Welcome

The process of choosing a university is an exciting time, so parental guidance can be a valuable source of support.

This guide will help you understand the process of applying to and beginning university more fully, and enable you to better support your son or daughter.

We hope this guide is useful – if you have any more questions, please contact us using the details on page 26.
Figures show that working graduates earn £9,500 a year more than non-graduates.

Why go to university?

There are many benefits to following a path in higher education. By developing in-depth knowledge and valuable transferable skills, your son or daughter will have access to a more fulfilling career, as well as better salary prospects.

University will give your child access to opportunities that will enable them to expand their horizons, make new friends and become a more confident and well-rounded adult, which will help them in whatever direction they take.

**Key reasons**

- Academic improvement
- Broadened horizons
- Improved career prospects
- Personal development
- Enhanced earning potential
- Social opportunities
- Study and work abroad options
- Placement year in industry to gain work experience*

*Where applicable, and permitted in accordance with Tier 4 immigration rules.

**Graduate Labour Market Statistics, April-June 2015.**
The application process

There are lots of dates to remember in the application process, so we’ve put together some information on the key ones you’ll need to know about. UCAS acts as a central agency for all undergraduate applications to UK universities. Your son or daughter will need to make a single online application at ucas.com

The UCAS website is a good source of advice and guidance. Your son or daughter’s school or college will also be able to advise.

UCAS has strict deadlines for applications, so it’s important to be aware of the key dates.

1. Completing the application
   15 October for applications to Oxford and Cambridge, and for medicine, dentistry and veterinary science.
   15 January for other courses*.

   Some courses require applicants to take special entry tests – eg LNAT for law or UKCAT for medicine. Ensure these tests are booked in good time.

2. Universities make their decisions
   For applications made by 15 January, decisions will be made by 5 May on UCAS Track.

3. Accept or decline any offers
   UCAS will alert applicants when a decision is made by a university.

4. Exam results come through
   If grades are met for their firm choice, the place is confirmed automatically. If grades have not been met, a decision will be available on UCAS Track on results day.

5. Securing a place
   For Clearing or Adjustment applicants
   Once the university has made a verbal offer of a Clearing/Adjustment place, the applicant can refer themselves to that course through UCAS.

For more information, please see nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/applying/applicationprocess

* It may still be possible to apply for courses after the 15 January and 15 October deadlines. However, due to the competitive nature of many courses, they may become full, therefore it is highly advisable for students to apply by the relevant deadline. The UCAS website gives details of the processes for late and UCAS Extra applications submitted after the October and January deadlines.
Why Nottingham?

There are so many great reasons why studying at Nottingham can give your son or daughter an advantage for their future.

For more information, please see nottingham.ac.uk/about
We offer over 8,000 furnished rooms in secure catered, part-catered and self-catered accommodation. Room options include shared or en-suite facilities.*

All of our halls are accessed by key or keycard entry, ensuring security is of the highest standard.

All fees include internet access, personal contents insurance, access to a launderette, all utilities, storage facilities for bikes and 19 meals per week are also included in catered halls.

If your son or daughter chooses to live with friends in private accommodation, the website has useful guidance on what to look for. See nottingham.ac.uk/yourcommunity for more information.

We guarantee University-arranged accommodation for one year to all new full-time undergraduate students, providing they:

- firmly accept their course place
- apply to us for accommodation by the deadline
- accept their offer of accommodation by the deadline in the offer letter
- international students are guaranteed a place in accommodation for the duration of their course**.

* All our sites are mixed-sex occupancy but we’ll do our best to provide accommodation in a single-sex area if requested.
** Returner application to be submitted in line with the accommodation providers requirements.

For more information, please see nottingham.ac.uk/go/oncampusaccommodation
Career opportunities

A degree from the University of Nottingham lays the foundations for a successful career. Employers are regularly on campus, from local to national and international organisations, including Barclays, BP, Boots, Civil Service, EY, Goldman Sachs, GSK, Jaguar Land Rover, Mondelez, P&G, PwC, Rolls-Royce and Save the Children.

94.3% of our students are employed or in further study within six months of graduating. – Known destinations of full-time UK domiciled undergraduates who were available for employment, 2014/15.

Unitemps Nottingham enables students to apply for suitable paid part-time and temporary work. This is a great way to boost finances while gaining valuable work experience.*

* Please note that there are working restrictions in place for international students holding Tier 4 visas. For more information please visit nottingham.ac.uk/go/workingintheuk

We offer online resources to help our international students explore career options in the UK, at home and overseas.

We offer the Nottingham Advantage Award – a programme of over 200 modules focusing on skills, employability and personal development.

