

Applying to university timeline

Year 12

January

UCAS fairs are a great way to start your research.

Running from February through to June, these events bring universities together in one place to answer your questions, so get planning which you might attend. You can get hold of prospectuses and chat to staff about their university, what they offer and find out if you think it might be a good fit for you.

Head to the UCAS website to find a fair near you

ucas.com

February

Hopefully you've started to narrow down your options, so book a taster day to get a real insight into how a subject is taught at higher education and discover career paths available within your field.

Keep a record of things you have learnt so, when it comes to your personal statement, you've got a foundation.

Check out Teesside Uni's subject taster days

tees.ac.uk/events

March

Open days are a great opportunity to get a feel for a university, campus and facilities.

Every university is different – the size and layout of the campus, the choices of courses on offer and how they are taught and assessed. We recommend you visit your top three choices to find out what works best for you.

Book your place

tees.ac.uk/opendays

April

Specific work experience might be required for some courses and it's a great way to experience first-hand what a career in that area involves. Being able to talk about transferable skills in your personal statement or at interview is a real bonus.

If you can't get paid work, contact your local volunteering or charity centre to find out the best way to get involved.

May – June

If you're applying for a course within an art, design, fashion, animation or another creative subject, you might need to provide a portfolio of work as part of the selection process.

Think about the pieces you want to include to demonstrate your range of skills and what each piece says about you.

Teesside Uni art and design staff offer their advice on what makes a great portfolio

tees.ac.uk/apply

July – August

You've done the groundwork, carried out your research and should be ready to get cracking with a first draft of your personal statement.

This is where the notes you've been making all year come in handy! Plan your statement like a story with a beginning, middle and end. Make sure to include skills and experience, knowledge and interest in the subject, and career aspirations.

Watch our video for hints, tips and guidance

tees.ac.uk/apply

Year 13

September

Exciting times, UCAS is open.

If you are super organised and prepped, you can submit your application.

Tip! Keep a note of your UCAS personal ID. This is something universities ask for when you contact them.

October

How ready are you if you need to have an interview as part of the application process?

Start thinking of questions you might be asked and examples you can give to demonstrate your transferable skills and knowledge of the subject.

15 October – this is the deadline for Oxford, Cambridge, medical, dentistry and veterinary courses.

November – December

Check if your school or college has an internal deadline for you to submit your personal statement.

If you still don't feel confident, book another open day or campus tour with your shortlisted universities to help you decide which is the right choice.

January

The UCAS equal consideration deadline is 6.00pm on the final Wednesday in January. If you are applying for a competitive course or university, you need to submit your application by this date.

Watch our video on choices, deadlines and replying to offers

tees.ac.uk/apply

February

If you've applied to all five choices on your application form but haven't secured a place, you can add another choice through UCAS Extra.

Apply to one university at a time and wait for a decision.

UCAS Extra explained

tees.ac.uk/apply

March – April

Revision...let's get on it!

Make a revision timetable and find a method that works for you.

Ben Taylor gives his five revision tips in five minutes

tees.ac.uk/apply

May – June

Exams are here – go smash it!

July

Clearing opens in early July – this is the last opportunity for you to secure a place at university (if you haven't already).

Not all courses are in Clearing so research what's available and explore every option.

August

Results day!

We hope all your hard work has paid off and, if we are lucky, we might see you at Teesside Uni :)