



Guide for
Prospective
International
Undergraduates
2021

Welcome

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 one of the most stimulating and diverse groups of people I had ever met – staff and students from around the globe.

At Cambridge, we continue to reach 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





No. 1

in the *Guardian*, *Complete, Times* and *Sunday Times* University Guides 2020.

Top 3

in the Academic Ranking of World Universities 2019.

Top 10

in the world for graduate employability (QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2020).

Around 1,000

undergraduates from outside the UK admitted each year.

140+

countries represented among undergraduates and postgraduates.

109

affiliates of the University have been awarded the Nobel Prize since 1904.

Contents

Cambridge Explained	2
Student Life	4
Careers	8
Courses	10
Colleges	14
Applying to Cambridge	18
Entrance Requirements	22
Frequently Asked Questions	26
Fees and Finance	28
Visiting Us	32
Travelling to the University	33
Map	34
About this Guide	36
Finding Out More	37
Cambridge Terminology	37



Cambridge Explained

The University of Cambridge is one of the world's leading universities, providing a challenging, flexible and individual learning experience. Consistently rated among the top higher education institutions in national and international league tables, the University is globally respected for the quality of our teaching and research, and our students are greatly sought after by employers.

Studying at Cambridge offers you the chance to engage with academics at the forefront of cutting-edge research, and the opportunity to participate in a vibrant and varied student experience. Here you can develop your knowledge and transferable skills to prepare you for your future, whichever direction you wish to take.

The University and Colleges

Cambridge is a collegiate university, which means it comprises University faculties and departments in different academic subjects, and a number of Colleges. As well as being a member of the University and an academic faculty/department, students also belong to a smaller College community and this system offers a huge amount of individual pastoral and academic support for each student.

The key functions for which the University and Colleges are responsible are outlined below, to show how they fit together.

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

The partnership between the University and the Colleges is one of our greatest strengths. It provides superb facilities, contact with the very best minds, and personal supervision and support to help develop your academic interests. We also pride ourselves on the close level of pastoral care provided by College tutors, support staff and student-run networks.





Our courses

More than 65 subjects are offered within our undergraduate courses – see p12-3 for the course list, and a subject search facility can be found on our Undergraduate Study website (www.cam.ac.uk/courses). Most courses cover the subject broadly to start with before allowing you to choose from a range of specialisms. This can offer you a high level of flexibility, allowing you to explore subjects widely, develop your interests and discover your strengths.

You're taught by experts in their field through a combination of lectures, practicals (where relevant), seminars, and regular small-group tuition known as 'supervision'. These sessions allow you to explore course material in much greater depth, investigate new approaches, receive regular feedback and clarify anything you're unsure about. See p11 for more about our teaching and assessment methods.

Term dates 2021-22

Michaelmas Term	Lent Term	Easter Term
Tuesday 5 October – Friday 3 December 2021	Tuesday 18 January – Friday 18 March 2022	Tuesday 26 April – Friday 17 June 2022

Each academic year consists of three eight-week terms, with similar dates to those above. See online for exact term dates in later years. All students must ordinarily be available to study in Cambridge for the full duration of their course (with the exception of a year abroad, where part of the course).

Student life

Cambridge has a diverse and vibrant student community, and this diversity is valued and celebrated. There's plenty for you to get involved with across the University, Colleges and around the city itself.

We encourage our students to get involved socially and they certainly do – we have hundreds of student-run clubs and societies, so whatever your interests, you'll be in good company here.

Our extensive welfare and support systems also ensure your individual needs can be recognised and met. There are various University and student-run services, and within your College you have a number of people looking out for your academic and personal welfare. You can find out more about student life and support on p4-7.

Student Life

We have a great social scene here. There's loads going on in the University, Colleges and city, and with students accounting for about a fifth of the city's overall population, Cambridge is a great place to be a student.



In and around Cambridge

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

Entertainment, music and festivals

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.

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

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

More than 40 per cent of our students are from outside the UK, including around 3,700 undergraduate students.

Pubs, clubs and restaurants

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

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

Shopping

Cambridge's three shopping centres and the city's central streets house well-known stores alongside independent shops and boutiques. The stalls in Market Square sell handmade jewellery, vintage clothes, books and much more. You can pick up artisan breads and local produce as well as a delicious range of street food.

Just outside the centre, you can find an eclectic mix of international food shops, cafés and restaurants, offering a wide variety of cuisines from around the world.

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
- historical buildings, gardens and museums
- nature reserves, wildlife parks and zoos
- karting, a real snow slope, and indoor skydiving



Student societies and groups

Cambridge isn't just about academic work – it's important that you have time out from your studies and get involved socially too; university is about trying new things, and the more you take part, the more you'll get from your time here.

At Cambridge, there are hundreds of student groups, clubs and societies relating to:

- academic subjects
- particular cultures and nationalities
- community, charity and volunteering projects
- the environment
- faiths and religions
- food and drink
- games, hobbies and outdoor pursuits
- media (eg journalism, TV, radio, film-making, photography)
- performing arts (eg comedy, dance, drama, music)
- politics and debating
- science and technology

See the Societies Directory for the full range at: www.cusu.co.uk/get-involved/societies.

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, the University and Colleges offer a variety of facilities and support services for everyone from beginners to elite athletes.

More than 80 sports and activities are offered here, including team games, water sports, martial arts, racket sports and extreme sports.

Facilities for sport

- a gym (plus flexible student gym memberships and personal training)
- a strength and conditioning room
- a multi-purpose room for fitness classes, martial arts and dance
- a sports hall
- team training room
- squash courts
- a physiotherapy and sports injury clinic

In addition, we offer facilities for athletics – including an eight-lane track – three sand-dressed hockey pitches, a cricket pitch and indoor cricket school, and three hard and eight grass tennis courts.

In addition, Colleges provide facilities for traditional team games and sports such as tennis and rowing, and many have their own gym and other sports facilities.

Further information about sport at the University is available at: www.sport.cam.ac.uk.

*Continued
overleaf*



Study facilities

It's not just our teaching that's world class – we provide extensive resources and facilities to support your learning too.

Libraries

The collegiate University has more than 100 libraries across the Colleges, faculties and departments, and the University Library. As well as books, journals and other hard copy documents, our libraries offer vast online collections and practical sessions to help you make the most of their resources.

 www.libraries.cam.ac.uk

Museums and collections

The University has nine specialist museums and collections open to students and the public alike.

 www.cam.ac.uk/museums



Computing and IT

All Colleges and many departments and libraries have computer suites offering a range of general and specialist software. Most student rooms are connected to the University network and internet, and there are wireless hotspots throughout the departments and Colleges. An IT service desk and free training courses are available to all students.

 www.it.cam.ac.uk

Language Centre

The Language Centre offers an academic English support programme for overseas students, as well as taught and self-study courses in more than 180 languages, and a dedicated Advising Team.

 www.langcen.cam.ac.uk

Support

There's an extensive welfare network in place at Cambridge, and consistently high retention rates.

College welfare

Within your College, you have a Director of Studies (DoS) looking after your academic welfare, who advises you on course options and monitors your academic progress. As well as a DoS, you have access to a Tutor who can provide pastoral support and offer advice on personal or financial matters. Most Colleges have a number of others you can turn to for medical or personal support, such as a nurse, counsellor and/or chaplain.

