

You’re going to be studying to a very high level for several years, so, make sure you choose a course you’re personally interested in and will really enjoy studying! See p44-117 for course information.

2 College

Where would you like to live when you’re here? In your UCAS application, indicate if you have a preference College or if you’re making an open application. See p118-20 for guidance on choosing.

Apply

Submit your UCAS application online1 by 15 October2 – our institution code is CAM G05.

Soon after, submit your Supplementary Application Questionnaire (SAQ) – a few extra questions requesting information not included in your UCAS application which we find helpful.

Written assessment

Most applicants are required to take a written assessment, either pre-interview or at interview (if interviewed).

Interview

Everyone with a realistic chance of being offered a place is invited to attend an interview. That’s around 75 per cent of applicants each year.

If you decide to apply, you can find films and full information about interviews online.

Decision

We’ll advise you of our decision before the end of January. See p10.

1 You also need to submit an additional application form if you’re living or attending school/college outside the EU at the time of application (see p5), applying for the Graduate Course in Medicine (see p9), and/or applying for an Organ Scholarship (see p19). Please note that it’s not possible to apply to both the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford in the same year.

2 Other application deadlines apply for those wishing to be considered for interview in particular overseas countries (see p40), and for some mature applicants (see p35).
What are we looking for?
Admissions decisions at the University are based solely on academic criteria — your ability and potential. We assess everyone individually, which means that we look at — and for — different things in different people for different courses. Consequently, there’s no magic formula that will guarantee you’re offered a place. However, all Admissions Tutors are looking for students who they believe:
• have the most academic ability and potential
• will benefit from and flourish in the Cambridge learning environment
• are best suited to the course for which they applied

Academic ability and potential
We’re looking for students with the academic ability and potential to flourish at the University. Therefore, you should be aiming for excellent examination grades.
• Typical A Level/IB offers and subject requirements are outlined on the relevant course pages (see p44–117).
• Further guidance on entry requirements as well as typical offers for a range of other qualifications – including Scottish and Welsh qualifications and the Irish Leaving Certificate – can be found on p151–2.
• Our Subject Matters leaflet (www.cam.ac.uk/ugpublications) gives advice about subjects and subject combinations.

Learning at Cambridge
We’re looking for an indication of your ability to think critically and independently, and your willingness to argue logically while keeping your mind open to new ideas. You also need self-discipline, motivation, commitment, and the desire and potential to go beyond what you’ve learned so far. See also p12.

Suitability and enthusiasm for your course
Finally, we’re looking for students who really want to learn about the subject they’ve applied for and aren’t just interested in the degree at the end, important though this is. Think carefully about your options and which course(s) and subject area(s) you’re most enthused and inspired about studying for the next few years.

If you think you have these qualities, we’re looking for students like you and hope you’ll apply.

Don’t let the prospect of not getting a place put you off applying. We can’t offer you a place if you don’t apply to us!

How do we assess applications?
There’s no blueprint for an ideal Cambridge student and we want to give applicants as many opportunities as possible to demonstrate their strengths and potential. Therefore, each application is considered individually and holistically, using all of the following information:
• academic record
• school/college reference
• personal statement
• any written work submitted
• performance in any written assessment

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/apply

Extenuating circumstances
If your education has been seriously disrupted or disadvantaged, your school/college referee (or your doctor or social worker, if appropriate) should complete the Extenuating Circumstances Form (available online) by 15 October 2018.
The information provided on the form gives context against which Admissions Tutors can consider your academic record and, if appropriate, your performance at interview.
The sort of extenuating circumstances that this form should be used to advise us of include:
• a serious, acute or chronic medical condition (especially since the age of 14)
• significant caring responsibilities or recent bereavement or serious illness within close family
• any kind of disruption due to adverse family circumstances
• serious disruption due to educational provision at school/college
• other circumstances where disruption has occurred
See online for more details. If you or your referee wish to discuss your particular situation, please contact a College admissions office for advice as early as possible.

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/apply

Applying from outside the EU
If you’re living and/or attending school/college outside the EU at the time of your application, in addition to your online UCAS application you need to submit a Cambridge Online Preliminary Application (COPA).1
If you’re attending school/college within the EU at the time of your application (even if you live outside the EU), you don’t need to submit a COPA.
For most students, the UCAS application must be submitted by 15 October 2018 and the COPA submitted by 19 October 2018.2

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/uginternational

1 There’s an overseas application fee associated with the COPA, as well as an interview fee for those interviewed overseas. See the website for more information.
2 Other application deadlines apply for those wishing to be considered for interview in particular overseas countries (see p40).
Our decision

All undergraduate admissions decisions are the responsibility of the Cambridge Colleges. Following the assessment of your application, there are two possible outcomes.

1. You’re made an offer.
   This might be from the College you applied/were allocated to, or from a different College as a result of your application being ‘pooled’ (see opposite). An offer may be unconditional, or conditional and dependent on achieving certain grades in the qualifications you’re taking.

2. Your application is unsuccessful.
   With around five applications per place, every year we have to turn down many students whom we would like to have taken. If your application isn’t successful, although this may be disappointing, we hope you’ll have found the process a useful experience and valuable preparation for your other university choices.

What’s the most important part of my application?

Every application is assessed holistically – Admissions Tutors consider all of the information available (see p9) together before making any decisions. While the most recent academic performance carries the greatest weight, the relative importance of each element varies because each student is different. No part of an application is considered in isolation; for example, a student’s performance at interview alone doesn’t determine the outcome of their application. See also p153 for other frequently asked questions.

The pools

The ‘winter pool’ is designed to ensure that the best applicants who have been squeezed out by the competition at their original College are offered places – Colleges would rather admit a strong applicant from the pool than a weaker applicant who applied directly/was allocated to them.

Although impressed by your application, your College may not have a place for you and so may pool your application for other Colleges to consider.

Some pooled applicants may be asked to attend another interview in early January. When all pooled applications have been reviewed, you may be offered a place by a different College. If no College can offer you a place, your original College will advise you of this decision by the end of January.

Typically, one in four applicants is pooled and, of these, around one in four is made an offer of a place by a different College to the one they applied/were allocated to (1,169 for 2017 entry).

In a few cases, offer holders who haven’t quite met the conditions of their original offer may still be offered a place following a small ‘summer pool’ that takes place once examination results are released.
Teaching methods

Lectures
Lectures act as a starting point for your own research and typically last around 50 minutes. Depending on the subject anywhere up to several hundred students may attend. Many lecturers are leading academics working at the forefront of their field, so lectures are a fantastic opportunity to find out about the latest research.

