



College Admission and Applying to a University in the UK

A University of Chichester Guide for Students - 2014





Note for Guidance Counsellors

Last year over 25,000 American students studied in the UK, but the procedure for applying and actually getting a student into a British university isn't always clear.

Fortunately it's much easier than it appears. Based on feedback from our meetings with High Schools in the US, and our own American students here at Chichester, we have put together this short guide which we hope will help you the next time one of your students asks about studying in the UK. (Hopefully you will tell them about Chichester too!)



Images clockwise from top: Education and teaching lecture. ERASMUS exchange students, Music rehearsals, students outside Chichester Cathedral. Opposite page: Psychology lecture, Sports in the new Sports Dome. Cover image: Our Bognor Regis Learning Resource Centre.



Studying in the United Kingdom

It's much easier to study in the UK than it appears.

Some universities, like Chichester for example, are happy to take direct applications all year round on a rolling admissions system.

The alternative is the main common admissions portal, 'UCAS' - www.ucas.com. Here you can create an account, search the 130+ universities and then apply to a selection of up to 5 institutions. There is a nominal one off charge levied by UCAS but that's all you have to pay.

Typically students will apply via UCAS by a January deadline. The university you choose will respond promptly with conditional offers or rejections. You'll then select two; a first choice and an insurance choice, and then decide which one to go to when they get their final results in the summer.

Hopefully you'll get the grades for your first choice, and if not, then enough to get into your second. If you don't meet the grades for either choice then you can find another course and either apply individually directly with the university you want to go through, or a designated day run by UCAS called 'Clearing'.

The application is not too different from a college application in the US; you'll need to write a personal statement and enter your grades and predicted grades. Most universities will list their entrance requirements on their website. You'd need about 1550 in your SATs to come to Chichester, or about 26 in the ACT.

Before making an application to any university, it's a good idea to make personal contact with their International Office. They should be happy to guide you personally and answer any questions you may have.





Key points

- Undergraduate degrees are 3 years not 4
- Post graduate degrees are 1 year not 2
- A British university degree can be a prestigious, resume enhancing qualification
- Federal Aid applies to participating UK universities

Images clockwise from top: Chichester town, Sports Therapy student, Business students, 3Fall Dance students, English workshops. Opposite page: Psychology lecture. Cloisters, Bishop Otter Campus, Chichester.



Costs, visas and living

Most UK universities are very accustomed to serving international students and will have support services, admissions offices, and accommodation officers ready to contact you as soon as you have received an offer.

At Chichester for example we will contact you individually and explain how to apply for a visa, book accommodation, and apply for Federal Funding if you need to.

You can usually work in the UK on a student visa, but you shouldn't rely on this to fund your studies. The cost of living varies depending on where you'll be, so be sure to check with your university in advance.

At Chichester we recommend a minimum living budget of £800 a month, which is also the minimum amount the UK Border Agency need to see to issue a visa.

Costs will generally be highest in London, and lowest outside of London and the South East.



Study Abroad from a US college

If you would like to experience studying in the UK but don't want to leave home for too long, then make sure you go to a US college with a good study abroad and exchange program, who will help you travel to your preferred destination.

Chichester for example, has exchange partners in the US, Europe and all over the world.

We also take direct enrolment students.

To contact the University of Chichester please get in touch with:

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University of Chichester, Oakland's House
College Lane
West Sussex
PO19 6PE
United Kingdom

Email: I.Jones@chi.ac.uk
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More information

UK Council for International Student Affairs
www.ukcisa.org.uk

Cost of living calculator
www.international.studentcalculator.org

National Union of Students
www.nus.org.uk

The British Council
www.britishcouncil.org



Image: Students on our Bognor Campus.
Opposite page: Bognor Regis beach.



I really enjoy studying in Chichester. The seminars are small and every lecturer knows you by your name. The staff is absolutely dedicated to help you in every situation: If there is a problem there is a department taking care of it! The IALS gives assistance when you struggle with essays, the accommodation office helps you settle in and if you are looking for a job, there's the job centre. Besides, it's great that the International office organizes regular trips to various English cities, international parties or meetings; it helps to discover the country, adapt to university life and to find new friends from all over the world. The support you receive in any aspect of your student life is way above average and I would always apply for Chichester University again.

Sarah Braunmiller
History Exchange Student



For more information:

Contact the International Office

email: I.Jones@chi.ac.uk



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