University services

As well as department lecturers and staff, University support services include the Counselling Service, the Childcare Office for student parents, and the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) for disabled applicants, offer holders and students, including those with a specific learning difficulty, mental health conditions or long-term health conditions.

 www.cam.ac.uk/support

Students supporting students

Every College has its own students' union, to which undergraduates are elected to represent students at a College level, and each has a welfare officer or team that can provide support and advice. Many Colleges also assign 'College parents' (students in other years) to new students to help them settle in and find their feet.

The University Students' Union – CUSU¹ (www.cusu.co.uk) – represents all students at the University and runs campaigns and initiatives about issues that matter to the student community. It also provides an independent, professional and confidential Advice Service, providing advice to students about personal and academic issues, and helping students access the support they need while at the University.

The international student branch of CUSU – iCUSU – oversees all international societies, and looks out for the welfare and needs of international students at the University.

¹ Information 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.



Arrival and settling in

Once offer-holders meet their offer conditions, their College will start to contact them about arrangements for coming to Cambridge.

The International Student Office website – www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk/arriving – offers a wide range of information and advice on pre-arrival, arrival and orientation matters for new overseas students. In addition, some University alumni groups offer pre-arrival freshers' events for undergraduates and postgraduates in various places around the world each August and September (www.cam.ac.uk/freshers) to help you to meet other new students before arriving at Cambridge.

CUSU (www.freshers.cusu.co.uk) has a freshers' website offering information for new undergraduates, and runs programmes of events and activities to help you settle in. This includes CUSU's Societies Fair, where you can find out about many of the student groups, clubs and societies to get involved in.

Colleges and faculties/departments usually offer an induction or orientation programme in the first few days of your arrival to cover key information (eg finding your way around, facilities/resources etc).

It's common for undergraduates to feel a little nervous about moving somewhere new – if you experience this, there are plenty of people around who can offer some advice and support while you find your feet (see opposite). The best way to lose any initial nerves and get settled in at Cambridge is to throw yourself into student life and make the most of all the different opportunities to get to know the city, University and your fellow students.

Careers

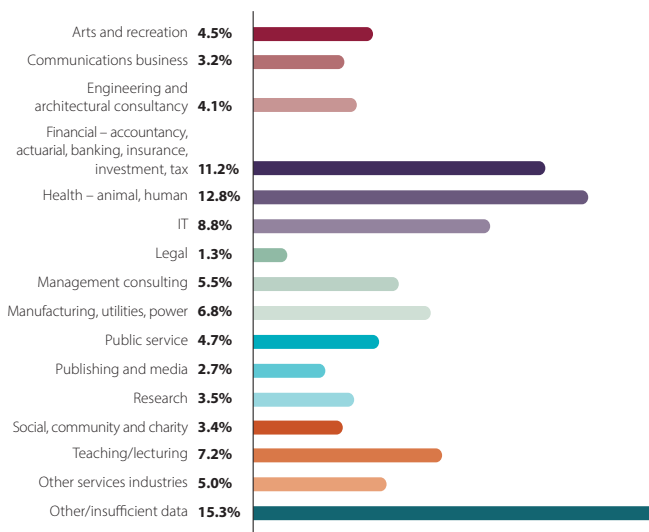
Cambridge has one of the highest proportions of graduates entering graduate-level employment or further study in the country. Our dedicated Careers Service helps you to prepare for your future, whatever path you want to follow.

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 course choice limiting you to one career path. But it's not just employment our degrees prepare students for – around one third of our graduates from 2015 to 2017 progressed into further study or training.

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/dlhc/summary). You can also read Alumni Stories (www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/news) about what some of our students have gone on to do following graduation.

Employment destinations of 2015-2017 Cambridge first-degree graduates





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

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.

 www.careers.cam.ac.uk





Courses

Many of our courses (also called Triposes at Cambridge) encompass several subjects (as indicated overleaf), with some options available in a number of courses.

Our courses cover the subject area very broadly in the initial years, and then offer an increasingly wide range of options in the later years, of which you will typically choose just a few in which to specialise. If you already know what you want to focus on, you can start to specialise early on at Cambridge. However if you're not sure just yet, you have the flexibility to delay specialising until you've explored the subject and confirmed your interests.



Changing courses

Most students stay on the same degree course. However, it may be possible to change (with agreement from your College). The course details on our website (www.cam.ac.uk/courses) give information about more common changes and you should contact a College for further advice.



How you're taught and assessed

The University faculty or department arranges lectures, seminars and practicals that students from all Colleges attend together. Your College also arranges supervisions (see right) for you.

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

Most students are assessed at the end of every year. This is usually through traditional written examinations, but in some courses/years there are opportunities for coursework (in the form of long essays, dissertations or projects) to be submitted for assessment.

See online for full information about our courses, teaching and assessment (www.cam.ac.uk/courses).

Lectures

Lectures typically last around 50 minutes. Many lecturers are leading academics working at the forefront of their field.

Seminars and classes

These usually last between one and two hours. For groups of 10-30 students, they're led by academics but you're expected to actively contribute.

Practicals

Some courses include practicals, such as laboratory classes or 'labs'. Practical work may be assessed on some courses.

Supervisions

Supervisions are small-group sessions (most often for between one and three students) during which you discuss your work and ideas in depth, and receive regular feedback. This more personal tuition is one of our greatest strengths.

Typically, you have one or two hour-long supervisions each week (depending on your course). You do some appropriate preparation for each supervision (eg reading, writing an essay, working on some problems), and in the session get feedback on your work and explore ideas further.

Supervisors are specialists in particular subject areas (they may be one of the country's or world's leading authorities). Throughout your time at Cambridge, you see different supervisors (who may be based at different Colleges) according to the topics you're covering.

Independent research

There's considerable emphasis on independent and self-directed study at Cambridge – all students are expected to undertake wider reading and exploration beyond what's required for lectures, classes etc. All courses also include dissertations and/or research projects (usually in the later years), in which you can test out theories and put forward ideas.

Field trips, visits, study abroad, language courses

Several courses offer such opportunities – where you go, for how long and what you do varies depending on your course (see course information online).

Work experience

Some courses include a period of work experience, giving you the chance to explore potential career paths and develop vocational skills. As well as or instead of this, many students (regardless of course) organise work experience during the long vacations.

*Continued
overleaf*

Cambridge courses

For information about our courses and links to faculties and departments, please see the Undergraduate Study website at: www.cam.ac.uk/courses.