Seminars and classes
These are usually for medium-sized groups (eg 10-30 students), last between one and two hours, and provide the opportunity to discuss particular topics in more detail. They’re led by academics but you’re expected to contribute actively.

Practicals
Sometimes called ‘labs’ or laboratory classes. Practical work on some courses may be assessed.

Supervisions
This system of personal tuition is one of Cambridge’s greatest strengths. Supervisions provide the opportunity to explore your subject more deeply, discuss your own work and ideas, and receive regular feedback. As they aren’t assessed, supervisions provide the ideal environment for you to test your ideas and interests, while encouraging you to develop your thinking.

• Supervisions are small-group sessions (most often for between one and three students) with a supervisor (an academic), which are organised by your Director of Studies (see p26).
• You do some preparation for each supervision – usually reading, writing an essay or working on some problems. In the session, you get feedback on your work and talk about/present your ideas.
• Supervisors are specialists in particular subject areas (they may be one of the country’s or world’s leading authorities). So, throughout your course you go to different supervisors as what you’re studying changes.
• Typically, you have one or two hour-long supervisions each week, though the frequency varies from course to course.

Field trips, study visits, language courses, study abroad
Several courses include opportunities to go on field trips, study visits or language courses, or to study abroad through exchange programmes. Naturally, where you go, how long for and what you do varies depending on your course. The faculties, departments and Colleges often have funds available to help you go on trips in Britain and abroad.

Independent research
A chance to carry out your own research, test out theories and put forward your own ideas. Your work might even get published while you’re still an undergraduate.

Your work is marked by your supervisor, who then provides you with a draft report and new ideas for development. You then have an hour-long meeting with your supervisor to discuss this feedback. This can be a very exciting time, and is designed to help you progress.

How you’re taught
At Cambridge, the University faculty or department arranges lectures, seminars and practicals that students from all Colleges attend together. Your College also arranges supervisions (see opposite) for you.

Each academic year consists of three eight-week terms. As the terms are short, the pace and volume of work is likely to be greater than you’re currently used to and there’s much greater emphasis on independent and self-directed study here compared to school or college.

During term time, you’re expected to spend an average of 42-46 hours a week on your academic studies (including teaching/contact time and independent study), and you also need to undertake some work during the vacations (eg further reading/research, revision, assignments).

Every student adjusts to this new workload in their own way and time, and there are plenty of people who can offer advice and support while you get settled in and throughout your degree (see p26-9).
Facilities and resources
We admit the most academically able and motivated students and provide them with inspiring, world class teaching. We’re confident that we also offer the best resources and facilities to support their learning.

Libraries
You certainly won’t be short of libraries at Cambridge – the collegiate University has more than 100!
- College libraries contain standard course texts and other related materials.
- Faculty and department libraries offer more specialised collections and electronic resources for particular subjects.
- The main University Library (or UL) is a legal deposit library holding more than eight million books, journals and other documents ranging in age from 3,000 year-old manuscripts to the latest electronic articles.
- You can use the online Spacefinder tool to find out about libraries and other study spaces across the city.

Further information
www.lib.cam.ac.uk/teaching-and-learning

Computing and IT
The University Information Services (UIS) work in partnership with your College and department to provide computing facilities to help you with your academic work.
Most student rooms are connected to the University network and internet, and wi-fi is available throughout the University and Colleges. In addition, all Colleges and many departments have computer rooms offering a range of general and specialist software, as well as printers and scanners.
The UIS offers comprehensive support, including:
- a service desk
- an email account and central file storage
- training courses
- assistive technology advice and training for users with specific requirements

Further information
www.uis.cam.ac.uk

Language Centre
The Language Centre provides language-learning opportunities to all students wishing to take up or continue a language. Our Language Programme (CULP) offers taught courses at various levels in a number of languages. We also run a popular conversation exchange scheme with native speakers, and conversation sessions for students to maintain their spoken ability. For international students, we offer an academic English support programme.
Our range of static and interactive resources includes books, CDs, foreign films and online programmes. In addition, the John Trim Centre houses self-study resources in more than 180 languages (including English) and a dedicated Advising Team is available to help and advise.

Further information
www.langcen.cam.ac.uk

Museums and collections
Cambridge has nine specialist museums and collections, all of which are open to students and the public. The fascinating exhibits range from dinosaurs to modern art, and rock samples to Rembrandt. Even if none relate directly to your course, a look at the whale skeletons, classical sculpture or the totem poles from Vancouver has to add something to your time at Cambridge!

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/museums

I chose my course at Cambridge because it would let me obtain a ‘broad grounding’ before specialising in the final year. The teaching was something that attracted me too – the one-on-one supervisions are a perfect way to ask all those questions you’re dying to have answered. The Faculty and library staff are supportive and resourceful in helping students in any way possible, and the Faculty library is such a wonderful and open work environment.

Laura
Cumbria

To ensure you get the most from the University’s libraries, the UL and many of the College, faculty and department libraries offer practical sessions and one-to-one help. These include introductory tours, sessions to highlight the resources available for particular disciplines and information skills classes.

www.uis.cam.ac.uk/courses
We have a great social scene here. There’s loads going on within the University and Colleges, and with students accounting for about a fifth of the city’s overall population, Cambridge is a great place to be a student.

Cambridge University
Students’ Union (CUSU)
Your time at Cambridge isn’t just about academic work – it’s important that you have time out from your studies and get involved socially too.

CUSU represents the interests of all University students and provides a range of central services and support beyond those delivered by the Colleges.

Led by six elected full-time student officers, CUSU:
- represents the student body on University committees
- runs the professionally staffed Advice Service
- offers training to College officers to deliver welfare support and services
- champions diversity and access group campaigns
- manages the Alternative Prospectus website (which includes the ‘Ask a Student’ facility)

Every College also has its own students’ union, to which undergraduates are elected to represent students at a College level. So, if you want to have a say in student affairs, consider running for election!

Further information
- www.cusu.co.uk
- Alternative Prospectus website
- www.applytocambridge.com

Student societies
University is about trying new things. At Cambridge, you can do almost anything at almost any level, from ‘having a go’ to semi-professional. Your extra-curricular activities might provide a springboard for careers or be part of life beyond university too.

Community and charity
Cambridge students are very active in numerous community projects, campaigns and charity work, both locally and worldwide.

Cambridge RAG raises more than £100,000 annually for 10 student-selected charities. Jailbreak is one of their most popular fundraisers, with sponsored students racing to get as far as possible without spending anything in just 36 hours. Former jailbreakers have reached Australia, Brazil, Singapore, Spain and New York.

