

CAREERS BULLETIN

LEAVERS' DAY 1st JULY 2011

Please read and keep this document which explains what happens on Results Day (August 18th) and afterwards - very important information!

ALL STUDENTS PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- **COMPLETE DESTINATION DATABASE IF YOU DID NOT DO SO EARLIER THIS TERM.**

UCAS APPLICANTS:

- **APPLICANTS FOR 2011 ENTRY – HAVE YOU APPLIED TO STUDENT FINANCE ENGLAND FOR YOUR STUDENT FINANCE? NO FINANCE=NO PLACE! Apply online at direct.gov.uk/studentfinance**
- **IF YOU INTEND TO APPLY TO UCAS FOR 2012 ENTRY YOU ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE UCAS GAP DAY ON FRIDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER 2011, WHERE YOU WILL START THE FORMAL PROCESS, REQUEST A REFERENCE UPDATE ONLINE AND SPEAK TO YOUR TUTOR.**
- **COLLECT AN ORANGE FOLDER FROM CAREERS TODAY IF APPLYING FOR UCAS 2012. APPLY IS NOW OPEN FOR YOU TO START YOUR APPLICATION.**

RESULTS DAY (Thursday, 18th August)

We strongly recommend that you are available to come in to college on this day if you have applied to UCAS. Remember results will be available from 8am on the web. See YELLOW booklet (Your Exam Results) issued by tutors.

Thursday 18th August from 8am, **there will be advice available in the Careers Office.** There will be further Advice Days in Careers from 9.00am – 4.00pm on Friday 19th, Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd and on Saturday 20th from 9.00am – 12.00pm. Please call at the Guidance Office for advice from Wednesday 24th – Friday 26th.

CONNEXIONS CAREERS ADVICE

This is available throughout August (and at other times) at Connexions based in the Central Library, Grand Arcade, Cambridge. Appointments can be booked on 01223 728500 and there is a drop-in service from 1.30 to 4.30 every afternoon.

This is also available at Ely Library on Tuesday – Friday from 10.00-1.00 and 1.30-5.00pm, telephone 01353 616990

UCAS CONFIRMATION

See <http://www.ucas.com/students/results/whatnext> for full details:

Universities receive results 3 days before candidates, so by results day most decisions have been made. UCAS send out letters on the 17th so you may receive a letter from UCAS on the 18th August, possibly before you know your results. You can also find decisions on UCAS TRACK. Do not worry if there is no letter; the post may be delayed or the university may still be considering whether to make an offer. Some candidates will open their post and discover they have been accepted at a university (hurrah!), and then find their grades are lower than the expected offer (slightly disappointing but you are in, so return to joy mode)!

- Candidates who have met the conditions of their FIRM choice will be accepted there. Track shows this as UC – unconditional firm. They receive a Confirmation letter with a reply slip that MUST be returned, and guidance on what to do next. Your university will send confirmation of accommodation and you should follow all instructions in the letter.
- Candidates who miss their FIRM choice but make the INSURANCE offer will receive a Confirmation letter as above. Think carefully before declining your Insurance place of the cost implications. UCAS states you cannot apply elsewhere for 2011 entry if you have gained your Insurance place. This is sometimes possible, if the Insurance choice will release you, but it is difficult and time consuming to change to another university and is a high risk strategy.
- Candidates who fail to make their firm and insurance offers **may** be offered an alternative course from one of the universities – shown on Track with the symbol UCC. You do not have to accept this and have up to 5 days to respond on TRACK to accept or reject this offer. Beware of being offered an undersubscribed course you do not really want.
- Candidates who have not heard from the university can look on TRACK and telephone the university. Help will be available in College on the day. Phone lines become jammed, but with persistence you will get through. Some universities will keep an applicant who has missed their offer on hold while they further consider the application. It is useful to have your module grades and ums available. In the case of Cambridge they want a fax on results morning confirming modules and ums scores if an A* offer has been missed. You may still be offered a place.
- ADJUSTMENT – Applicants whose grades exceed the grades required by their Firm offer have 5 calendar days to look for an alternative course if they wish. If you wish to consider this, you are strongly advised to consult staff in the Careers office first. Do not accept a university/course without visiting.

