Welcome to Cambridge

Cambridge is one of the best universities in the world, offering undergraduate degree courses (also called Triposes here) in the arts and humanities, social sciences, sciences and engineering.

Top 3
in the 2019 Academic Ranking of World Universities and 2020 Times Higher Education World University Rankings.

Top 10
for research quality and graduate prospects (Complete University Guide 2020).

Top 10
Cambridge is one of the top ten universities most often targeted by Britain’s leading graduate employers (The Graduate Market in 2019).

90%
of our graduates from 2015 to 2017 were in employment or further study six months after graduating (see p34-5).

3 years
Cambridge guarantees most students College-owned accommodation for at least three years (see p24-5).

150
open days and events in Cambridge each year for you to visit us (p150-1).

Cambridge has welcomed and nurtured students for hundreds of years.

The collegiate University is bound together by a deep-rooted sense of community and shared purpose. 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 some 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 outwards. 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 and deepen our understanding of the world around us.

Professor Stephen Toope
Vice-Chancellor

Welcome to Cambridge

Whether you know lots about the University or almost nothing, come along to an Open Day and see for yourself what we have to offer. See p150 and visit our website for information and booking.

2 and 3 July

Contact details:

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk
www.facebook.com/cambridge.university
www.twitter.com/Cambridge_Uni
www.instagram.com/cambridgeuniversity
www.youtube.com/CambridgeUniversity
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- Politics and International Relations
- Social Anthropology
- Sociology
- Politics
- Social Anthropology and Politics
- Social Anthropology and Religious Studies
- Sociology and Criminology
- Sociology and Social Anthropology

- Land Economy
- Environment, Law and Economics
- Law
- Linguistics
- Management Studies (final year only)
- Manufacturing Engineering (final years only)
- Mathematics
- Including Mathematics with Physics
- Medicine
- Including Graduate Course in Medicine
- Modern and Medieval Languages
- French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish
- Music

- Natural Sciences
- Astrophysics
- Biochemistry
- Biological and Biomedical Sciences
- Chemistry
- Earth Sciences
- Genetics
- History and Philosophy of Science
- Materials Science
- Neuroscience
- Pathology
- Pharmacology
- Physical Sciences
- Physics
- Physiology
- Development and Neuroscience
- Plant Sciences
- Psychology
- Zoology

- Philosophy
- Psychological and Behavioural Sciences
- Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion
- Veterinary Medicine

More than 65 subjects are offered within our undergraduate courses - see the Index (p156-8) for a full list of subjects.

### Colleges

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www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk

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

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
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 throughout this Prospectus. You can listen to more student perspectives online.

www.youtube.com/CambridgeUniversity

I think what makes Cambridge great is the people who are here. You have the academics, who are some of the best people in the world in their field, doing fascinating research. But just as much as from them, I think I learned from other students. The collegiate system allows you to interact with people from a range of subjects and everyone is so passionate about what they do, which leads to lots of interesting discussions.

Antonina Gliwice

I’ve always loved learning and academia, and so I knew I wanted to go to university. In Year 12 I shadowed a Cambridge student through the CUSU Shadowing Scheme, and I fell in love with the University. The beautiful surroundings and academic rigour through the supervision system create a truly unique learning experience. The opportunity to meet so many different people from all over the world who love what they do was very attractive too!

Charlotte Caerweddios

I was always attracted to the idea of studying at Cambridge, and I think this was confirmed when I visited for a Subject Masterclass and an Open Day. Cambridge is such a lovely city to live in and there’s just so much going on that you can get involved in. I figured I had nothing to lose from at least applying and seeing what happened.

There’s so much support and advice at Cambridge – you’ll always have someone to go to if you need any help, whether academic or personal. My financial concerns were dealt with through College support and the Cambridge Bursary. You shouldn’t be put off applying to university because of finances!

Meg Sheffield

Just being around so many different people and having in-depth conversations about so many varied topics has been a highlight. The course and teaching is as intense as I expected, but very interesting, and the supervision system is so useful to clarify topics I’m unsure on.

Xiao Milton Keynes

The Cambridge experience has definitely surpassed my expectations. Whilst I expected to be challenged intellectually, I have felt positively challenged in every area of my life: I have grown up so much during my time here so far and I am excited to see what challenges the next years will bring.

Jim Hemel Hempstead
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 p44-113 for course information.
   Visit one of our Open Days to find out more about the courses on offer. See p150 for dates and how to book.

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 p114-6 for guidance on choosing.