Other community and charity groups include:
- Amnesty International
- FoodCycle Cambridge
- Cambridge Hub

Other drama societies include:
- Marlowe Society
- Cambridge Improvauts
- Musical Theatre Society

Drama
Cambridge is renowned for its student-produced drama. From the cutting-edge comedy of the Cambridge Footlights to classical plays, popular musicals and original productions, there’s something for everyone.

Auditions are often open to all and there are opportunities to direct, produce, and get involved with set design, lighting, sound, stage management, costume, make-up and front of house, even if you’ve never done it before.

There are excellent performing arts facilities around Cambridge. In addition to the University’s ADC Theatre, a number of Colleges have their own purpose-built auditoria and several major productions take place in the city’s Corn Exchange and Arts Theatre.

The CUSU Team wishes you all the best in your application.

Daisy Eyre
CUSU President

Student Life

What can I say about my three years at Cambridge? My time was packed full of essay deadlines to meet, friends to see and everything in between. Each student’s time at Cambridge is different and special in its own way – everyone finds their own hobbies and passions!

As your central students’ union, CUSU is here to ensure that the student experience is as fulfilling as possible and that you have access to the resources and information needed to make the most of your time here. As officers elected by you, we represent your interests on committees, offer essential professional services, and provide welfare support and training.

Students are always welcome to pop into the CUSU offices for a chat with the Sabbatical Officer Team – tell us how you want to shape the University and we’ll help you to do it.

The CUSU Team wishes you all the best in your application.

Daisy Eyre
CUSU President

Top 5
for good extra-curricular activities/societies (THE Student Experience Survey 2017).

100
of student clubs to choose from.
Media
If you’d like to try your hand at journalism, there are two student newspapers (Varsity and The Cambridge Student) and various other publications to get involved with. As well as CU-TV and the University’s award-winning radio station, Cam FM, (presented by University members and offering training in many aspects of radio), there are groups focused on photography and film-making.

Other media societies include:
- Bluesci magazine
- Advertising and Marketing Society
- Photographic Society

Politics
Cambridge is politically diverse and engaged, so it’s a great place for students to debate local, national and international issues or just learn more about them.

There are numerous political clubs and societies, such as CUSU, your College students’ union, and the Union Society, where high profile speakers – such as Senator Bernie Sanders, Leomie Anderson, Stephen Fry and Judith Kerr – speak alongside students.

Other political societies include:
- Model United Nations
- Cambridge Defend Education
- TEDxCambridgeUniversity

Other interests?
As well as those already mentioned there are societies relating to:
- dance
- the environment
- food and drink
- religion/faith
- science and technology
- academic subjects

See the Societies Directory on the CUSU website for the full range.

Music
There’s an enormous range of music societies and student bands; for any style and level of experience. Many Colleges run open mic nights and numerous bands, choirs and orchestras regularly record and tour nationally and internationally.

The Faculty of Music offers masterclasses and workshops, and has an extensive collection of instruments that can be used by students (some instruments may be available to hire).

Music groups include:
- a capella groups
- Baroque Ensemble
- Brass Band Society
- Ceilidh Band
- Chamber Orchestra
- Concert Band
- Jazz Orchestra
- Mixtape Society
- Opera Society
- Recorder Ensemble
- Rock Society
- Show Choir
- String Ensemble
- Symphony Orchestra

Music awards
If you’re already a singer/chorister, organist or instrumentalist of a high standard, you may like to consider one of our music awards.

Choral and organ awards
Student organists and choirsters provide music for regular chapel services and perform in College concerts, with some touring in the UK or abroad as well. The awards vary from College to College but all include a small financial contribution and some support for music lessons.

Instrumental Awards Scheme
The Instrumental Awards Scheme enables gifted musicians to reach a high standard of performance in chamber music. Successful students are award-holders for a year, and receive a small financial contribution (an ‘exhibition’), professional coaching of their ensemble, masterclasses, recital opportunities and a subsidy for instrumental lessons.

Players of violin, viola, cello, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, French horn or piano are eligible to apply. Associate membership of the Scheme is open to players of trumpet, horn, trombone and tuba, and other standard orchestral instruments used in chamber repertory (eg double bass, harp). A minimum of Distinction at Grade 8 of the Associated Board or similar is required, though please note that most successful candidates are of Diploma standard.

Further details of the Choral Award, Organ Scholarship and Instrumental Awards Schemes are available online, and individual College websites provide information about the musical activities undertaken and enjoyed by their music award-holders.

Music awards application deadlines
- Organ Scholarship Scheme – 1 September 2018
- Choral Award Scheme – 15 February 2019
- Instrumental Awards Scheme – 28 February 2019

Further information
See the Societies Directory on the CUSU website for the full range.

I would recommend trying out lots of different things and seeing what fits with you. I tried going to the Massage Society in my first term with my friend for a laugh and absolutely hated it, but she still goes! University is a great time to find out more about what you do and don’t love, and being really involved in different societies is a wonderful way to make friends across all of the different Colleges.

Rachel
Birmingham

Further information
www.cusu.co.uk/get-involved/societies

Continued overleaf
Sport
The sports scene at Cambridge is huge. Whether you want to improve your health, try a new activity, become a coach/match official, train for competitions or represent the University in your sport, we can help you to achieve your goals. Just about every sport you can think of is on offer here, including team games, water sports, martial arts, racket sports and extreme sports. Many clubs exhibit at the Societies (Freshers’) Fair and have taster sessions at the beginning of the year.

More than 80 sports including:
- American football
- athletics
- badminton
- ballet
- basketball
- capoeira
- caving
- cheerleading
- cricket
- cycling
- diving
- golf
- gymnastics
- handball
- hockey
- ice hockey
- kayaking
- kickboxing
- mixed martial arts
- modern pentathlon
- motor sports
- netball
- orienteering
- powerlifting
- rowing
- rugby
- skiing
- snowboarding
- squash
- swimming
- trampolining
- triathlon
- Ultimate Frisbee
- volleyball
- water polo
- windsurfing

Sport for all levels
There are College teams for novices and experts alike to compete in inter-College leagues and cup competitions. Alternatively, you could try out for one of the University teams to represent Cambridge against other universities, and local and national club sides.

Facilities
The University’s state-of-the-art Sports Centre houses a 37m x 34m hall that provides for sports including archery, badminton, basketball, five-a-side football, trampolining, volleyball and more. In addition, the Sports Centre offers:
- a multi-purpose room for floor-based sports such as martial arts, fencing and dance
- a team training room with a training rig
- an AstroTurf strip
- a permanent boxing ring
- five glass-backed squash courts
- rugby fives courts
- a fitness suite, equipped with the latest cardiovascular and strength training equipment
- a strength and conditioning room containing eight Olympic lifting platforms and a plyometric track

Subject to funding, future developments will add indoor and outdoor tennis courts and a 50-metre swimming pool.
Colleges also provide facilities for traditional team games and sports such as tennis and rowing, and many have their own gym and other sports facilities too. There are several sports centres, gyms and pools around the city as well.