- CLEARING – Applicants must check their status on Track – if you are rejected by the firm and insurance choices then an ‘Add Clearing choice’ button becomes available. You should contact universities and discuss options – UCAS and The Telegraph will be the official source showing vacancies. If a university provisionally offers a place in Clearing you will be given a date by which you must enter the course details in Track. You only have one choice – beware of grabbing a new course and a new university place you have not visited. See www.ucas.tv or <http://www.ucas.com/students/nextsteps/clearing/> for further information.
- Have the new course code and your Personal id number ready when you speak to an advisor.
- Ensure you have informed UCAS of any changes to your email, postal address, home or mobile phone.
- UCAS Helpline 0871 468 0 468. Have your Personal id number ready. But it is universities who decide on whether to offer a place or not – contact them first if you think you have been rejected.

U6 POST RESULTS APPLICANTS – applying in Autumn 2011 for 2012 entry

- **Collect an orange folder from careers today**
- **Attend the UCAS Gap Day Friday, 2nd September at 9.00am** in the Science Lecture Theatre. During the morning you will be able to start the UCAS application, have your details checked and enact the reference update procedure. You should **bring a memory stick** with your personal statement saved on it and a paper copy. Your tutor will be available to check this. This is the **essential day for post-results applicants** to make a UCAS application, before the new U6 begin their forms. After this date, you will not be given priority.

OXBRIDGE, MEDICINE, DENTISTRY, VETERINARY APPLICANTS FOR 2012 ENTRY

Note: Cambridge applicants – after your application has been sent to UCAS, you must also complete an online Cambridge Application form that will have to include unit grades and ums scores. Cambridge will contact applicants directly in this regard.

Applications must reach UCAS and the Oxbridge College by 15th October, HOWEVER they must be handed in to the Careers office by 14th September for administrative checking.

Note that Medicine, Vet and Dental applications are limited to four places. The other space can be left blank or an alternative lower demand course added.

BE AWARE OF THE PROLIFERATION OF EXTRA ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS FOR OXBRIDGE AND OTHER UNIVERSITIES.

Note: Read the details in the orange folder regarding which universities demand extra tests and check websites for institutions that may join in testing. See <http://www.ucas.ac.uk/students/choosingcourses/admissions/> for details of tests.

- **BMAT** is taken in College on 2nd November 2011 for some Medical, Dental and Vet courses. Register from May 2011, and entry must be made by 23rd September.
- **UKCAT** is taken at a computer centre for many Medical Schools. Some overlap with BMAT colleges. Register from 4th May. Closes 27th September. Online testing begins 6th July.
- **LNAT** is demanded by some Law schools, begins early September.
- **MML Cambridge Modern and Medieval Languages taken on interview.**
- **Oxford ELAT** English courses; **HAT** History; **MAT** Maths courses including joint honours and Computer Science; **PAT** single and joint courses in Physics; **Thinking Skills Assessment** for PPE, Economics and Management, Experimental Psychology, Psychology and Philosophy exams are taken in College 2nd November.
- **Tests for Thinking Skills Assessment** taken at interview at Cambridge for Computer Science, Economics, Engineering, Land Economy, Natural Sciences, SPS.
- **TSA at UCL – test on interview for European Social and Political Studies**

Beware of dates changing or new tests arising during the year: keep checking the websites!

OTHER UCAS DATES Refer to the table in the college instruction booklet!

- Recommended hand in date for most non-Oxbridge courses and universities is **14th September 2011**. Most other UCAS applications must be handed in by **14th October** at the latest in order to aim for being sent to UCAS before Christmas. To ensure your application is received by 15 January we recommend **all forms** should be received by the **14th November**. Remember you will need to make appointments to see your tutor.
- **CUKAS** for music conservatoires – hand in complete forms by **7th September** to arrive by the recommended date of 1st October.
- **Art Route A & B** have now merged. Those aiming for an ‘early’ 15th January Art application should liaise with Art over references and complete by **14th November**. Intended hand in for “later” 24th March deadline will be **5th - 9th December**. Liaise with Art and your tutor for final instructions.
- **Art Foundation (mainly CRC)** - usually applications are made using a form provided by the institution. We recommend handing in by **9th January 2012**.

CAREERS BOOK RETURN

Return loan books to the library. If you have “borrowed” any books illegally please return these to the Careers department, where they will be gratefully received.

PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Details are on the board opposite the staffroom. Mrs Hodgkiss also has details of jobs for the Employment Group. A number of posts come in towards the end of term and will be advertised on the board in Careers. Also access the Jobfinder in Careers and go to <http://www.youthoria.org> for weekly vacancies.

GAP YEAR EMPLOYMENT AND SUMMER JOBS

Details are on the board in Careers. Look in the Cambridge Evening News, Addenbrookes and University websites.

Have a great summer,

Paul Ingham,
Director of Careers and HE Liaison