Our Careers and Employability Service organises a range of activities including one-to-one appointments and CV reviews, skills workshops, recruitment fairs, and work placements.

For more information, please see nottingham.ac.uk/careers
Students’ Union

When studying at the University of Nottingham, your son or daughter is part of our community. University of Nottingham Students’ Union (SU) is a diverse organisation. It is run by first-year students, returners and postgraduates, SU staff and volunteers.

Everyone who studies at Nottingham is instantly part of our student-led charity; we want students to get involved, make changes, and find support when it’s needed.

Whether your son or daughter is our next Quidditch champion or rugby fly-half, performance artist or language expert, there’s something for everyone with over 300 student-run societies. We also have more than 100 societies dedicated to different countries and cultures, bringing students from all over the world together.

For more information, please visit su.nottingham.ac.uk

Study abroad

Nottingham students undertake an international experience while studying with us for a variety of reasons – whether it’s to develop their studies, language ability or just to try living and studying somewhere different, in cities including Hong Kong or Sydney. We offer full year and semester exchanges, research placements and summer schools, so there is something to fit all interests. For opportunities at our China and Malaysia campuses, we offer extra funding to help students with the costs of flights and visas.

Employers value this experience too – 64% of employers consider an international experience as important for [graduate] recruitment according to a recent report by the European Commission.*

For more information about study abroad and the financial support available, see nottingham.ac.uk/studyabroad

Finance for UK students

Tuition fees
For full-time undergraduate courses, the University will charge students £9,250 per year in fees. This figure applies to 2017 entry and is likely to rise with inflation each year. Your son or daughter will not have to pay fees while studying – they can take out a tuition fee loan.*

Support from the UK government
This includes:
- tuition fee loan
- loan for living costs

Loan repayments
Your son or daughter will repay the living costs loan and tuition fee loan once they graduate from (or leave) university and are earning over £21,000 per year. They will repay 9% of any earnings over £21,000.

Support from the University of Nottingham
We provide a generous package of bursaries to support UK students from lower-income households. Our Funding and Financial Support Team provide information and advice on all aspects of student finance. See nottingham.ac.uk/financialsupport for more information.

If you normally live in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland, you should check the relevant website for more information about financial support.
- Scotland: saas.gov.uk
- Wales: studentfinance wales.co.uk
- Northern Ireland: studentfinanceni.co.uk

* Eligible students only – for details, please see gov.uk/student-finance

Finance for EU and international students

European students
EU students beginning courses in 2017 or 2018 will be charged tuition fees at the same rate as UK students, and will be eligible for tuition fee loans from the UK government for the full duration of the course. For more information see nottingham.ac.uk/go/eu-students

Non-EU students
Tuition fees vary for our range of courses but remain fixed for the duration of the course (except for medicine and foundation year programmes), so the fees quoted to your son or daughter for their year of entry will remain the same for each year of the course.

Fees can be paid in different ways, including instalments. Find out more about fees and how to pay them at nottingham.ac.uk/fees

We offer a range of scholarships for outstanding students from selected countries, schools, colleges and international qualifications. For more information see nottingham.ac.uk/go/international-scholarships

If your son or daughter will need a Tier 4 student visa to study within the UK, they must show as part of their visa application that they or you (as a parent or legal guardian) have sufficient funds to cover living costs and tuition fees for the first year of the course. For more information see nottingham.ac.uk/go/student-visa

Note: at the time of going to print, fees and funding for 2018 entry were yet to be finalised. The information in this guide is based on figures for 2017 entry.

For more information about student finance and government support, please see gov.uk/student-finance
Location

There are five University of Nottingham campuses: University Park, Jubilee and Sutton Bonington in the UK; the China Campus in Ningbo; and the Malaysia Campus in Semenyih, near Kuala Lumpur.

In the UK, students have the best of both worlds: they’re close enough to Nottingham city centre (and in the case of Sutton Bonington, to Loughborough) to be able to enjoy city life but also have access to a wide range of facilities on campus.

Our campuses provide high-quality academic facilities as well as social and day-to-day amenities in a safe and friendly environment. Initiatives include a free bus service between campuses and a bike-hire scheme.

Regular bus services make it easy to get into Nottingham city centre and to Loughborough from Sutton Bonington. Our Students’ Union run a Safer Taxi Scheme which enables students to book a taxi by text message and has a fixed-price system. Nottingham has also won five Purple Flag Awards (between 2000-2015) for safe and exciting nightlife.

Nottingham is approximately two hours’ from London. There are good rail and coach links (including regular trains to London throughout the day), and excellent access to the M1. East Midlands Airport is just 13 miles south of the city and is served by a 24-hour bus service to Nottingham.

For a closer look at our campuses, visit Virtual Nottingham: nottingham.ac.uk/virtualnottingham
Student Support

Support services at the University of Nottingham include:

- **NHS GP and dental services** on University Park Campus

**Student Service Centres** on every UK campus, providing support, information and signposting to other specialist services, including:

- academic support, for students with specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia and dyspraxia
- disability support
- financial support
- visa and immigration support, for international students

**Free confidential counselling service**

**Childcare services**

**Hall pastoral support** within University accommodation and in some third-party accommodation

**University multi-faith chaplaincy** faith support and advice

**Personal tutors**

**Disability liaison officers** in each school

**School welfare officers** in each school

**Mental health advisory service**

**Health promotion** HealthyU is the University health promotion initiative, providing students with advice to help them stay healthy and information about health and wellbeing services

**Security service** that operates 24-hours a day, seven days a week, all year round

**Students’ Union Advice** provides confidential advice on issues such as housing and tenants’ rights, money, and academic and employment concerns

For more information, please see nottingham.ac.uk/studentservices
Choosing a course – what to ask

- What are the required grades?
- What modules are available?
- Does the university have a good reputation for that course?
- Does the school/department offering the course have any links with relevant employers?
- What careers can the course lead to?

- Is the course theory or practice-based?
- How is the course taught?
- How much teaching time is there?
- What facilities and resources are available?
- Is there the option to study abroad or gain work experience?

Key facts

We offer over 280 undergraduate degree courses including some with a foundation year

For a full list of courses, entry requirements and modules, please see nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

Our schools and departments are grouped into five faculties:
- Arts
- Engineering
- Medicine and Health Sciences
- Science
- Social Sciences

The Language Centre, on University Park Campus, offers a broad range of language tuition, from beginners’ to advanced level.

Our libraries provide access to millions of resources and facilities, such as bookable study rooms and plasma screens.

Traditional lectures are combined with innovative teaching resources such as an e-learning system.
Hints on starting university

For most students, starting university also means leaving home for the first time. It’s hugely exciting – but it can also be daunting.

Things to remember

They might find these things useful in their first few weeks:

- Bank account details
- Extra cash (in case funds don’t clear)
- ID (passport or driving licence)
- Original documents – for registration
- Passport photos
- Photos, posters and other things to personalise their room
- TV licence (if applicable)
- Young Person’s Railcard (discounts on rail fares across the UK)

Support from you

Every student will adjust to university life in their own way and at their own pace. Feeling homesick is perfectly normal so reassurance may be needed.

International students

We offer a free International Welcome Programme for new international students in September, right before the start of our undergraduate courses. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know the campuses and meet other students. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/go/welcome-programme

Extra support

Moving away from home can be a stressful time, so there is support available. It’s important that your son or daughter asks for help if they need it, as there is always someone to talk to.
Useful contacts

General switchboard:  
+44 (0)115 951 5151

Accommodation Services:  
+44 (0)115 951 3697  
accommodation@nottingham.ac.uk  
nottingham.ac.uk/accommodation

Admissions Office:  
Queries regarding the processing of students’ applications  
+44 (0)115 951 4749

Student Recruitment Enquiries Centre:  
■ Request a prospectus or school brochure  
■ Open day and visiting us enquiries  
■ All other student-related enquiries  
+44 (0)115 951 5559  
nottingham.ac.uk/enquire

Student Service Centre:  
Students’ main point of contact for information, advice and support during their time at university  
+44 (0)115 748 6500  
nottingham.ac.uk/studentservices

Students’ Union switchboard:  
■ Clubs, societies and activities  
■ Student Volunteer Centre  
+44 (0)115 84 68800  
su.nottingham.ac.uk

Widening Participation Team:  
■ Local outreach activities  
■ Summer schools  
+44 (0)115 951 5075

International and EU students:  
Information and guidance to help you apply and prepare for study in the UK  
+44 (0)115 951 5247  
nottingham.ac.uk/go/international-applicants

Gov.uk:  
Government services and information including details of financial support for students  
.gov.uk

icould:  
Careers stories and activities  
icould.com

NUS (National Union of Students):  
Information about all aspects of university life  
nus.org.uk

UCAS:  
■ Applications  
■ General advice and guidance regarding university entrance, choice of degrees, how to apply and guidance for parents  
.ucas.com

UKCISA (UK Council for International Student Affairs):  
The UK’s national advisory body for international students and those who work with them  
.ukcisa.org.uk

This publication is available in alternative formats.  
+44 (0)115 951 5559

University of Nottingham has made every effort to ensure that the information in this brochure was accurate when published. Please note, however, that the nature of the content means that it is subject to change from time to time, and you should therefore consider the information to be guiding rather than definitive.

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