Financial support
Some financial support is available for students studying at the University who play competitive sport at a high level or wish to progress within coaching or officiating. For further details see the Sports Service website.

Further information
www.sport.cam.ac.uk

www.cam.ac.uk/studentlife
In and around Cambridge

Cambridge is a vibrant city that embraces the old and the new. It combines the welcoming feel of a small town with the variety and energy of a larger city.

Entertainment and comedy
However you like to spend your time, there’s always something to keep you entertained. Cambridge has four theatres, three cinemas, and two major entertainment venues – The Junction and The Corn Exchange – offering varied programmes that include comedy, drama, dance, concerts and club nights.

Those into comedy won’t be disappointed as, along with student groups and the annual Comedy Festival in July (featuring many Edinburgh previews), Cambridge regularly attracts top stand-up acts. In the last year, the city has hosted Ricky Gervais, Stewart Lee, Mae Martin, Andy Parsons, Abandoman, Pam Ann, Russell Brand, Reginald D Hunter and Steve Bugeja.

Music
Live music is a big part of life in both the city and University, from buskers and pub gigs, to classical concerts and big name acts. Among many others, PINS, Orkestra Mendezza, Future Islands, Ryan Adams, Jake Bugg, Dizzee Rascal, Regina Skeptor, Curtis Eller, Mad Dog McCrea, Alison Balsom and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra have all performed here in the last year.

The city hosts a growing number of music festivals too. Most well-known is the Folk Festival, but others include the Jazz Festival, Jazz and Brass in the Parks, the Rock Festival and the Buskers and Street Performers Festival.

Pubs, clubs and restaurants
Cambridge has a great range of pubs – there are more than 100 before you start to count the dozens of College and University bars! The city has a mix of clubs offering everything you’d expect – a variety of music nights alongside cheap entry and offers for students.

There’s a great selection of places to eat too. Something for any mood, taste, occasion, and price range. Better still, there are lots of discounts and special deals for students at various restaurants and cafés.

Shopping
Cambridge’s three shopping centres and the city’s central streets house most high street names alongside independent shops and boutiques. The stalls in Market Square sell handmade jewellery, vintage clothes books and much more. You can pick up baked goods and local produce as well as a range of street food.

Just on the edge of the city centre, is an eclectic mix of shops, cafés and restaurants on Mill Road (www.mill-road.com), offering anything from just about anywhere in the world and to suit any budget.

Outside the city
If you want to explore further afield, London is just 50 minutes away by train and there’s plenty to discover in the region, for instance:

- walking and cycling routes
- punting up the river to Grantchester
- Ely and its cathedral
- local National Trust and English Heritage properties
- nature reserves, wildlife parks and zoos
- karting, a real snow slope, and indoor skydiving

The city also offers lots of other events, fairs and festivals throughout the year, including:

- Watersprite International Student Film Festival
- History Festival
- Literary Festival
- Eat Cambridge Festival
- Beer Festival
- Strawberry Fair
- Midsummer Fair
- Shakespeare Festival
- Film Festival
- Dragonboat Festival
- Mill Road Winter Fair
Accommodation

Cambridge guarantees most students College-owned accommodation for three years, and many Colleges provide for fourth-year students too, so you don’t have to find private accommodation after your first year.1 Much more than just a hall of residence, your College is where you do a lot of your studying and socialising.

Where is the accommodation?
Some Colleges have all their accommodation on their main College site. Others have some on their main site plus a range of College-owned flats/houses around the city. Either way, most accommodation is within easy walking or cycling distance of the University departments and facilities, and the city centre. See the map on p158-9 for locations.

What’s the accommodation like?
There’s a variety of accommodation available – rooms vary from medieval to modern, and you usually have a choice of en suite or shared bathroom facilities. Whatever the style, you have a room of your own and access to a shared kitchen and laundry room. All Colleges provide a library and computer suite too (see also p14-5).

Somewhere to relax
The social hub of every College is its common room and bar (also known as a JCR, or Junior Common/Combination Room), usually offering TVs, newspapers, pool tables, or computer games.

Colleges have a wide range of sports and music facilities too – such as playing fields, gyms, practice rooms and performance venues. See p19-21 for more information about music and sport at the University.

Not far to travel
Accommodation is close to the city centre and within walking or cycling distance of departments.

College life is nice; it gives you a good environment to meet a whole cross-section of people from around the world with their own unique interests and passions. I’ve made a lot of very good friends here and found it to be a friendly, inclusive place.

Kiran
Corby

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Somewhere to eat
At Cambridge, you don’t have to choose between ‘catered’ or ‘self-catered’ accommodation. Basic self-catering facilities are available if you want to cook for yourself, and all Colleges provide dining facilities where you can buy cafeteria-style meals as well as three-course dinners (known as ‘formal halls’) at a reasonable price (see p31).

The Colleges encourage communal dining; it’s a chance to catch up with friends and meet new people. A small number of Colleges require you to have a certain number of meals in the Buttery or dining hall each term (see College websites for details).

Porters
Every College has a team of Porters to maintain the safety and security of staff and students. One of the linchpins of College life, the Porters are often a first point of contact about any problems in College or if you need any information.

How does Cambridge compare?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
<th>Annually</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge Colleges (shared bathroom)2</td>
<td>£75-£195</td>
<td>£2,250-£5,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East of England average3</td>
<td>£131.44</td>
<td>£5,257.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National average3</td>
<td>£134.23</td>
<td>£5,503.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Accommodation guarantee applies to single undergraduates without children at all Colleges except St Edmund’s. All single undergraduates without children are usually expected to live in College-owned accommodation where possible and all students must ordinarily be available to study in Cambridge for the full duration of their course (with the exception of a year abroad where part of the course)
2 Figures based on the most common College accommodation contract length (30 weeks) in 2017-18 – see individual College websites for full details and costs.

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/accommodation

Shorter contracts
Colleges offer shorter annual accommodations contracts (26-39 weeks), so you don’t pay rent during the vacations unless you choose to stay in Cambridge.

Weekly Annually
Cambridge Colleges (shared bathroom) £75-£195 £2,250-£5,850
East of England average £131.44 £5,257.60
National average £134.23 £5,503.43

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Further information
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Shorter contracts
Colleges offer shorter annual accommodations contracts (26-39 weeks), so you don’t pay rent during the vacations unless you choose to stay in Cambridge.
If you need a bit of extra support while at the University, we have an extensive welfare system in place, and consistently one of the lowest drop-out rates in the UK as a result.