Course	Degree award	Course duration (years) ¹	Location (map ref, see p34-5)	Key subjects for admission (see p22-5)	Admission assessment (see p23)	Colleges accepting applications
Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic	BA (Hons)	3	S		At-interview ²	All
Archaeology <i>Archaeology, Assyriology, Biological Anthropology, Egyptology</i>	BA (Hons)	3	D		At-interview	All except Queens'
Architecture	BA (Hons)	3	L	Mathematics or Physics	At-interview	All except Hughes Hall, St Catharine's
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies <i>Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese, Persian</i>	BA (Hons)	4 (Year 3 abroad)	S	A language	At-interview ²	All
Chemical Engineering	MEng	4	W	Chemistry, Mathematics (Physics, depending on the route)	Pre-interview	All
Classics	BA (Hons)	3 or 4	S	Latin (for the three-year course)	At-interview	All
Computer Science	BA (Hons) or MEng	3 or 4	W	Mathematics, science subjects ³	Pre-interview	All
Economics	BA (Hons)	3	S	Mathematics	Pre-interview	All except Newnham, Wolfson
Education <i>Education, Psychology and Learning; Education, Policy and International Development; Education, English, Drama and the Arts</i>	BA (Hons)	3	N		At-interview ²	All except Corpus Christi, Girton, King's, Murray Edwards, Newnham, Peterhouse, St Catharine's, Sidney Sussex, Trinity, Trinity Hall (Education, English, Drama and the Arts track not available at Emmanuel)
Engineering <i>Aerospace and Aerothermal; Bioengineering; Civil, Structural and Environmental; Electrical and Electronic; Electrical and Information Sciences; Energy, Sustainability and the Environment; General; Information and Computer; Instrumentation and Control; Mechanical</i>	MEng	4	E	Mathematics, Physics	Pre-interview	All
English	BA (Hons)	3	S	English Literature	Pre-interview	All
Geography	BA (Hons)	3	D	Geography	At-interview ²	All except Peterhouse
History	BA (Hons)	3	S	History	At-interview ²	All
History and Modern Languages <i>History and French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian or Spanish</i>	BA (Hons)	4 (Year 3 abroad)	S	History, a language	At-interview	All
History and Politics	BA (Hons)	3	S	History	At-interview ²	All
History of Art	BA (Hons)	3	L		At-interview	All except Girton, Robinson, St Catharine's

¹ All undergraduate degrees are full-time, and all students must ordinarily be available to study in Cambridge for the full duration of their course (with the exception of a year abroad, where part of the course).

² Some Colleges require applicants to take a written assessment at interview (see p23).

³ 'Science/mathematics subjects' refers to Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Further Mathematics. It does not include Psychology.

Course	Degree award	Course duration (years) ¹	Location (map ref, see p34-5)	Key subjects for admission (see p22-5)	Admission assessment (see p23)	Colleges accepting applications
Human, Social, and Political Sciences <i>Politics and International Relations; Social Anthropology; Sociology; Politics and Sociology; Social Anthropology and Politics; Social Anthropology and Religious Studies; Sociology and Criminology; Sociology and Social Anthropology</i>	BA (Hons)	3	M S		At-interview ²	All
Land Economy <i>Environment, Law and Economics</i>	BA (Hons)	3	F		Pre-interview	All except Churchill, Corpus Christi, Emmanuel, King's, Peterhouse
Law	BA (Hons)	3	S		At-interview	All
Linguistics	BA (Hons)	3	S		At-interview	All except St Catharine's
Mathematics <i>Including Mathematics with Physics</i>	BA (Hons) or MMath	3 or 4	X	Mathematics, Sixth Term Examination Paper in Mathematics (STEP), sciences ³	At-interview ²	All except Wolfson
Medicine	MB, BChir	6	D M	Chemistry and at least one other science/mathematics subject ³	BMAT pre-interview	All except Hughes Hall
Modern and Medieval Languages <i>French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish</i>	BA (Hons)	4 (Year 3 abroad)	S	At least one of the languages to be studied	At-interview	All
Music	BA (Hons)	3	S	Music	At-interview ²	All
Natural Sciences <i>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</i>	BA (Hons) or MSci	3 or 4	C D J M W	At least two science/mathematics subjects ³	Pre-interview	All
Philosophy	BA (Hons)	3	S		At-interview	All except Murray Edwards, Queens'
Psychological and Behavioural Sciences	BA (Hons)	3	D M	Science/mathematics subjects ³	At-interview ²	All except Peterhouse
Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion	BA (Hons)	3	S		At-interview	All except Churchill
Veterinary Medicine	VetMB	6	D M W	Chemistry and at least one other science/mathematics subject ³	Pre-interview	All except Christ's, Corpus Christi, Hughes Hall, King's, Peterhouse, Trinity

Part II courses

In addition to the courses listed above, we also offer two other courses – Management Studies and Manufacturing Engineering – which students can apply to change to after two or three years of another undergraduate course (places available are limited). See online for details (www.cam.ac.uk/courses).



Colleges

At Cambridge, as well as being a member of the University, you're also a member of a College. Once you've decided on a course you'd like to study, you need to consider your College choice.

What's a College?

Your College is your base for the time you're at Cambridge (see p2). It's where you live, eat, socialise, receive academic and pastoral support, and where you often (though not always) have your supervisions (see p11).

⊕ *Not too far to travel*

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

Accommodation

The majority of students are guaranteed accommodation in College-owned property for three years, and many Colleges provide for fourth-year students too.¹ This means that you don't have to worry about finding private rented accommodation during that time.

Some Colleges have all their accommodation on their main site. Others have some on their main site plus College-owned flats and houses around the city. Either way, most accommodation is within easy walking or cycling distance of the University departments and facilities, and the city centre. See the map on p34-5 for locations.

Colleges have a variety of accommodation available, and you often have a choice of en suite or shared bathroom facilities. Whatever the style, you have a room of your own and access to a shared kitchen and laundry room. All Colleges have their own library and computer suite too.

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.² If you want to stay in Cambridge throughout the year, you should discuss this with your College.

See p29-30 for information about accommodation costs, and the Undergraduate Study (www.cam.ac.uk/accommodation) and individual College websites (p16-7) for full details.

Food

All students have access to basic self-catering facilities (these vary between Colleges), 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 p29-30).

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 dining hall each term (see College websites for details).

¹ Accommodation guarantee applies to single undergraduates without children at all Colleges. All single undergraduates without children are usually expected to live in College-owned accommodation where possible.

² Colleges can usually offer storage facilities for overseas students' belongings during vacations.



Recreational facilities

The main social hub of every College is its common room and/or bar (also known as a JCR, or Junior Common/Combination Room). Many offer 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 p4-7 for more information about student life at the University.

How do I choose a College?

In your application, you can either choose a particular College or, if you don't have a preference, you can make an 'open' application (see p16) and accept the allocation made by a computer program.³ In both cases, your application is sent to a College and that College assesses it.

Everyone's reasons for choosing their College differ. Some Colleges don't take students in all subjects so check availability for your course first (see p12-3 and p16-7). Otherwise, we suggest that you think of choosing a College in terms of where you'd like to live; you may want to consider the following points:

- **your age** – three Colleges are exclusively for students aged 21 or older (mature students)
- **your gender** – two Colleges consider applications from female students only
- **size** – number of students
- **appearance** and type of accommodation (eg on-site or College-owned houses)
- **particular facilities** – eg for certain sports, performing arts etc
- **personal instinct** – it just 'feels right'

There are profiles introducing each College and further guidance on how (and how not) to choose online at: www.cam.ac.uk/choosingacollege.

³ Whether you select a preference College or an open application, you must choose the same option in your UCAS application, COPA and SAQ; and once you've submitted your application, this choice can't be changed.