3. Apply
   Submit your UCAS application online* by 15 October** – our institution code is CAM C05.
   Soon after, submit your Supplementary Application Questionnaire (SAQ) – a few extra questions requesting information not included in your UCAS application which we find helpful, for example topics covered as part of your A Level/IB Higher Level (or equivalent) courses. You will also have the option to complete a Cambridge-specific personal statement as part of the SAQ.
   You’ll find more information about what we look for in your application on the next few pages. www.cam.ac.uk/apply

4. Written assessment
   Most applicants are required to take a written assessment, either pre-interview or at interview, if interviewed (see p8). You can find more information about admissions assessments, including examples of specimen papers on the course pages of our website. www.cam.ac.uk/assessment

5. Interview
   Everyone with a realistic chance of being offered a place is invited to attend an interview (see p9). That’s around 75 per cent of applicants each year on average (though the percentage varies between courses and interview locations).
   If you decide to apply, you can find films and full information about interviews online. www.cam.ac.uk/interviews

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

* 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 p11), applying for the Graduate Course in Medicine (see p91), 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.
** Other application deadlines apply for those wishing to be considered for interview in particular overseas countries (see p40), and for some mature applicants (see p27).
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 p44-113).
• 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 p147-8.
• Our Subject Matters leaflet (www.cam.ac.uk/uppublications) gives advice to GCSE students about how to choose the most appropriate subjects and subject combinations at A Level.

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!

Admission assessments

Most applicants are required to take a subject-specific written admission assessment. Depending on your chosen course, this might be before interview, or at interview (if you are invited to attend). The assessments are designed to supplement the information in your application and to assess skills, such as comprehension and thinking skills, and levels of knowledge and understanding relevant to your course. You can find examples of past papers on the course pages of our website (www.cam.ac.uk/courses).

• Pre-interview assessments – these are taken in early November at a centre local to you (usually your school or college) and you must be registered for the assessment by your school or college in advance.
• At-interview assessments – these are taken when in Cambridge for interview.

For more information about these assessments, see p43, our course pages (p44-113) and the website (www.cam.ac.uk/assessment).

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

The interview process

Everyone with a realistic chance of being offered a place is invited to attend an interview, so it’s a good idea to be aware of what might happen during your interview so you can be fully prepared.

Interviews help our Admissions Tutors to get to know you and your motivations for applying to Cambridge; they contribute to our assessment of your academic potential and suitability for your chosen course, while giving you the opportunity to expand on the written elements of your application.

What do interviews involve?

The form and length of interviews varies from subject to subject and from College to College. You’ll have one, two or three interviews (most commonly two), each lasting between 20 and 45 minutes.

If you’re applying for a course which has an at-interview written assessment, you will normally sit this on the same day as your interview (see opposite).

How should I prepare?

There aren’t any special tricks to preparing for interviews, however there are some things you can do beforehand which will, at the very least, make you feel more confident.

• Watch our interview films to give you an idea of what to expect on the day.
• Re-read your personal statement and any written work.
• Read around your subject and think about any particular topics you’d like to talk about.
• Practise talking and answering questions about your subject and wider academic interests with your friends, family and/or teachers.

For more tips, advice and interview films, visit our website (www.cam.ac.uk/interviews).

Probably the most important tips are to be on time, be as relaxed as possible, and, above all, be yourself!
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 five is made an offer of a place by a different College as a result of your application being ‘pooled’ (see left). An offer may be unconditional, or conditional and dependent on achieving certain grades in the qualifications you’re applying for other frequently asked questions.

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 left). An offer may be unconditional, or conditional and dependent on achieving certain grades in the qualifications you’re taking (the University makes unconditional offers only to those who have already met the conditions for entry to their chosen course).

2. Your application is unsuccessful.
With around six 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.

You should definitely apply – you might even enjoy your interview! Ignore the stereotypes – if you think you would enjoy studying here then you should apply.

Sarah
Guisborough

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).³

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 2020 and the COPA submitted by 19 October 2020.³

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/uginternational

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 p149 for other frequently asked questions.

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 left). An offer may be unconditional, or conditional and dependent on achieving certain grades in the qualifications you’re taking (the University makes unconditional offers only to those who have already met the conditions for entry to their chosen course).

2. Your application is unsuccessful.
With around six 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.

You should definitely apply – you might even enjoy your interview! Ignore the stereotypes – if you think you would enjoy studying here then you should apply.

Sarah
Guisborough

Excluding circumstances
If you have experienced health or personal problems, disability or difficulties with your schooling, your school or college referee (or GP or social worker) should complete our Excluding Circumstances Form (available online) by 22 October 2020.

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 excluding 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

Visit www.cam.ac.uk/apply for more details about the application process and to watch our explainer video.