Support

Counselling

The University’s Counselling Service offers a free and confidential service to all students at the University. Professional counsellors and mental health advisers are available to talk through any personal or emotional concerns that you might have during your time at the University. More information, as well as a wide range of self-help resources and access to workshops, is available from the Service’s website (www.counselling.cam.ac.uk).

Student parents and childcare

The University’s Childcare Office operates the Information Service that provides comprehensive guidance on family-related matters such as childcare, schooling, health care, financial support and local community resources. The Childcare Office also oversees the facilities and assistance available to student parents, including the West Cambridge Nursery and the Holiday Playscheme.

Some Colleges can provide family accommodation (see the individual College websites). Where this isn’t available, please refer to the central Accommodation Service (www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk).

Further information

Childcare Office

01223 332249
cildcare@admin.cam.ac.uk
www.childcare.admin.cam.ac.uk

I’ve needed a fair bit of support at Cambridge, due to mental and physical illnesses. During a particularly difficult time when I’d been quite ill, my College organised for a Junior Research Fellow from my faculty to help me plan how I was going to get through everything.

One of the most important things I learnt at Cambridge is to prioritise my health – both physical and mental. Studying at Cambridge can be pretty demanding and it’s important to make a bit of time for yourself. It’s perfectly fine to spend a day in bed watching rubbish TV, or take an afternoon off to wander around the Botanic Garden.

Frances
Portsmouth

Students supporting students

Throughout the University and Colleges, there’s an extensive student-run welfare network. The University Students’ Union (CUSU) provides an independent, professional and confidential Advice Service, offering information, support and impartial advice by phone, by email or in person at the CUSU Office.

CUSU also runs campaigns and initiatives about issues surrounding mental health, sexual health and disabilities. As every student is a member of the Students’ Union, CUSU seeks to represent them all effectively.

In addition, every College students’ union has its own welfare officer or team, and many Colleges assign ‘College parents’ (students in other years) to new students to help them settle in and find their feet.

Further information

www.studentadvice.cam.ac.uk

There are various University services and within your College community you have a number of people looking out for your academic and personal welfare and supporting you throughout your time at Cambridge. Students who are struggling with a particular problem or feeling a bit lost won’t go unnoticed.

College welfare

Director of Studies

Your Director of Studies (DoS) is an expert in your subject and usually a Fellow of your College (a senior member of the College whose main duty is teaching, administration or research). Appointed to look after your academic welfare, they:

• advise you on your subject and course choices
• help arrange your supervisions
• monitor your progress and help with any problems arising from your studies

They’re also involved in the admissions process and will probably interview you if you apply.

Tutor

As well as a DoS, you have access to a College Tutor, who’s also an academic but normally in a different subject from yours. They’re there to protect your interests and provide pastoral support, and can advise you on any personal or financial matters.

College staff

Colleges have a variety of people you can turn to for medical or personal support (or just a cup of tea and a chat), such as a nurse, counsellor, and/or chaplain.
Disabled students
The Disability Resource Centre (DRC) offers guidance, information and support, and is an essential contact for disabled applicants and/or applicants with a Specific Learning Difficulty or long-term health condition. The DRC supports individuals with an impairment/disability or long-term health condition, including those with:

- Specific Learning Difficulties (including dyslexia and dyspraxia)
- physical/mobility impairments (including wheelchair users and upper limb disorder/RSI)
- sensory impairments (eg hearing, visual)
- mental health difficulties (eg depression, anxiety disorder)
- long-term health conditions (eg cancer, chronic fatigue syndrome, HIV, diabetes, epilepsy)
- Asperger syndrome, autism and ADHD

If you’re considering Cambridge, you’re advised to get in touch with the DRC and a College admissions office as early as possible to discuss your appropriate support requirements. We strongly recommend that you indicate your disability and provide any relevant information in your UCAS application. Such disclosures are looked at separately from academic assessment and allow us, for example, to make appropriate adjustments to the interview process, if needed. If a particular College meets your specific requirements we recommend you apply to that College rather than make an open application (see p120).

Location and accessibility
Students are based in Colleges for day-to-day living and go to a faculty/departments for lectures, practical work etc. Therefore, we encourage you to visit before applying to assess the suitability of your intended College and department, including their locations relative to each other. The DRC’s online Disability Access Guide is a useful starting point for information regarding facilities and accessibility (www.cam.ac.uk/accessguide).

Study and academic support
With your agreement, the DRC liaises with relevant University and College staff before you start to ensure that appropriate support requirements are established. If you require support workers such as note-takers, specialist one-to-one study skills tutors or personal tutors, the DRC’s Non-Medical Help (NMH) Scheme may be able to help. Information about diagnostic assessments is available from the DRC’s SpLD Team and on the DRC website.

Financial support
Currently, UK students can apply for Disabled Students’ Allowances (DSAs) to cover some of their support costs. It’s important that you begin the application process for DSAs as soon as possible to ensure any available support is in place for the start of your term. In addition, there are specific University funds that disabled students from the UK, EU and overseas may apply for (see the DRC website for details). The DRC can advise offer-holders on appropriate funding applications.

Further information
Disability Resource Centre
01223 332301
disability@admin.cam.ac.uk
www.cam.ac.uk/disability

Examination access arrangements
If you require specific arrangements for examinations (such as additional time, someone to write on your behalf and/or use of a computer), the DRC Team can advise how to organise such arrangements via your College Tutorial Office. Please note that arrangements at university may differ to those in place at school/college.

Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLDs) including dyslexia and dyspraxia
If you have an SpLD you must have a current diagnostic assessment report as evidence for obtaining appropriate adjustments. Information about diagnostic assessments is available from the DRC’s SpLD Team and on the DRC website.

Care leavers
There’s a wide range of support available for care-leaver students at the University, including financial assistance (eg some care leavers are eligible for a higher level of Cambridge Bursary) and a guarantee of 365-day accommodation (if required).

In order to ensure you get the support available to you as a care leaver, you should indicate in your UCAS application that you’ve spent time in care. When you arrive in Cambridge, the Cambridge Admissions Office’s Widening Participation Team will also get in touch to provide you with more information.

If you are or have been in care, or you’re supporting a young person currently or previously in care and would like to find out more about visiting or studying at the University and the support available, please see the website or contact the Widening Participation Team.

