

Researching programs and schools

Education UK is the United Kingdom's official educational advising resource. There, you can learn about different regions of the UK, the admissions process, and search for undergraduate courses at all government-recognized universities. You can also search a database of scholarships for international students based on your area of study. Check out <http://www.educationuk.org>

You can also find schools that offer the major you are interested in by searching directly on the University and College Admission Services (UCAS) website, a centralized application processing platform used by all schools in the UK. www.ucas.com

Finally, you can learn more about different universities at the Complete University Guide, which offers rankings, university profiles, and get advice on the admissions process. <http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/>

General Admissions Requirements

Because basic education in the UK lasts 13 years, most international students are required to complete a one-year course called a Foundation Year prior to entering the undergraduate program, taken at a university or study center. Some universities offer alternatives that allow for direct admission to the first year of undergraduate study, such as taking the SAT and multiple SAT Subject Tests and passing with a certain minimum score. In any case, as undergraduate studies in the UK (except in Scotland) have duration of three years, even with the Foundation Year, you can still graduate from college in the four years it would take here in Mexico.

In addition, a high level of English proficiency is required, demonstrated through scores on the TOEFL iBT (www.ets.org/toefl) or IELTS (www.ielts.org)

Applications are submitted to a centralized processing platform called the UCAS (www.ucas.com). The UCAS application is electronic and includes sections for biographical information, your educational background, a teacher or adviser recommendation, and a personal statement of 4,000 characters or less. Similar to the U.S., the personal statement is an opportunity for the university to learn more about you as an individual, why you are interested in your field of study, and what you will contribute to the university environment.

Through UCAS, you are able to select up to five university choices, and apply to all of them by submitting only one application.

General Application Timeline

For medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, or to apply to Oxford or Cambridge Universities, the UCAS deadline is October 15. For all other areas of study except some art and design courses, the deadline is January 15. March 24 is the deadline for art and design courses except those that have a January 15 deadline.