Open applications

If you don't have a preference for a particular College, you don't have to choose – you can make an open application instead. For equally well-qualified applicants, choosing a preference College or making an open application makes no difference to your chance of being made an offer.

After the closing date, each open application is allocated to a College by a computer program. Once allocated, open applications are treated exactly the same as any other application received by that College – interviewers aren't told whether an open application or preference College was stated, and candidates won't be asked about their choice at interview.

The pool

At Cambridge, we operate a 'pool' system to ensure the best applicants are offered places, no matter which College they applied/were allocated to. If a College is over-subscribed in a particular course, strong applicants are put into the pool for other Colleges to consider.

Normally, around one in four applicants is pooled and, of these, around one in five receives an offer of a place from a College other than the one they applied/were allocated to. More information about the pool system is available online (www.cam.ac.uk/apply).

College	Location (map ref, see p34-5)	Undergraduates admitted each year	Undergraduate/ postgraduate numbers	Courses available	Information
Christ's	1	125	420/200	All except Veterinary Medicine	www.christs.cam.ac.uk admissions@christs.cam.ac.uk
Churchill	2	135	485/375	All except Land Economy; Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion	www.chu.cam.ac.uk admissions@chu.cam.ac.uk
Clare	3	140	519/297	All	www.clare.cam.ac.uk admissions@clare.cam.ac.uk
Corpus Christi	4	95	290/220	All except Education, Land Economy, Veterinary Medicine	www.corpus.cam.ac.uk admissions@corpus.cam.ac.uk
Downing	5	130	425/220	All	www.dow.cam.ac.uk admissions@dow.cam.ac.uk
Emmanuel	6	145	470/220	All except Land Economy and the Education track Education, English, Drama and the Arts	www.emma.cam.ac.uk admissions@emma.cam.ac.uk
Fitzwilliam	7	140	440/335	All	www.fitz.cam.ac.uk admissions@fitz.cam.ac.uk
Girton	8	140	500/280	All except Education, History of Art	www.girton.cam.ac.uk admissions@girton.cam.ac.uk
Gonville & Caius	9	160	560/250	All	www.cai.cam.ac.uk admissions@cai.cam.ac.uk
Homerton	10	185	550/500 (including 200 PGCE)	All	www.homerton.cam.ac.uk admissions@homerton.cam.ac.uk
Hughes Hall For students aged 21 and over (mature)	11	55	150/600	All except Architecture, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine	www.hughes.cam.ac.uk admissions@hughes.cam.ac.uk
Jesus	12	145	500/380	All	www.jesus.cam.ac.uk undergraduate-admissions@jesus.cam.ac.uk
King's	13	125	430/280	All except Education, Land Economy, Veterinary Medicine	www.kings.cam.ac.uk/study undergraduate.admissions@kings.cam.ac.uk
Lucy Cavendish	14	130 ¹	240/350 ¹	All	www.lucy-cav.cam.ac.uk admissions@lucy.cam.ac.uk

¹ Projected student numbers for 2021 entry following a change in the College's admissions policy. Please see the College website for more information.



College	Location (map ref, see p34-5)	Undergraduates admitted each year	Undergraduate/ postgraduate numbers	Courses available	Information
Magdalene	15	105	356/232	All	www.magd.cam.ac.uk admissions@magd.cam.ac.uk
Murray Edwards For female students	16	105	360/232	All except Education, Philosophy	www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk admissions@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk
Newnham For female students	17	120	380/290	All except Economics, Education	www.newn.cam.ac.uk admissions@newn.cam.ac.uk
Pembroke	18	135	430/295	All	www.pem.cam.ac.uk adm@pem.cam.ac.uk
Peterhouse	19	75	260/206	All except Education, Geography, Land Economy, Psychological and Behavioural Sciences, Veterinary Medicine	www.pet.cam.ac.uk admissions@pet.cam.ac.uk
Queens'	20	150	500/500	All except Archaeology, Philosophy	www.queens.cam.ac.uk admissions@queens.cam.ac.uk
Robinson	21	120	386/172	All except History of Art	www.robinson.cam.ac.uk apply@robinson.cam.ac.uk
St Catharine's	22	135	440/220	All except Architecture, Education, History of Art, Linguistics	www.caths.cam.ac.uk undergraduate.admissions@caths.cam.ac.uk
St Edmund's For students aged 21 and over (mature)	23	40	180/471	All	www.st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk admissions@st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk
St John's	24	170	569/325	All	www.joh.cam.ac.uk admissions@joh.cam.ac.uk
Selwyn	25	115	400/250	All	www.sel.cam.ac.uk admissions@sel.cam.ac.uk
Sidney Sussex	26	105	350/275	All except Education	www.sid.cam.ac.uk admissions@sid.cam.ac.uk
Trinity	27	200	720/350	All except Education, Veterinary Medicine	www.trin.cam.ac.uk admissions@trin.cam.ac.uk
Trinity Hall	28	110	380/218	All except Education	www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk admissions@trinhall.cam.ac.uk
Wolfson For students aged 21 and over (mature)	29	50	150/600	All except Economics, Mathematics	www.wolfson.cam.ac.uk ugadministrator@wolfson.cam.ac.uk

Applying to Cambridge

To apply to the University of Cambridge, you must submit an online application through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). If you're applying from outside the European Union (EU), you must complete some additional application forms that are specific to Cambridge. This section guides you through the process.

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 p10-3 and www.cam.ac.uk/courses.

②

College

Where would you like to live when you're here? In your application, indicate if you have a preference College or if you're making an open application.

See p14-7 for guidance on choosing.



Application deadlines for 2021 entry

If you'd like to be considered for interview in	Submit UCAS application by	Submit COPA by	Submit transcript by	Submit SAQ by
Malaysia, Singapore ¹	20 September 2020	20 September 2020	20 September 2020	26 September 2020
Cambridge, Canada, China, Hong Kong, India, USA (Remote Interview Scheme) ²	15 October 2020	19 October 2020	22 October 2020	22 October 2020

3

Apply

Submit your UCAS application, Cambridge Online Preliminary Application (COPA, if applying from outside the EU) and Supplementary Application Questionnaire (SAQ) online by the relevant deadlines – see table above.³

The COPA and SAQ request information not included in your UCAS application which we find helpful when assessing candidates.

See p20 and www.cam.ac.uk/apply.

4

Written assessment

Most applicants are required to take a written assessment, either pre-interview or at interview, should you be invited to attend. You must be registered in advance at a certified assessment centre for any pre-interview assessment.

See p23 and www.cam.ac.uk/assessment.

5

Interview

On average, around 75 per cent of applicants each year are invited to attend an interview, although this varies by course and interview location. Most interviews take place in Cambridge but we conduct a number of interviews overseas – see table above and p21.

www.cam.ac.uk/overseasinterviews



6

Decision

All undergraduate admissions decisions are the responsibility of the Cambridge Colleges – you'll be notified of the outcome of your application before the end of January 2021.

*Continued
overleaf*

¹ Interviews will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

² It is anticipated that interviews will be held in Toronto, Canada; Shanghai, China; Mumbai, India; and New York, USA.