Further information
Widening Participation Team
01223 766872
realise@admin.cam.ac.uk
www.cam.ac.uk/careleavers
Money

Going to university is an investment in your future. Whichever university you apply to, you need to consider the cost of your tuition and your living (or 'maintenance') costs. These amounts can seem daunting but there’s lots of support available to help you finance your studies.

### Tuition fees

The University is committed to providing a world class education and access to the very best teachers, resources and support. Therefore, we invest significantly more than the amount of the maximum government regulated (Home) fee on each student every year.

At Cambridge, the tuition fee for Home fee status students starting their first undergraduate degree in 2018 will be £9,250 for the year and, currently, is likely to rise year on year in line with inflation. At the time of going to print the tuition fee for 2019-20 hasn’t been set but will be published on the Undergraduate Study website as soon as it’s available, including details of how fees and annual increases are set; see: [www.cam.ac.uk/ugtuitionfees](http://www.cam.ac.uk/ugtuitionfees).

Currently, Home students can take out a government loan for their tuition fees. If you do this you can defer payment of the loan until after you’ve left university and are earning a certain minimum salary, at which point you’ll start to repay the loan in instalments. Refer to the appropriate student finance award agency for details of tuition fee support (p33).

The fee status of EU nationals for 2019 entry onwards has yet to be determined by the UK government. EU students should regularly check their student finance award agency for updates at: [www.cam.ac.uk/eu](http://www.cam.ac.uk/eu).

### Living Costs 2017-18

- **Accommodation**
  - £2,250-£5,850 per year
  - £3,300-£6,000 en suite, per year
  - £3-66 per meal
  - Dependent on course (see below)
  - Cheapest or free!

  You should allow for increases in subsequent years.

- **College meals**
  - £2,550 per year

- **Transport in Cambridge**
  - £70-£200 per year

### Cost-effective living

‘Living costs’ cover whatever you need to pay for, excluding tuition fees, while you’re at university. For example, accommodation, food, course costs/study materials, personal expenses and transport.

We’ve estimated that in 2018-19 students should allow approximately £9,160 for living costs in Cambridge for the year (though this will vary depending on lifestyle and students should allow for increases in future years).

#### Accommodation

See individual College websites for details about accommodation and costs. As a rough guide, the rent for a 30-week year for single study bedrooms is currently as follows:

- £75-£195 per week with en suite
- £110-£200 per week with a shared bathroom

See also p44-5 for general information about accommodation.

#### Food

Colleges provide basic self-catering facilities as well as cafeterias/dining halls (see also p25). Some levy a separate charge towards the running costs of the College kitchens – the kitchen facilities charge – while others include this within their accommodation costs.

Additional course costs can be found on the relevant faculty or department website – see course entries for web links (p44-117).

The University’s numerous libraries and IT facilities (see p4-5) help to keep your costs down and many Colleges and some departments offer grants to help with particular costs.

#### Personal expenses

What you spend on food, clothing, transport etc depends on your lifestyle. However, there are lots of free recreational facilities plus loads of College-based and student-run activities that don’t cost very much.

What’s more, Cambridge is a small place so transport in the city is cheap or free: most students walk or cycle and there’s a ‘Universal’ bus service that offers discounted fares to students.

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1. Islands students (from the Channel Islands and Isle of Man) are usually classified as overseas students and so charged tuition fees at the overseas rate (see details on p41 and at: [www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees](http://www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees)). As overseas students, Islands students have to pay College fees in addition to tuition fees (see p41).

2. Students undertaking a year abroad pay a different fee during their year abroad (see: [www.cam.ac.uk/ugtuitionfees](http://www.cam.ac.uk/ugtuitionfees)).

3. Figures based on the most common College accommodation contract (30 weeks) in 2017-18 – see individual College websites for full details and costs.
Financial support
You now have a reasonable idea of the costs involved in studying at Cambridge, but what about financial support? Well, there’s a range of help available, including:
- government student loans for tuition fees and living costs
- the Cambridge Bursary Scheme
- College awards

Some support is currently available to all eligible Home fee status students.1. Eligibility for other funding depends on your financial circumstances. Arrangements can vary depending on where you’re from (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, or Wales) so please refer to the appropriate student finance award agency for full details and guidance (see opposite).

The table opposite outlines the types and levels of support that first-time undergraduates from England may be able to access in 2018-19 but if you’re from elsewhere in the UK similar types of support may be available to you too (information correct at the time of printing, refer to the relevant websites for details and latest figures).

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/cambridgebursary

Cambridge Bursaries
We don’t want financial considerations to stop you applying to the University, and are committed to providing the financial support you need while you’re here. Cambridge Bursaries are available to UK students studying for their first undergraduate degree to support living costs:2
- If your household income is £25,000 per year or less you’re eligible for the maximum non-repayable Cambridge Bursary, currently of £3,500 per year.
- If your household income is between £25,001 and £42,620 per year you’re currently eligible for a partial, non-repayable Cambridge Bursary.
- There’s no limit to the number of Bursaries available.
- You’re automatically considered for a Cambridge Bursary if you’re financially assessed by your student finance authority.

College awards
Additional sources of funding may be available from your College, such as:
- book and equipment grants to help with specific study-related costs
- scholarships and prizes for academic or other achievements
- travel grants for academic work and personal enrichment
- grants and loans to help deal with unforeseen financial difficulties

Information on any such funds is available from each College (www.cam.ac.uk/collegeawards).

Part-time work
The University takes the view that our students shouldn’t work during term-time – it’s important that you have an appropriate work-life balance, and we offer a range of financial support to ensure you don’t have to. However, there may be a few opportunities available within the University and Colleges that are exceptions to this, such as working in the College bar, College library or as a student helper during open days.

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Financial support for students from England at Cambridge 2018-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>What’s it for?</th>
<th>Eligibility?</th>
<th>How much?</th>
<th>Pay it back?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Government Tuition Fee Loan</strong></td>
<td>Tuition fees</td>
<td>If you’re studying for your first undergraduate degree</td>
<td>Up to £9,250</td>
<td>Yes, but only after you’ve left university and are earning a minimum salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Government Maintenance Loan</strong></td>
<td>Living costs</td>
<td>Dependent on your household income</td>
<td>Up to £8,700</td>
<td>Yes, but only after you’ve left university and are earning a minimum salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cambridge Bursary</strong></td>
<td>Living costs</td>
<td>If your household income is £42,620 per year or less</td>
<td>Up to £3,500 per year</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Non-UK/EU nationals should regularly check online for updates (www.cam.ac.uk/eu). For information about costs and support for international/overseas students, including those from the Channel Islands/Isle of Man, see p.6.

2 Details are correct at the time of printing for 2018-19 – please refer to the Cambridge Bursary Scheme website for updates (including information for non-UK/EU nationals).