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).
3 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.
4 Other application deadlines apply for those wishing to be considered for interview in particular overseas countries (see p40).
Teaching and Learning

Cambridge is known and respected across the globe for the excellence of our teaching and research, and the quality of our graduates. Not only are you taught in the lecture theatre by academics who are experts in their field, but our supervision system means that you receive more personal tuition from them too.

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 for you. You can find out more about what these involve opposite.

Each academic year consists of three eight-week terms1. 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 (e.g. 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).

Top 5

in the world for teaching (THE World University Rankings 2020).

Top 10

in the world for academic reputation (QS World University Rankings 2020).

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 (e.g. 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 you with 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 (usually 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). Throughout your course your supervisors will change depending on what you are studying at the time.
- Typically, you have one or two hour-long supervisions each week, though the frequency varies from course to course.

Supervisions provide regular small-group tuition with subject specialists.

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.

Work experience

Some courses include a period of work experience, giving you a chance to explore potential career paths, develop your employability skills and create networks that could lead to job opportunities after you graduate.

Refer to the individual course outlines (p44-113) and faculty/department websites for more details about teaching.

Further information

www.cam.ac.uk/courses

There is such amazing teaching quality in both lectures and supervisions that you really do learn your course at an incredibly high level and can push well beyond the fundamentals and into the nitty-gritty of the things you’re interested in.

Daniel

London

Continued overleaf
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 University Library (or UL) is a legal deposit library holding more than eight million books, journals and other documents ranging in age from ancient manuscripts to a vast range of electronic resources available for you to access from anywhere.

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.

The CamGuides pre-arrival resource will also introduce you to some of the academic, research and digital practices in which Cambridge students engage: www.camguides.lib.cam.ac.uk

Further information
www.libraries.cam.ac.uk

Computing and IT
University Information Services (UIS) works in partnership with your College and department to provide for all your computing needs while you are at Cambridge. This ranges from the provision of wi-fi throughout the University and Colleges, to access to specialist computer rooms and advanced research computing services.

UIS offers all students comprehensive IT support, including:
- a service desk
- free email accounts and file storage
- free software, including Microsoft Office and McAfee antivirus protection
- free IT training courses.

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 on hand to help.

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 relates 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
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.

**Student Life**

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 in all the opportunities Cambridge has to offer. 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
- campaigns on important student issues, such as student support, liberation work and education policy
- supports and connects College student unions through training, forums and advice
- runs the professionally staffed Students’ Unions’ Advice Service (SUAS)
- 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](http://www.cusu.co.uk)
- Alternative Prospectus website: [www.applytocambridge.com](http://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**

There are lots of opportunities for Cambridge students to get involved in community projects, campaigns and charity work. Many national and international charities have student society branches in the University, from Amnesty International to the Anthony Nolan Trust, and there are also student groups who work closely with local charities and community organisations.

Cambridge RAG focuses on fundraising and 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 away from Cambridge as possible in 36 hours, spending only the money they raise along the way!

Cambridge is a fantastic place to live and study, and I thoroughly enjoyed my three years as an undergraduate. Being able to work with leading academics in their field and receive quality one-on-one teaching makes studying at Cambridge an incredible experience. Outside of the classroom, you’ll find hundreds of student societies, sports teams and opportunities to get involved with music, drama, political campaigning and community work – there really is something for everyone.

As your central students’ union, CUSU is here to ensure that your time at university is the best it possibly can be. Led by a team of six full-time elected officers, we represent students within the University and campaign to make Cambridge a better place for all of us. CUSU also offers essential professional services for students, provides welfare support and training, and ensures that you have access to the resources and information you need while at university. Students are always welcome to get in touch with the CUSU Sabbatical Officer Team and talk to us about the changes you want to see within the University.

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

Edward Parker Humphreys
CUSU President, pictured with the CUSU Team

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1Information is correct at the time of going to print - any updates can be found at [www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/why-cambridge/student-life/students-unions](http://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/why-cambridge/student-life/students-unions).
Media
If you’d like to try your hand at journalism, there are various student newspapers and other publications to get involved with, including Varsity, The Cambridge Student and The Tab. As well as CU-TV and the University’s radio station, Cam FM (presented by University members and offering training in many aspects of radio), there are other student groups focused on photography and film-making.

Politics
Cambridge is politically diverse and engaged, so it’s a great place for students to debate local, national and international issues or get involved in student campaigns. There are numerous political clubs, representing different political parties and many other political societies which host high profile speakers and organise panel discussions on contemporary topics. There are also lots of student campaign groups which campaign on important political issues, both within the University and at a national level, including Cambridge Defend Education, Cambridge Zero Carbon and the CUSU Ethical Affairs Campaign.