³ There's an earlier deadline for those applying for an Organ Scholarship (www.cam.ac.uk/musicawards).



Applying

UCAS application

All applicants must complete and submit a UCAS application online by the relevant deadline (see table on p19).

You can include up to five UK university courses on your UCAS application (please note that it's not possible to apply to both the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford in the same year). You must provide information about your education to date, and include a personal statement and an academic reference. Further details about the UCAS application are available from our website (www.cam.ac.uk/apply) and the UCAS website (www.ucas.com).

COPA

In addition to the UCAS application, if you're applying from outside the EU you must submit a Cambridge Online Preliminary Application (COPA) by the relevant deadline (see table on p19). The COPA collects useful information that isn't part of your UCAS application, and allows us to make arrangements for overseas interviews (if applicable). Please note that there's an overseas application fee associated with the COPA.

Whatever your nationality or fee status, if you're attending school/college within the EU at the time of your application, you don't need to submit a COPA.

You can find full information about the COPA on our website at: www.cam.ac.uk/copa.



SAQ

Once you've submitted your UCAS application, you'll receive an email from us directing you to complete the Supplementary Application Questionnaire (SAQ) – please check your email (junk/spam folder as well as inbox) regularly during this time. The SAQ enables us to collect further information that is useful when assessing applications. You will have the option to complete a Cambridge-specific personal statement as part of the SAQ, giving you the opportunity to detail your interest in your chosen Cambridge course.

The SAQ deadline for most students is 22 October, unless requesting an interview in Malaysia or Singapore. All applicants must complete the SAQ to make a valid application to the University.

If you're applying from outside the EU and have submitted a COPA, you'll receive a COPA reference number which you should enter on the SAQ.

Further information about the SAQ can be found at: www.cam.ac.uk/saq.



Interviews

On average, each year we invite around 75 per cent of applicants to attend an interview (though the percentage varies between courses and interview locations). Most of these take place in Cambridge in early December, but the University conducts a number of interviews overseas – for 2021 entry, it's anticipated that these will take place in Canada, USA (Remote Interview Scheme), China, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia and Singapore (see p19).

There are some restrictions on who can be considered for interview overseas. For those who are interviewed overseas there's an interview fee.

Information about interviews, including films about preparing and what to expect can be found on our website at: www.cam.ac.uk/overseasinterviews.

Remote Interview Scheme

The University conducts a remote interview scheme in New York for applicants from the USA and surrounding countries (though all applicants are welcome to apply to this scheme). Applicants will be interviewed via video-conferencing software by interviewers based in Cambridge.

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.

For further information and updates, please visit the International Student Office website (www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk) and the Home Office website (www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa).



Entrance Requirements

What are we looking for?

Admissions decisions at the University are based solely on academic criteria – your ability and your potential. We assess everyone individually, which means 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 the students who they believe:

- have the most academic ability and potential for the course at Cambridge – successful candidates are in the top one or two per cent of their year group, and doing very well in the subjects most relevant to the course applied for
- will benefit from and flourish in the Cambridge learning environment – that they have the ability to think critically and independently, are willing to argue logically while remaining open to new ideas, and have the potential to go beyond what they've learned so far
- are best suited to the course they applied for – that they're self-motivated, self-disciplined and academically committed to the subject

Information used to 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
- performance at interview (if interviewed)

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 a challenging course that's taught and examined in English. Your language ability will be assessed throughout the admissions process – a good standard is expected at interview, should you be invited to attend, and in some cases you may be required to achieve one of the following formal qualifications as part of the conditions of your offer (if made an offer):

- IELTS Academic – normally a minimum overall grade of 7.5, usually with 7.0 or above in each element (achieved in one sitting)
- 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).

Course requirements

For many Cambridge courses qualifications in certain subjects are required and all Colleges expect such subjects to be passed, normally with the highest grade available. Key subjects required for admission by all or some Colleges are indicated in the table on p12-3.

For courses without particular subject requirements, the Colleges will expect high grades in the subjects most relevant to the course you're applying for.

All undergraduate admissions decisions are the responsibility of the Cambridge Colleges and entry requirements may differ slightly between Colleges. College-specific requirements and preferences can be found on the course pages of our website. Please contact the College(s) you're considering applying to check any queries you have about your specific qualifications.¹

Admission assessments

Most applicants are required to take a subject-specific written admission assessment, either pre-interview or at interview, should you be invited to attend.

Pre-interview assessments will be taken on 4 November 2020 at an authorised centre local to you. Some schools/colleges are authorised centres or you can find out where your nearest 'open' centre is at: www.admissionstesting.org/find-a-centre. You must be registered in advance for any pre-interview assessment – if your assessment centre doesn't register you (you can't register yourself) by the appropriate deadline you won't be able to take the relevant pre-interview assessment, which will mean your application to the University won't be valid. The registration deadline for most pre-interview assessments is 15 October, but there's an earlier deadline for the BMAT (for Medicine) and for some assessment centres.

With the exception of the BMAT for Medicine, there's no entry fee set by the University for the pre-interview assessments, but some assessment centres may charge candidates an administration fee.

At-interview assessments will be taken as part of the interview process. There are no charges associated with taking any at-interview assessments, and you don't need to register or be registered in advance for them – the Colleges provide details of arrangements in the letters inviting applicants to interview.

See online for more information about admission assessments, examples of specimen papers and to find an assessment centre at: www.cam.ac.uk/assessment.

Typical offers and requirements

We accept a wide variety of qualifications from all over the world and expect students to be achieving the highest grades – most successful applicants ultimately exceed the conditions of their offer.

On the pages that follow you'll find information about typical offers and requirements for a range of qualifications accepted for admission to Cambridge for 2021 entry (see also Course requirements, left). Information about other qualifications we accept can be found online at: www.cam.ac.uk/entrancerequirements.

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

¹ Although you may be considering a number of Colleges, you can only make one application to the University in a year – either indicating one preference College or selecting the open application option in your UCAS application. Once your application is submitted, your choice can't be changed.