Please note that you’re strongly advised to apply for financial support as early as possible. Applications for government support will open early in 2019 and you don’t need a confirmed place at a university to apply for this.

Student finance award agencies
Government financial support arrangements can vary according to where you’re from in the UK. Please refer to the relevant organisation for the most up-to-date details and guidance. Information about government financial support is correct at the time of printing but is subject to change and/or government approval.

**Student Finance England and Non UK Team**
- www.gov.uk/studentfinance

**Student Finance NI**
- www.studentfinanceni.co.uk

**Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS)**
- www.sas.gov.uk

**Student Finance Wales**
- www.studentfinancewales.co.uk
Careers

Cambridge has one of the highest proportions of graduates entering graduate-level employment or further study in the country. In addition, the Careers Service promotes more vacancies each year than there are Cambridge graduates seeking employment.

Career destinations

Our courses are respected all over the world and Cambridge graduates of all disciplines are highly employable, so there’s no need to worry about your choice of course limiting you to one career path.

• The majority of employers recruit students with any degree discipline.
• It’s the flexibility, teaching style and demands of your degree, as well as the range of transferable skills that you develop, that are of interest to employers.
• Our degrees don’t just prepare students for employment – a third (32.3 per cent, compared to 15.0 per cent nationally) progress to further study or training.
• Less than four per cent of our graduates (the national figure is five per cent) are still seeking employment six months after graduation.

Examples of career destinations of recent undergraduates can be found in the relevant course entry as well as on the Careers Service website (www.careers.cam.ac.uk).

Transferable skills

While at Cambridge, you can develop a wide range of ‘transferable skills’ through both your studies and recreational activities (www.skills.cam.ac.uk/undergrad), for example:

• communication – written, aural, oral, non-verbal
• computer literacy
• intellectual skills – critical and analytical thinking, problem-solving
• interpersonal skills – working with others, flexibility, adaptability
• organisation – independent working, initiative, managing finances and time
• research – data acquisition and analysis

It’s these skills that employers look for when reviewing job applications. Employers value achievements and experiences gained through involvement in clubs and societies, and vacation employment as well.

Potential employers also interact with some department-based societies so you have opportunities to network and make contacts long before graduation.

The Careers Service

The Careers Service offers a wide range of services and staff can help you make informed career choices and work out what to do next, whether that’s:

• advice about internships and vacation work experience
• matching your interests and skills to possible careers
• postgraduate study guidance
• job application support

There are also numerous opportunities for you to meet employers through events organised by the Careers Service. And the advice and guidance don’t stop when you graduate – you can continue to access the Careers Service at any time in the future.

How the Careers Service can help you

Choosing a career

• Careers consultations.
• Online resources.
• GradLink – contact details for Cambridge alumni who can offer first-hand advice.
• Researching occupations and employers

Internships and work experience

• More than 1,500 internships available across all sectors, with bursaries offered to support unpaid opportunities.
• More than 50 employment related skills training sessions.
• Information on occupations, further study courses and funding.

Finding vacancies

• Online vacancy information on more than 5,500 organisations.
• Email subscription service.

Making successful applications

• CVs and Cover Letters book written specifically for Cambridge students.
• One-to-one CV and interview advice and support.

Destinations of 2016 UK/EU Cambridge graduates (six months after graduation)

- 57.1% in employment
- 32.3% in further study or training
- 3.6% still seeking employment or further study
- 6.9% not available for employment/further study (eg year off, travelling etc)

The graduate employment market

Cambridge students are ambitious, intelligent, motivated, hard-working, passionate, committed, curious, intellectually creative, independent thinkers, and able to manage their time effectively. Employers know this and look for the same attributes in potential new employees, which is why our graduates are so sought after.

The diagram below shows the destinations of 2016 Cambridge graduates, six months after graduation (where known).

Over 200 careers events and briefing and skills sessions typically offered by the Careers Service each year.

Over 1,500 internships and vacation placements available each year to provide valuable work experience.
Mature Students

If you’ll be aged 21 or over by 1 October in the year in which you hope to come to Cambridge you’ll be applying as a mature student. We have around 450 mature undergraduates studying for their first degree at Cambridge, many of whom are in their 20s.

Colleges

Mature students can apply to any of the undergraduate Colleges, though most choose one of the four Colleges that are exclusively for students aged 21 or over – Hughes Hall, Lucy Cavendish College (women only), St Edmund’s College or Wolfson College. Mature students who make an open application (see p12) are allocated to one of these mature Colleges.

Supporting mature students

Information about student support can be found on p26-9. Additional information and advice, including details about events for mature applicants, is available online and from the mature Colleges.

Further information

www.cam.ac.uk/mature

Cambridge Bursary

Some mature UK students may be eligible for a higher level of Cambridge Bursary (currently up to £5,600 per year). See the website for details at: www.cam.ac.uk/cambridgebursary.

Entrance requirements

The nature and demands of Cambridge courses mean they require academic preparation, and mature students must be of an equivalent academic standard to school leavers. Therefore, you’re expected to demonstrate evidence of recent academic achievement at a high level, for example in one or more A Levels, an Access to HE Diploma, or an Open University course (Level 2 or above). Many of our courses require specific academic preparation. Please read the information on Access to HE Diplomas on p152 carefully, and contact one of the mature Colleges for advice.

Further information

www.cam.ac.uk/mature

UCAS Information

www.ucas.com/maturestudents

Tuition fees for Home fee status students taking a second undergraduate degree may be different to the standard Home fee – see online for details (www.cam.ac.uk/tuitionfees). The fee status of EU nationals for 2019 onwards has yet to be determined by the UK government. EU students should regularly check for updates at: www.cam.ac.uk/es. See p41 for tuition fees for overseas students. Students studying for a second degree normally have to pay a separate College fee as well (see p41; this doesn’t usually apply for Architecture, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine).

You should allow for annual increases to tuition and College fees, and note that there’s very little financial support available. Annual increases will be determined by various factors (eg cost of delivering educational and related student services, changes in government and other funding), and will usually be in line with the prevailing UK rate of inflation.

Applying

Mature students apply in the same way as school leavers (see p6-11). Please also note:

• if you apply from outside the EU you need to submit a Cambridge Online Preliminary Application (see p9) in addition to your UCAS application
• those applying for the Graduate Course in Medicine need to complete an additional application form as well as the UCAS application (see p91)
• apart from those applying for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine (see p80 and p113), applicants to the mature Colleges aren’t required to take any pre-interview written assessments but will take a written assessment at interview (if interviewed) instead

Application deadlines

The standard deadline for applications to be received is 15 October. However, the four mature Colleges consider applications from mature students and for second undergraduate degrees in some subjects as part of a second application round, the deadline for which is 1 March 2019. Those considering applying in the second application round (or for entry in future years) should consult the mature Colleges’ admissions offices for advice.