Other interests?
As well as those already mentioned there are societies relating to religious and cultural groups, dance, food and drink, games and hobbies, and a range of academic subjects. The Societies Directory on the CUSU website has a list of all the societies within the University. There are also lots of clubs and societies within the different Colleges. If there isn’t a group or society for your particular passion or interest at the moment, you could start one – all you have to do is find a few like-minded people.

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

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
• Hip Hop Society
• Jazz Orchestra
• Mixtape Society
• Opera Society
• Rock Society
• Show Choir
• String Ensemble
• Symphony Orchestra

To find out more, see CUSU’s online Societies Directory (opposite), the Faculty of Music website (www.mus.cam.ac.uk) and individual College websites. Information about music in the city can be found on p23.

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 choisters provide music for regular chapel services and perform in College concerts, with some touring in the UK or abroad. 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, as are other standard orchestral instruments used in chamber repertory (eg double bass, harp). Players of trumpet, horn, trombone and tuba may apply to be members of a brass ensemble within the Scheme. 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 2020
• Choral Award Scheme – 15 February 2021
• Instrumental Awards Scheme – 28 February 2021

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/musicawards

I've really enjoyed the extra curriculars, particularly rowing – our College boat club has a really wonderful supportive atmosphere that can only be forged by suffering through morning outings together!

I also take part in the Ceilidh Band, where I play the accordion at rehearsals, sessions, and occasionally at gigs too!

Stella
Chester
Sport
Cambridge offers a diverse range of competitive and recreational sporting opportunities to help you lead a healthy and active lifestyle alongside your academic studies. Whether you want to continue playing a sport you love or try something new, we have more than 80 sports clubs and societies, and the University and Colleges offer a variety of facilities and support services for everyone from beginners to elite athletes.

Among our 80 sports clubs and societies, you will find:
- Australian Rules Football
- Basketball
- Dancesport
- Football
- Handball
- Ice Hockey
- Judo
- Kickboxing
- Korfball
- Netball
- Orienteering
- Squash
- Table Tennis
- Taekwondo
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Volleyball

I take part in plenty of sports which provide the perfect offset to work life. At College level, I’m the mixed lacrosse captain in a sport I didn’t know existed before I came here, and at a University level I’m a member of the cross country club, even taking part in a race against Oxford, the highlight of my time here so far.

David
Portsmouth

Sport for everyone
At a University level, our teams range from National League hockey to casual badminton, so there are plenty of ways to compete or stay active. You will also find College teams for novices and experts alike. You could get involved in the extensive range of sports available via inter-college competition.

You can also try out to represent the University against other universities, and local and national club sides. Many University teams compete in BUCS (British Universities & Colleges Sport) competitions throughout the season, giving them the opportunity to try their talents against the best teams from universities throughout the UK.

Varsity matches, played against the University of Oxford across a range of sports, are a highlight of the season.

Staying active
You don’t have to get involved in team sports to stay active while you’re here at Cambridge. University Sport offers beginner’s strength and conditioning, personal fitness programmes, and a wide range of group fitness classes.

Facilities
The University’s sport facilities are based at three sites around the city. Colleges also provide facilities for traditional team sports and games such as tennis and rowing, and many have their own gym and sports facilities too.

Sports Centre, West Cambridge Site:
- Gym (including flexible student gym memberships and personal training)
- Strength and conditioning room
- Sports hall
- Studios
- Team training room
- Squash courts, Eton and Rugby Fives courts
- Physiotherapy and sports injury clinic
- Group fitness classes

Wilberforce Road Sports Ground:
- Athletics facilities, including an eight-lane track and all associated field events
- Three sand-dressed hockey pitches
- Fenner’s Cricket and Tennis Ground
- Three hard and eight grass tennis courts

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.

Find out more about University Sport
Visit the Sports Fair at the beginning of your first term to meet the Sports Service team and our clubs, and find out how to get involved with sport and keep active. You can also visit our website for more information about competitive and recreational sport at Cambridge.

Further information
www.sport.cam.ac.uk

I take part in plenty of sports which provide the perfect offset to work life. At College level, I’m the mixed lacrosse captain in a sport I didn’t know existed before I came here, and at a University level I’m a member of the cross country club, even taking part in a race against Oxford, the highlight of my time here so far.

David
Portsmouth
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.

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, Hozier, Emeli Sandé, The Darkness, Kate Rusby, Jack Savoretti, Loyle Carner, Agnes Obel, Happy Mondays, and the Moscow Philharmonic 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, the Ska Festival, UK urban and dance festival Strawberries & Creem, and the Buskrs and Street Performers Festival.