*Continued
overleaf*



Qualifications

A Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Typically A*AA or A*A*A, depending on the course (www.cam.ac.uk/courses). Applicants may be required to achieve A* in a particular subject(s), depending on individual circumstances.
Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A rank of 98.5-99.5 overall, together with documentation of similar performance in individual subjects relevant to the course applied for. Offers for many courses include a top result in mathematics at the highest academic level.
Cambridge Pre-U	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conditional offers are set on an individual basis but are likely to require Distinction level grades (D2 or D3) in Principal Subjects.
Canadian High School/Secondary School Diploma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of 90 per cent overall in the final diploma year (based on grade 12 English and the best five other grade 12 scores). In addition, five or more AP tests with scores of 5 or at least 776 in three IB Higher Level subjects appropriate for the course.
Chinese University Entrance Examination (Gaokao)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers are made on an individual basis, but students typically need to achieve within the top 0.1 per cent of the gathered field. This can vary by province. The Senior High School Examinations (Xueye Shuiping Kaoshi; previously the Huikao) alone are not regarded as sufficient preparation for Cambridge.
College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five or more APs at grade 5 in appropriate subjects for the intended course. In addition, high passes in the High School Diploma and high scores in the SAT (a combined score of at least 1,460-1,500 depending on the course) are expected. An ACT score of at least 32-33 out of 36 is accepted instead of the SAT.
European Baccalaureate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful applicants are typically asked for 85-90 per cent overall, with scores of 9 or more in subjects most relevant to the course they want to study.
French Baccalaureate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 or 17 (mention très bien) out of 20, with 16 or 17 usually required in individual subjects.
German Abitur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between 1.0 and 1.2 overall, with 14 or 15 in subjects most closely related to the course you want to study.
Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade 5 in all core subjects, and grade 5* in one or two relevant core subjects. Arts courses (except Economics), Psychological and Behavioural Sciences (PBS) and Veterinary Medicine expect applicants to achieve 5*55 in their electives, and science courses (excluding PBS and Veterinary Medicine) and Economics expect applicants to achieve 5*5*5 in their electives. Demanding conditions are usually set in the other compulsory subjects in the Diploma core (particularly Mathematics and English) as well.
Indian Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) or Indian School Certificate (ISC) Class XII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class XII at 90-95 per cent depending on the Board (A1 for CBSE). Additional qualifications are expected – usually AP Tests, IIT JEE or STEP, depending on the course. Please see the website for full details.
International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers usually require 40-42 points out of 45, with 776 in Higher Level subjects. Applicants may be required to achieve 7 in a particular subject(s), depending on individual circumstances.
Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Typical offers are based on AAA in the Malaysia Higher School Certificate.
Singapore/Cambridge A Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants are usually required to achieve AAAA at H2 Level. Applicants should take relevant H3 subjects where available. Where H3 subjects are being taken, the typical offer level is AAA at H2 Level, plus at least Merit or Distinction in one H3 Level.
Sixth Term Examination Paper in Mathematics (STEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Used to assess aptitude for university study in mathematical subjects. It's used as part of almost all conditional offers from Cambridge for Mathematics. Some Colleges require/ may require STEP for other courses needing strong mathematical ability. Offers typically require grade 1 in two STEP papers. More information is available online at: www.cam.ac.uk/step.

All qualifications taken and scores achieved must be disclosed. For full details check our website: www.cam.ac.uk/entrancerequirements.




Other qualifications

If the qualification you're taking isn't listed here, please look online (www.cam.ac.uk/entrancerequirements) as early as possible to check if it provides an appropriate preparation for the course you hope to study.

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

Transcripts

Most overseas applicants are required to submit a High School Transcript (record of academic achievement in the most recent years of schooling) with their COPA (or SAQ). However, if you take IGCSEs/GCSEs and modular AS/A Levels or CIE A Levels in which you receive a Percentage Uniform Mark (PUM), you won't be required to submit a transcript (www.cam.ac.uk/transcripts).



Frequently Asked Questions

What's the most important part of my application?

Every application is assessed holistically – Admissions Tutors consider all of the information available (see p22) 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.

Should I refer to extra-curricular activities in my personal statement?

Our admissions decisions are based on academic criteria (ability and potential) and we expect to see evidence in your application of your wider engagement with areas of academic interest, such as reading and other explorations relevant to the course for which you have applied. Extra-curricular activities which are of no relevance to the course will not increase your chances of receiving an offer. If, however, particular extra-curricular activities have enabled you to develop transferable skills, such as organisation or time management, then do include them in your personal statement. Such activities might include significant caring responsibilities or paid employment, which can help us fully contextualise your application, as well as sport, physical activity, music, drama and volunteering.

What work experience do I need to have?

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





Can I take a gap year?

Around six per cent of students accepted to Cambridge take a gap year. You should state your intention to defer entry in your UCAS application and be prepared to talk about your proposed year out if you are invited to interview. Please also refer to the course information online if you're considering applying for Engineering or Mathematics (www.cam.ac.uk/courses).

Do I need to apply to a specific College for my course?

You can apply to any College that offers your course. Regardless of their College, all students on the same course are taught together by the University's academic faculties/departments, attending the same lectures, seminars and practicals, and sitting the same exams. The key functions that the University and Colleges are responsible for are outlined on p2.

If I make an open application, will it increase or decrease my chances?

For equally well-qualified applicants, indicating a preference College or selecting the open application option makes no difference to the chance of being made an offer.

If you have unusual qualifications (eg a non-standard combination of subjects for the course) or have particular requirements (eg a disability or other considerations that require specific guidance or support), then it's advisable to apply to a specific College having sought advice about your circumstances at an early stage.

Before submitting an open application, you should be sure that you'll be content whatever the outcome of the allocation – preferences can't be stated and the application can't be changed once submitted.

Is there an age requirement for entry to Cambridge?

The vast majority of undergraduates are aged 18 years or older when they begin their course at Cambridge. Students who are 21 or older when they start a course are classified as mature students.

All students need to demonstrate that they have the maturity and personal skills to cope with university level study, and will be able to gain full benefit from the course when admitted. If you'll be under 18 on admission, you should seek advice from a College admissions office as early as possible to discuss your application. If you're considering Medicine, you should refer to the information online about age requirements for this course.

Is there a GCSE (or equivalent) requirement?

There are no GCSE (or equivalent) requirements for entry to Cambridge. Results achieved at that stage are looked at as a performance indicator, but within the context of the performance of the school/college where they were achieved.

If you haven't taken six or more GCSEs/IGCSEs in the last three years, or you have taken different qualifications in Grade 10/Year 11, you're required to submit a transcript outlining details of your qualifications as part of your application. See also p25 and the further information online at: www.cam.ac.uk/transcripts.

Fees and Finance

International students' costs at Cambridge include tuition fees, College fees and living costs.

Tuition fees

Tuition fees for overseas students depend on the course you're studying. 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.

Information about fees and financial support for Home fee status students can be found online at: www.cam.ac.uk/studentfinance. 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 – please check online regularly for updates (www.cam.ac.uk/eu).

If you're unsure whether you're classed as Home or international/overseas for fee purposes, you can find information at: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees.

Visa applications require you to prove in advance that you can finance all of the costs, as we do not advise students to undertake paid employment during the academic term. Colleges also ask offer holders for guarantees that they can finance all of the costs for the full duration of their course.





College fees

International/overseas fee status students normally have to pay College fees in addition to tuition fees. These cover the cost of educational, domestic and pastoral services and support that you receive through your College.

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

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

In 2020-21, the minimum resources for living costs needed in Cambridge for the year are estimated to be approximately £11,230,¹ depending on lifestyle – you should allow for increases in future years and if you stay in Cambridge during the vacations.

Living costs 2019-20

College accommodation (including any kitchen charges)	£110-£180 per week ² £130-£210 en suite per week ²
Food³	£4-£7 per College meal £9-£15 per College formal hall meal (typical cost at most Colleges) Example prices: rice (1kg) £1; pasta (500g) 60p; loaf of bread 60p; milk (1 pint) 50p; bag of ground coffee £3; whole chicken £3-£7; bunch of bananas £1
Additional course costs	Dependent on course – see course information online (www.cam.ac.uk/courses)
Personal expenses examples³	Cinema ticket £8-£12; TV licence £154.50 per year; haircut £10-£60
Transport in Cambridge³	Most students walk or cycle to get around – a bike, lights and lock typically cost from £50 upwards, depending on whether you buy second hand or new

¹ Figure rounded up to the nearest £10.