Second undergraduate degrees

If you’re a graduate with a first or 2.1 Honours (or equivalent) in an approved undergraduate degree from another university, you can apply to take a second undergraduate degree at Cambridge. If you wish to take the Cambridge course in a year less than usual, you would apply as an ‘affiliate’ student.

Please note that there are some restrictions:

• affiliate students can’t make an open application or apply for Architecture, History and Modern Languages or History and Politics
• some Colleges may not accept affiliate applications for other courses (see College websites for details)
• only Lucy Cavendish, St Edmund’s and Wolfson Colleges consider affiliate applications for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine

Application deadlines for mature applicants

15 October 2018

• Mature students applying for any subject to a standard-age College or in the first application round to one of the mature Colleges.
• Mature students making an open application.

1 March 2019

• Mature students applying to Hughes Hall, Lucy Cavendish College, St Edmund’s College or Wolfson College to study any subject except Architecture, History of Art, Medicine, Graduate Course in Medicine, Music, Philosophy, Veterinary Medicine.

Richard

Birmingham

Cambridge is one of the only universities with mature Colleges and it’s nice to be with people of a similar age who have some previous experience before coming to university.

My favourite thing about Cambridge is probably the whole ‘work hard, play hard’ mentality – there’s a lot of work to do but there’s also loads of opportunities socially and a lot of clubs and societies. I play a lot of sport and represent the University in boxing.

36 37
Just over 13 per cent of our undergraduates (around 1,600 students) are from overseas (outside the EU), representing more than 60 countries.

Student life
Cambridge has a diverse and vibrant community, making it a great place to be a student. As well as having access to the vast range of societies on offer to all Cambridge students (p16-23), there are also a number of events and societies specifically for international students. So, if you want to meet and socialise with other students from overseas, there are plenty of ways for you to do so! For more details see the Undergraduate Study website and CUSU International website (www.international.cusu.cam.ac.uk).

Each July and August, you can get a taste of student life here by joining the University’s International Summer Programmes, which include the opportunity to live in one of the Colleges (www.ice.cam.ac.uk/intsummer).

Please note that all students should ordinarily be available to study in Cambridge for the full duration of their course (with the exception of the year abroad where part of the course).

Visas and immigration
The UK operates a points-based immigration system and students from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland normally require a Tier 4 visa for study at Cambridge.

To apply for a visa you must be sponsored by the University and issued a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) to support your visa application. You’re also required to demonstrate that you have the funds to meet your tuition fees and living costs.

The University’s International Student Office provides a visa advice service to assist students sponsored by the University in applying for their student visa.

The primary source of information on all matters concerning immigration is the Home Office – check the Home Office website regularly for the most up-to-date information.

It’s your responsibility to ensure that you understand and fulfil the immigration requirements for your Tier 4 visa application and comply with the conditions of your visa during your studies.

Further information
International Student Office
www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk
Home Office
www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa

Entrance requirements
In order to make a competitive application, you need to be in the top one or two per cent of your year group and doing very well in your subjects most relevant to the course you’d like to study.

Typical offer levels for a range of qualifications can be found on p151-2. If what you’re studying isn’t listed, you should check our website (www.cam.ac.uk/uginternational) for guidance on the appropriateness of your qualifications for admission to Cambridge.

English language requirements
If English isn’t your first language, a reasonable standard of spoken English would be required for interview. You may also be asked to achieve a formal qualification, such as one of those listed below, as part of the conditions of an offer:

- IELTS – normally a minimum overall grade of 7.5, usually with 7.0 or above in each element.
- EU students – a high grade in English taken as part of a leaving examination (eg the European/French Baccalaureate, Abitur etc) may be acceptable.
- Cambridge English: Proficiency – grade A, B or C.

See the website for more details and other acceptable English language qualifications (www.cam.ac.uk/uginternational).
Applying and interviews
All applicants must complete a UCAS application and Supplementary Application Questionnaire (SAQ, see p7) online by the relevant deadlines (see below). In addition to the UCAS application, students applying from outside the EU must submit a Cambridge Online Preliminary Application (COPA) by the relevant deadline.

Application deadlines for 2019 entry

If you’d like to be considered for interview in

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Restrictions apply to overseas interviews – see online for details (www.cam.ac.uk/overseasinterviews).

The University conducts a number of interviews overseas. For 2019 entry, it’s anticipated that these will take place in Canada, China, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia and Singapore. To be considered for interview overseas, you must submit both your COPA and UCAS application by a deadline which may be earlier than 15 October (depending on where you wish to be considered for interview). See online for details and restrictions.

Costs
International student costs at Cambridge include tuition fees, College fees and living costs. Visa applications require you to prove in advance that you can finance all these costs, as it’s not possible to work during the academic session. Colleges also ask for financial guarantees.

Tuition fees
The fee status of EU nationals for 2019 onwards has yet to be determined by the UK government and EU students should regularly check for updates at: www.cam.ac.uk/eu.

Students who don’t qualify for Home fee status are currently charged the overseas fee rate which varies by course. For 2019 entry, overseas tuition fees for most courses will be between £20,157 and £30,678 (the tuition costs for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine are higher). These fees are fixed for the duration of the course. See details at: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees. See also p31 regarding additional course costs.

If you’re uncertain about your fee status, please request a fee status questionnaire from any College admissions office (see p121-49).

College fees
All overseas fee status (including most islands in the UK) students, and those UK students who aren’t eligible for tuition fee support (eg affiliate students), normally have to pay College fees in addition to University tuition fees (www.cam.ac.uk/ugcollegefees). Annual College fees vary between Colleges and in many cases are fixed for the duration of your course. The fees in 2018-19 range between £6,850 and £12,700, see individual College websites for fees for 2019-20 onwards.

Living costs
Your living expenses may be higher than for a UK student (eg if you stay in Cambridge/the UK during vacations). In 2018-19, the minimum resources needed in Cambridge for the year (excluding tuition and College fees) are estimated to be approximately £10,655, depending on lifestyle (you should allow for increases in future years).

Please pay particular attention to the application requirements and deadlines.

Financial Support
The financial support available for overseas undergraduates is limited but at Cambridge this includes Cambridge Commonwealth, European and International Trust awards; College awards; and country-specific scholarships. Few full undergraduate scholarships are available – most support is a partial contribution and is means-tested. Details about these funding sources are available from: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalsupport.

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