Shops, 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.

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

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 Romesh Ranganathan, Eddie Izzard, Josh Widdicombe, Sindhu Vee, Dave Gorman, Fern Brady, Nick Helm, Ellie Taylor and Sandi Toksvig.

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

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

The majority of students are guaranteed accommodation in College-owned property for three years, and many Colleges provide for fourth-year students too, so you don’t have to find private accommodation during that time. 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 site. Others have some on their main site plus a range of College-owned flats/houses around the city. All College accommodation is within the University precincts, an area covering a three mile radius around Great St Mary’s Church. During term time, students are required to live in this area unless given permission to live elsewhere by their College. Most accommodation is within easy walking or cycling distance of the University departments and facilities, and the city centre. See the map on p154-5 for locations.

What’s the accommodation like?

There’s a variety of accommodation available – rooms vary from medieval to modern, and you can usually express a preference for 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).

Not far to travel

Accommodation is close to the city centre and within walking or cycling distance of departments.

Shorter contracts

Annual contracts for College accommodation are normally in the range of 27 to 39 weeks, so you don’t have to pay rent for a full calendar year, and you won’t be charged for some vacations unless you choose to stay in Cambridge.

Somewhere to relax

The main social hub of every College is its common room and/or 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, music practice rooms and performance venues. See p19-21 for more information about music and sport at the University.

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 much does it cost?

The cost varies from College to College, and usually depends on the type and style of your room (size, en suite etc) but the cost generally covers utilities (water, electricity, heating), cleaning, internet access and basic self-catering facilities. Some Colleges may charge a deposit in addition to your rent. Please check individual College websites for details.

You can find more information about accommodation costs, living costs, tuition fees and financial support on p30-3.

Further information

www.cam.ac.uk/accommodation
Support

If you need a bit of extra support while at the University, we have an extensive welfare system in place, and consistently high retention rates.¹

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 they usually conduct interviews.

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.

Students supporting students
Throughout the University and Colleges, there’s an extensive student-run welfare network. Every College students’ union has its own welfare officer or team that can provide support and advice to students. Many Colleges also assign ‘College parents’ (students in other years) to new students to help them settle in.

The University Students’ Union (CUSU) runs campaigns and initiatives about issues that matter to the student community. As every student is a member of the Students’ Union, CUSU seeks to represent them all effectively.
In addition to this, most clubs, societies and College students’ unions have officers representing various groups within the University. They are able to provide support and advice to ensure all of our students enjoy their time at Cambridge.

Students’ Union Advice Service
The Students’ Union Advice Service (SUAS) provides independent, professional and confidential advice to students by phone, email or in person. Currently run by CUSU and the Graduate Union, the four SUAS advisers deal with many different issues, both personal and academic, and help students access the support they need while at the University.

Further information
Students’ Union Advice Service
www.studentadvice.cam.ac.uk

Counselling
The University’s Counselling Service offers a free and confidential service to all students at the University. Professional counsellors, mental health advisers and the University Sexual Assault and Harassment Adviser 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, healthcare, financial support and local community resources. The Childcare Office also oversees the facilities and assistance available to student parents, including the West Cambridge and Eddington Nurseries, 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
care@admin.cam.ac.uk
www.childcare.admin.cam.ac.uk

Settling in

You can find more details about the support available when you arrive at the University and throughout your time as a student in our settling in video www.cam.ac.uk/support.

¹ Higher Education Statistics Agency; all UK domiciled full-time first degree entrants (March 2019).
Disabled students
The Disability Resource Centre (DRC) offers guidance, information and support, and is an essential contact for disabled applicants, including those with a specific learning difficulty, mental health conditions, or long-term health conditions. The DRC supports applicants, offer holders and students with:

- specific learning difficulties (including dyslexia and dyspraxia)
- physical/mobility impairments (including people with upper limb disorder/WRULD)
- 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 application and specific 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 p116).

Location and accessibility
Students are based in Colleges for day-to-day living and go to a faculty/department 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 Building Access Guide is a useful starting point for information regarding facilities and accessibility (www.disability.admin.cam.ac.uk/building-access-guide).

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 mentors, the DRC’s Non-Medical Help (NMH) Scheme may be able to help.

Other support may also be available through Disabled Students’ Allowances (DSAs). Visit www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas for more information.

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 can advise how to organise such arrangements via your College Tutorial Office. Please note that arrangements, and evidence required, at university may differ from those at your 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 Neurodiversity 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 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

Alternative formats
The information in this publication can be found on our website at: www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk.

However, if you’d like some information in an alternative format (eg large print) please contact the Cambridge Admissions Office to discuss your requirements.

Cambridge Admissions Office
01223 333308
admissions@cam.ac.uk

Care leavers and estranged students
Further support is available for care leavers at the University, including a guarantee of 365-day accommodation (if required). Care-leaver students could also receive enhanced financial support (eg some care leavers may be eligible for a higher level of the Cambridge Bursary, which is non-repayable).

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.

The University also provides support, including year-round accommodation and an enhanced bursary, to estranged students.

If you are or have been in care or estranged, 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
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 status1 students starting their first undergraduate degree2 in 2020 will be £9,250 for the year. At the time of going to print, the government regulated tuition fee for 2021-22 hasn’t been set. It may be different from the tuition fee for 2020 and details will be published on the Undergraduate Study website as soon as they are available; see www.cam.ac.uk/ugtuitionfees.

You should check the website for the most up-to-date information on tuition fees before applying and prior to accepting an offer from the University should your application be successful.

Currently, Home students can take out a government loan for their tuition fees. At the moment, students can defer payment of the loan until after they’ve left university and are earning a minimum salary, at which point the loan is repaid in instalments. Refer to the appropriate student finance award agency for details of tuition fee support (p33).

At the time of going to print, the fee status of EU nationals for 2021 entry onwards has yet to be determined by the UK government. EU students should regularly check for updates at www.cam.ac.uk/studentfinance.

We’ve estimated that in 2020-21 students should allow approximately £9,670³ for living costs in Cambridge for the year (though this will vary depending on lifestyle and students should allow for increases in future years). Living costs for international students and for those who choose to stay in Cambridge during the vacation periods will be higher. See p41 for more details.

Accommodation

Most Colleges offer a range of accommodation to suit your preference and affordability. The table above details the median weekly costs across our 29 undergraduate Colleges. The weekly rate and the length of your accommodation contract will vary depending on your College choice – minimum contract lengths in 2019-20 range from 27 to 39 weeks. Please see individual College websites for details about accommodation costs, contract lengths and additional charges.

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.

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 2020-21 students should allow approximately £9,670³ for living costs in Cambridge for the year (though this will vary depending on lifestyle and students should allow for increases in future years). Living costs for international students and for those who choose to stay in Cambridge during the vacation periods will be higher. See p41 for more details.

Additional course costs

These costs are in addition to tuition fees and living costs and will vary depending on your course but may include you having to pay for your own:

- personally-owned equipment (e.g. calculator, lab coat)
- photocopying
- study materials (e.g. paper, pens, books)
- travel costs (e.g. field or dissertation research trips)

The level of additional course costs will usually increase annually in line with inflation, except where a rise in directly attributable expenses warrants an above-inflation uplift. Specific additional course costs can be found at www.cam.ac.uk/courses.

The University’s numerous libraries and IT facilities (see p14-5) 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.

1 Islands students (from the Channel Islands and Isle of Man) are usually classified as international students and so charged tuition fees at the international rate (see details on p10) and at: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees). As international students, Islands students have to pay College fees in addition to tuition fees (see p41). Islands students should regularly check for updates at: www.cam.ac.uk/studentfinance.

2 Students studying for a second undergraduate degree should refer to the website for information regarding fees (www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees). Students undertaking a year abroad pay a different fee during their year abroad (www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees).

3 Figures rounded up to the nearest £10.

4 Fees based on the median room costs for first year undergraduate students in 2019-20. Students should allow for price increases in subsequent years of study. A choice of shared bathroom and en suite rooms is not available at all Colleges and figures do not include any deposits that may apply. Costs have been rounded up to the nearest £10. Please see individual College websites for further details.

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.
Money

Financial support

You now have a reasonable idea of the costs involved for Home fee status students studying at Cambridge, but what about financial support? Well, there’s currently 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 government and University funding usually depends on your financial circumstances. You should refer to the appropriate finance award agency website for the most up-to-date information and guidance (see opposite). For more information about the financial support Cambridge offers to eligible students, please see the table opposite and refer to our website for details and the latest figures (www.cam.ac.uk/studentfinance).

For more information about the financial support available for international students, see p41.

Cambridge Bursaries

The Cambridge Bursary Scheme is a long running initiative, which gives non-repayable bursaries for living costs to eligible students. Elements of the scheme (such as eligibility criteria and bursary value) are currently being reviewed – please check the website regularly for updates.

Further information www.cam.ac.uk/cambridgebursary

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
• supplementary bursaries for living costs/maintenance

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 undertake paid employment during term-time – it’s important that you have an appropriate work-life balance, and we offer a range of financial support to help you manage the costs of university study. 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.

Cambridge financial support for Home fee status students (2021-22)²

<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>Cambridge Bursary</td>
<td>Living costs</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge College awards and scholarships</td>
<td>Prizes for academic or other achievements</td>
<td>College and award dependent.</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge College bursaries and grants</td>
<td>To help with specific costs or unexpected financial difficulties</td>
<td>College and award dependent.</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.saas.gov.uk

Student Finance Wales www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

Please note that you’re strongly advised to apply for financial support as early as possible. Applications for government support will open early in 2021 and you don’t need a confirmed place at a university to apply for this.

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 Islands (Channel Islands/Ile of Man), see p41.

² This financial support is in addition to any government support that may be available.
The Careers Service
Our team of experienced and impartial careers advisers will be here to support you during your studies and beyond, regardless of the subject you’re studying, the year you’re in, your nationality, age or career interests.

Once you’re at Cambridge, we can work with you from day one to explore your options, and help you connect with employers and navigate the complex job market, saving you time and maximising your employability prospects. Whether you are sure of the career you wish to pursue when you graduate or you are just starting to explore your options, we will help you take the next steps.

When you arrive at Cambridge, look out for us at the Freshers’ Fair and at your induction talk, check your College pigeon hole for our Careers Guide and ensure you make use of our website: www.careers.cam.ac.uk.

Careers
Cambridge has one of the highest proportions of graduates entering graduate-level employment or further study in the country. Our dedicated Careers Service helps you to prepare for your future, whatever path you want to follow.

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 graduate 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 – around one third of our graduates from 2015 to 2017 progressed into further study or training.
- Less than four per cent of our graduates from 2015 to 2017 were still seeking employment or further study six months after graduation.

Examples of career destinations of recent graduates can be found in the relevant course entry and detailed destination data for every Cambridge course can be found on the Careers Service website (www.careers.cam.ac.uk/dlhe/summary).

- 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.
- The graduate employment market
Cambridge students are typically 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 our 2015 to 2017 Cambridge graduates, six months after graduation (where known).

Destinations of Cambridge graduates, 2015-2017¹
(six months after graduation)

- 57% in employment
- 33% in further study or training
- 4% still seeking employment or further study
- 6% not available for employment/further study (eg year off, travelling etc)

The team of Careers advisers will be here to support you during your studies and beyond, regardless of the subject you’re studying, the year you’re in, your nationality, age or career interests.

Once you’re at Cambridge, we can work with you from day one to explore your options, and help you connect with employers and navigate the complex job market, saving you time and maximising your employability prospects. Whether you are sure of the career you wish to pursue when you graduate or you are just starting to explore your options, we will help you take the next steps.

When you arrive at Cambridge, look out for us at the Freshers’ Fair and at your induction talk, check your College pigeon hole for our Careers Guide and ensure you make use of our website: www.careers.cam.ac.uk.

How the Careers Service can help you
Career Essentials
We run one-hour ‘Career Essentials’ workshops, on topics including choosing a career, cover letters, applications, and getting ready for interviews.

Internships and work experience
More than 1,500 internships are publicised across all sectors on our Vacancies & Opportunities database, with bursaries offered to support unpaid opportunities with charities.

Researching occupations and employers
- Over 200 careers events and briefing and skills sessions typically offered by the Careers Service each year.
- 15 major careers fairs, including Work to Change the World, Consultancy, and Engineering, Science and Technology.
- CamCareers email service – key information on specific careers sectors, directly from our careers advisers.

Networking with alumni
- GradLink – our alumni database is free to our users and gives access to contact details for Cambridge alumni who can offer first-hand advice.
- 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.

¹ Based on Destination of Leavers from Higher Education survey results. In 2017, 15 per cent of graduates nationally progressed into further study or training.

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 three Colleges that are exclusively for students aged 21 or over – Hughes Hall, St Edmund’s College or Wolfson College. Mature students who make an open application (see p116) are allocated to one of these 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-student Colleges.

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/mature

Cambridge Bursary
Some mature UK students may be eligible for a higher level of Cambridge Bursary. 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 p148 carefully, and contact one of the mature-student Colleges for advice.

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/mature

UCAS information
www.ucas.com/maturestudents

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 p11) 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 p88 and p108), applicants to the mature-student 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 three mature-student 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 2021.

Those considering applying in the second application round (or for entry in future years) should consult the mature-student 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.

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/ugtuitionfees). The fee status of EU nationals for 2021 onwards has yet to be determined by the UK government. EU students should regularly check for updates at: www.cam.ac.uk/eu. See p41 for tuition fees for international 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, History, and Modern Languages or History and Politics).