² Figures are 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.

³ Figures are correct as of December 2019; you should allow for increases in subsequent years.

*Continued
overleaf*

Accommodation

The majority of students are guaranteed accommodation in College-owned property for three years, and many provide for fourth-year students too (see also p14-5).¹

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), 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.

Food

At Cambridge, basic self-catering facilities are available, 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 also p14 and p29).

Additional course costs

Additional course costs are costs in addition to your tuition fees and living costs that you may need to meet. These costs will vary

depending on your course but may include you having to pay for your own personally-owned equipment (eg calculator, lab coat), photocopying, and/or travel costs (eg field or dissertation research trips), in addition to basic study materials (eg paper, pens, books).

Specific additional course costs can be found online (www.cam.ac.uk/courses) and these will usually increase annually in line with inflation (except where a rise in directly attributable expenses warrants an above-inflation increase). The University's numerous libraries and IT facilities help to keep study costs down and some department/College grants may be available.

Personal expenses

What you spend on food, clothing, social activities, 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.

¹ Accommodation guarantee applies to single undergraduates without children at all Colleges. All single undergraduates without children are usually expected to live in College-owned accommodation where possible.





Financial support

At Cambridge there is financial support available (mostly means-tested) to help overseas students with costs. This includes:

- Cambridge Commonwealth, European and International Trust awards
- College awards – such as book and equipment grants, scholarships and prizes for academic and other achievements, and travel grants for academic work
- country-specific scholarships
- International Disabled Students' Fund

See online for details at: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalsupport and individual College websites. Please pay particular attention to eligibility, application requirements and deadlines.

Part-time work

The University takes the view that students shouldn't undertake paid employment during term time, as it's important that you have an appropriate work-life balance. 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. However, you must ensure that any such work wouldn't breach the conditions of your visa.



Visiting Us

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

Cambridge Open Days

The University-wide Cambridge Open Days for prospective applicants will be on 2 and 3 July 2020. We welcome international students in Year 10 (Grade 9) or above. Booking online in advance is essential.

All subjects will be offering course presentations and/or information stands; and many Colleges will be open all day for Open Day visitors. See the Undergraduate Study website for more details and booking instructions at: www.cam.ac.uk/opendays.

College and department open days

Many Colleges and a number of departments run their own events at different times in the year. These offer a chance to pick up a range of information and get a sense of College/department life and the facilities available to students. Please note that visiting a particular College doesn't commit you to applying to that College. Visit the Undergraduate Study website (above) and College and department websites for dates and information.



College tours

College tours are held during UK school holidays and are open to students in Year 10 (Grade 9) or above and an accompanying parent/supporter. Visitors will attend a presentation and take a guided tour of one/two Colleges. Check the website for further information: www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events/college-open-days.

If you can't attend an open day or College tour

If you can't make an open day or College tour, you can visit at another time – most College grounds and some departments are open for most of the year. However, while Colleges and departments do their best to help applicants to visit them, there are restrictions and/or charges for tourists at certain times (such as during exams) so do check with the College/department before you come.

If you'd like to speak to College staff during a visit to Cambridge, please contact the College's Admissions Office in advance to arrange this.

Overseas events

The University makes various visits and attends a number of events outside the UK throughout the year. Details of these and contacts to request further information can be found on the international events page of our website at: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalevents.

Travelling to the University

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

Typical direct flight times to London airports

Amsterdam	1 hour
Beijing	10 hours
Dubai	7 hours
Frankfurt	1.5 hours
Hong Kong	12 hours
Los Angeles	11.5 hours
Mumbai	9 hours
New York	8 hours
Paris	1 hour
Shanghai	11.5 hours
Singapore	13 hours
Toronto	8 hours
Vancouver	10 hours

By air

Cambridge has excellent transport connections to five of the country's major international airports, making it very easy for our international students to travel to the city from anywhere in the world.

Stansted, Heathrow, Gatwick and London City (not marked) are all easily accessible by train, and buses run regularly from Stansted, Luton, Heathrow and Gatwick to the city centre.

By bus

National bus services (eg from/to airports and other cities around the UK) stop on Parkside, Parker's Piece in the city centre.

In Cambridge, the 'Universal' bus service links some departments and Colleges with the city centre and central train station, and offers discounted fares to students. For information about the Universal and other local bus services, see: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/buses.

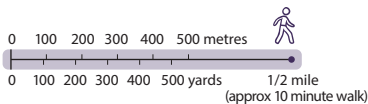
By train

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

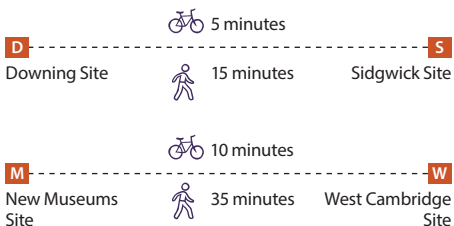
For further travel advice, see the University's pre-arrival information (www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk/arriving) or the Tourist Information Centre website at: www.visitcambridge.org.



Map



Example journeys



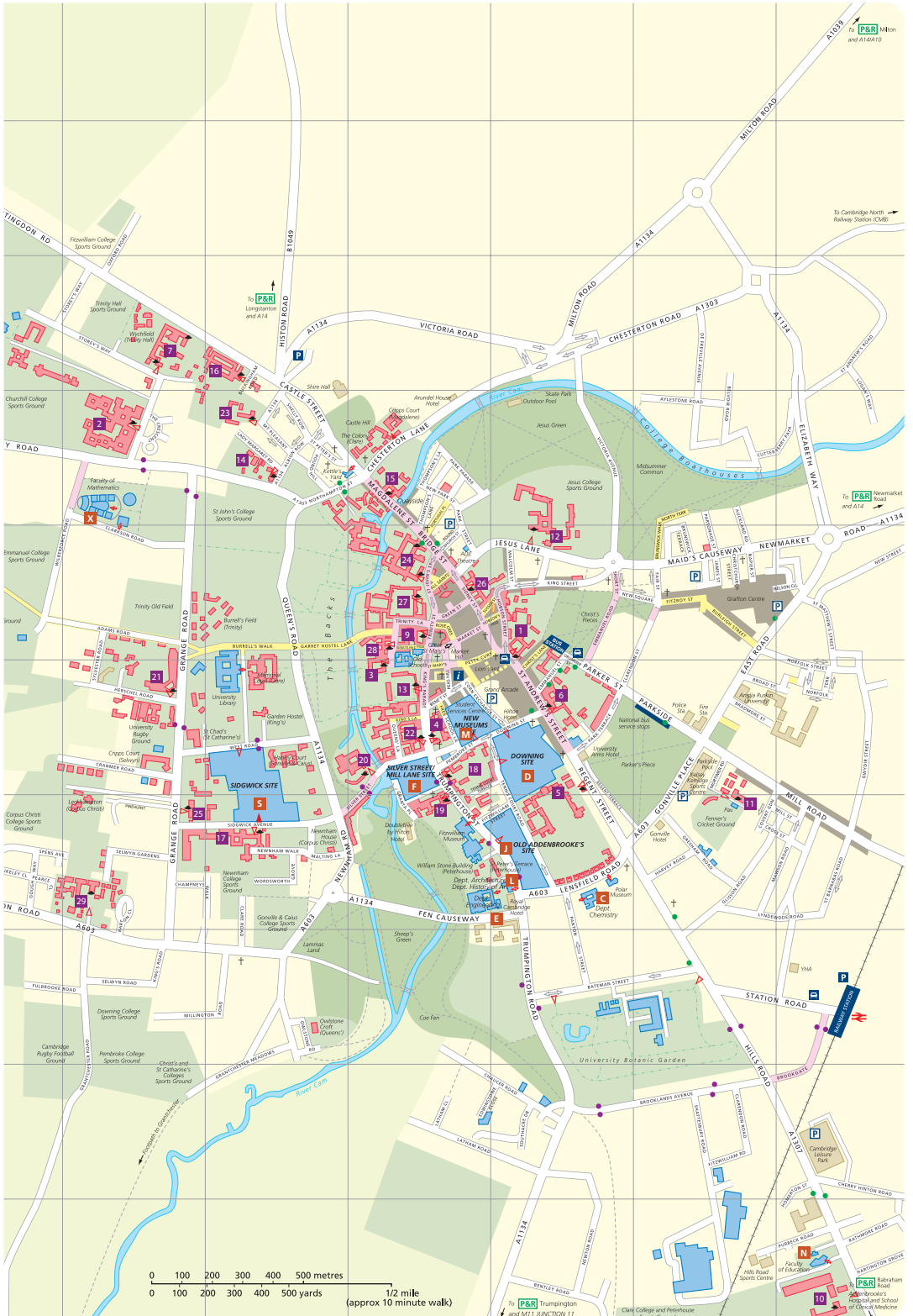
Colleges

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Christ's College | 16 Murray Edwards College |
| 2 Churchill College | 17 Newnham College |
| 3 Clare College | 18 Pembroke College |
| 4 Corpus Christi College | 19 Peterhouse |
| 5 Downing College | 20 Queens' College |
| 6 Emmanuel College | 21 Robinson College |
| 7 Fitzwilliam College | 22 St Catharine's College |
| 8 Girton College | 23 St Edmund's College |
| 9 Gonville & Caius College | 24 St John's College |
| 10 Homerton College | 25 Selwyn College |
| 11 Hughes Hall | 26 Sidney Sussex College |
| 12 Jesus College | 27 Trinity College |
| 13 King's College | 28 Trinity Hall |
| 14 Lucy Cavendish College | 29 Wolfson College |
| 15 Magdalene College | |

- College of the University
- University building
- Non-University building
- University, College and other private grounds
- Public open space
- Surrounding countryside
- Built-up area
- Main shopping area
- One-way street
- Limited vehicle access
- Pedestrian street/cycle way (cycling restrictions may apply)
- - - Public footpath/cycle path (cycling restrictions may apply)
- - - University/College path

- ▶ Site entrance (vehicle access)
- ▷ Site entrance (no vehicle access)
- ➔ Main entrance to building
- ➔ Porters' Lodge (main College entrance)
- + Church
- T Tourist office
- T Taxi rank
- P Public parking
- P Multi-storey car park
- P&R Park and Ride site
- Park and Ride bus stops
- Universal bus stops





About this Guide

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this guide is accurate at the time of going to press, changes are likely to occur given the lengthy interval between publication and commencement of the course. It is therefore very important that you check the University and College websites for any updates before you apply for the course by visiting www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk and again before accepting any offer to study at the University. Where there is a difference between the contents of this guide and these websites, the contents of the websites take precedence and represent the basis on which we intend to deliver our educational services to you.

Any offer of a place to study at the University is subject to terms and conditions which can be found at www.cam.ac.uk/termsofadmission. The terms and conditions set out, for example, your key obligations as a student and when we might make changes to your course, the fees payable and the student regulations with which all students are required to comply. Again, it is important that you do read these before making an application.

If you are unable to access our website for any reason, please contact us on +44 (0) 1223 333308.

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Editorial

Undergraduate Admissions Committee, Cambridge Admissions Office and contributors

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Photography

Alice the Camera, James Appleton, Department of Architecture, Cambridge Filmworks, Maeve Devitt-Tremblay, Department of Earth Sciences, Faculty of Economics, Department of Engineering, Dave Green, Faculty of History, Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics, Elena Morgan, Matt Moon, Pembroke College, Amelia Penny, Queens' College, St Catharine's College, Selwyn College, Department of Social Anthropology, Vice-Chancellor's Office.

Finding Out More

University contacts

Undergraduate study

(Cambridge Admissions Office)

 +44 (0) 1223 333308

 internationaladmissions@admin.cam.ac.uk

 www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk

Postgraduate study

(Graduate Admissions Office)

 www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk

International Student Team

(including visa advice service)

 +44 (0) 1223 761806

 www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk

Disability Resource Centre (DRC)

 +44 (0) 1223 332301

 disability@admin.cam.ac.uk

 www.cam.ac.uk/disability

Other

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service

(UCAS, undergraduate applications)

 +44 (0) 330 3330 230

 www.ucas.com

British Council

(guidance on living and studying in the UK)

 www.educationuk.org

Home Office

(visa and immigration matters)

 www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk

UK Council for International Student Affairs

(UKCISA, advisory body for overseas students)

 www.ukcisa.org.uk

Cambridge Terminology

Most universities have their own words, terms or expressions for certain things at that particular institution; and Cambridge is no exception! Below are a few that you'll come across at the University, and if there's other terminology you don't understand please get in touch to check what it means.

Backs – the area of the city around the river that runs along the backs of a number of central Colleges.

DoS – Director of Studies, all undergraduates have a DoS who's an expert in their subject and who is responsible for their academic welfare.

Formal (hall) – a College meal with waiter service, normally three courses and formal attire (and gown) is worn. The regularity and price varies by College (see also p14 and p29-30).

May Ball – an end of year celebration. Confusingly, May Balls are usually held in June, during May Week, the fortnight at the beginning of June after exams finish.

Matriculation – this is the formal admission of a student to the University.

Paper – an individual module, unit or topic on an undergraduate course; students usually take a number of papers each year (some are compulsory and some can be chosen from several options).

Porters – every College has a team of Porters to maintain the safety and security of staff and students; they'll often be your first point of contact for information or help around College.

Punt – a long, flat-bottomed boat that's propelled by someone standing at the back and pushing a long pole into the river bed; punting along the Backs (see left) is a popular activity for students, locals and tourists alike.

Senior Tutor – the College officer with overall responsibility for academic, welfare and disciplinary matters.

Supervision – regular small-group teaching sessions for undergraduates (see p11).

Tripes – the formal term at Cambridge for an undergraduate degree course.



**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

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

Cambridge Admissions Office
Student Services Centre
New Museums Site
Cambridge
CB2 3PT

01223 333308
admissions@cam.ac.uk

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk