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.

1 Please note that for Law, applications to St Edmund’s College or Wolfson College must be submitted by the 15 October deadline.

Application deadlines

15 October 2020
• Mature students applying for any subject to a standard-age College or in the first application round to one of the mature-student Colleges
• Mature students making an open application.

1 March 2021
• Mature students applying to Hughes Hall, 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.

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.

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• affiliate students can’t make an open application or apply for Architecture, History, and Modern Languages or History and Politics
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1 Please note that for Law, applications to St Edmund’s College or Wolfson College must be submitted by the 15 October deadline.
More than 25 per cent of our undergraduates (around 3,100 students) are from outside the UK, representing around 100 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 (p16-21), 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).

There are plenty of people around the University who can offer help and support while you are in Cambridge (see p26-9). Our Language Centre can also help you develop your academic communication and language proficiencies through the ADTIS In-Sessional Programme. You can find out more at www.langcen.cam.ac.uk/adtis/in-sessional.

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). The Programmes take place every July and August and, while they can provide a sense of life at Cambridge, you don’t need to have taken part in a programme to apply to the University.

Visas and immigration
The University’s International Student Office provides a visa advice service to assist students sponsored by the University in applying for a 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 p147-8. 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, it’s essential that your English language skills are good enough for you to undertake an intensive and challenging academic course that’s taught and examined in English. A reasonable standard of spoken English is required for interview, and you may also be asked to achieve a formal qualification, such as one of those listed below, as part of the conditions of your offer. A full list of qualifications can be found on our website. If you do not have one of these formal qualifications, but you are currently being taught in English, please contact one of the College admissions offices for advice.

• IELTS – normally a minimum overall grade of 7.5, usually with 7.0 or above in each element.
• TOEFL Internet Based Test (IBT) – normally a minimum overall score of 110, with 25 or above in each element.

See the website for more details and other acceptable English language qualifications (www.cam.ac.uk/uginternational).
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. Colleges also ask for financial guarantees. The University takes the view that students should not undertake paid employment during the academic session, as it’s important that you have an appropriate work-life balance.

Tuition fees

At the time of going to print, the fee status of EU nationals for 2021 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 international/overseas fee rate which varies by course.⁴ For information on international/overseas tuition fees for 2021 entry, please see the website where fee details will be published as soon as they are available: 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 p17-45).

College fees

All international/overseas fee status students (including most Islands⁵ students, and those Home fee status 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 may vary between Colleges and in many cases are fixed for the duration of your course. Net fees in 2020-21 range between £8,300 and £10,068, see individual College websites for fees for 2021-22 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 2020-21, the minimum resources needed in Cambridge for the year (excluding tuition and College fees) are estimated to be approximately £11,230⁶, depending on lifestyle (you should allow for increases in future years). Please note that all students should ordinarily be available to live and study in Cambridge for the full duration of their course (with the exception of the year abroad where part of the course).

Financial Support

The financial support available for international 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. Please pay particular attention to the application requirements and deadlines.

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 (CODA)⁷ by the relevant deadline.

Application deadlines for 2021 entry

If you’d like to be considered for interview in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you’d like to be considered for interview in</th>
<th>Submit UCAS application by</th>
<th>Submit COPA by</th>
<th>Submit transcript by</th>
<th>Submit SAQ by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia, Singapore</td>
<td>20 September 2020</td>
<td>30 September 2020</td>
<td>20 September 2020</td>
<td>26 September 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge, Canada, China, Hong Kong, India, USA (Remote Interview Scheme)</td>
<td>15 October 2020</td>
<td>19 October 2020</td>
<td>22 October 2020</td>
<td>22 October 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Restrictions apply to overseas interviews – see online for details (www.cam.ac.uk/overseasinterviews).

1 There’s an international/overseas application fee associated with the CODA as well as an interview fee for those interviewed overseas. See the website for information and guidance on paying these fees (www.cam.ac.uk/copa).

2 Earlier application deadlines may apply to students who are applying for certain scholarships as well. See the information online from: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalsupport.

3 Most Islands students – from the Channel Islands and Isle of Man – are classified as international/overseas fee status.

4 The tuition fee during a year abroad (where part of the course) is 50 per cent of the full fee for that year.

5 Figure rounded up to the nearest £10.

6 There’s an international/overseas application fee associated with the CODA as well as an interview fee for those interviewed overseas. See the website for information and guidance on paying these fees (www.cam.ac.uk/copa).

7 Earlier application deadlines may apply to students who are applying for certain scholarships as well. See the information online from: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalsupport.