

APPLYING TO CAMBRIDGE



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Featherstone High School, 27.11.13

WHY CAMBRIDGE?

- World-class Academic University
- Collegiate System
- Welfare Support
- Student Life
- Graduate Prospects

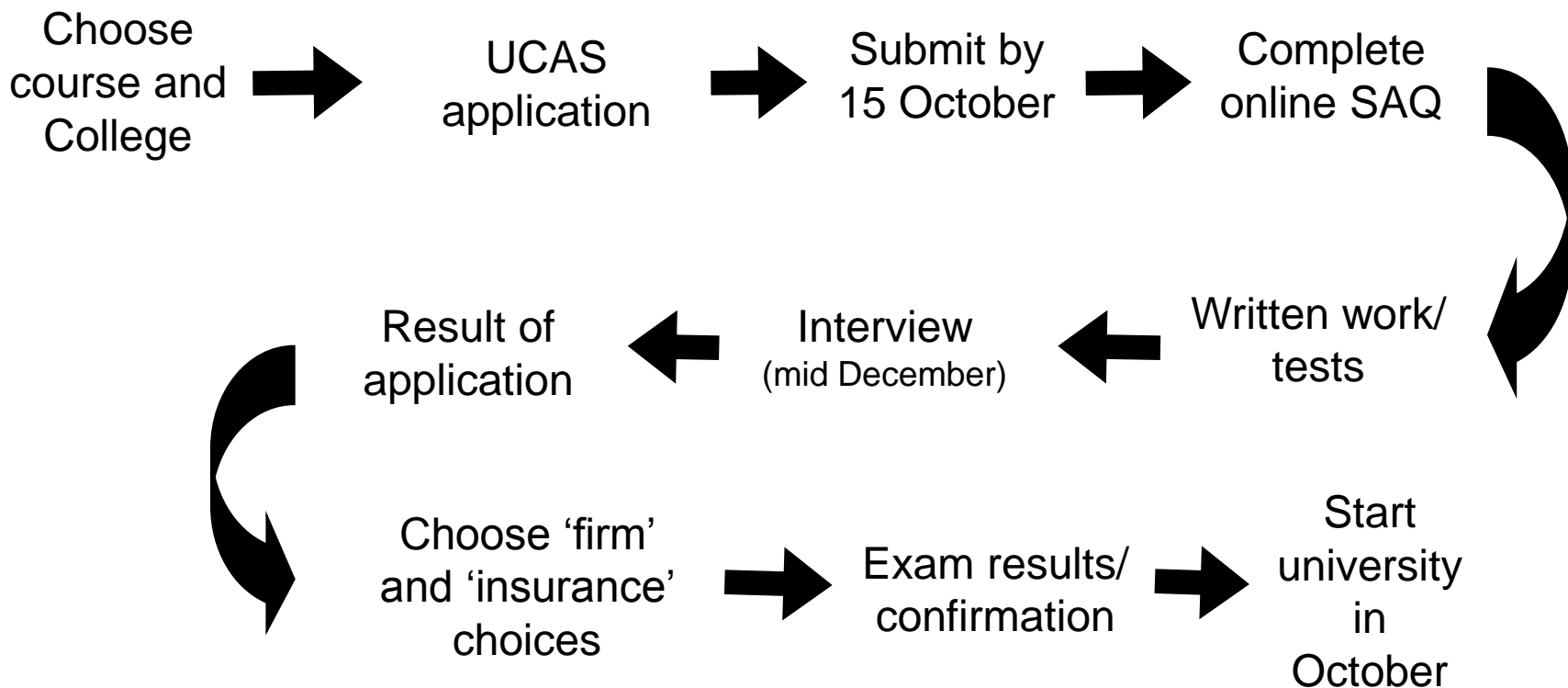


FINANCE AT CAMBRIDGE

- Student Loans
- Maintenance Loans/Grants
- Cambridge Bursary
- College Hardship Funds
- Cost of Living



THE APPLICATION PROCESS



SUPPLEMENTARY APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE (SAQ)

- Completed online, in multiple sessions if you want
- After applying you will receive an email asking you to login and set a SAQ Password
- Used to collect information not on the UCAS application, including:
 - Topics covered in AS/A level (or equivalent courses)
 - Optional Cambridge-specific personal statement
 - UMS marks
 - Admission test registration numbers (if applicable)
- Ensures consistent information about all our applicants

INFORMATION USED IN SELECTION

We treat each applicant as an individual, and consider:

- GCSE (or equivalent) results
- AS levels (including UMS unit scores)
- Predicted/actual A level (or equivalent) grades
- Personal statement
- School/college reference
- Written work if submitted
- Test result if taken
- Performance at interview

ADMISSIONS TESTS

- BMAT for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine
- Cambridge Law Test
- Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA)
- STEP for Mathematics
- College tests



INTERVIEWS

- The majority of applicants are called for interview
- Interviews usually take place in December
- Interviews are conducted by the Colleges; in some subjects applicants may be interviewed by more than one College
- Applicants have 1, 2 or 3 interviews, each lasting 20-45 minutes
- The most common format is 2 interviewers per interview
- Interviews are conducted by lecturers and are predominantly academic and subject-focused

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR AT INTERVIEW

- Genuine passion for the subject chosen
- Appropriateness of the course chosen
- Enthusiasm for complex and challenging ideas
- Clarity of thought and analytical ability
- Intellectual flexibility
- Where appropriate, vocational or professional commitment
- Where appropriate, budding interpersonal skills

AFTER THE INTERVIEW

- Three possibilities:
1. Successful application
 2. Unsuccessful application
 3. Application placed in the 'pool'

If pooled, other Colleges consider your application:

- They may offer you a place
- They may recall you for interview

(Or the College that pooled you may offer you a place)

REASONS FOR POOLING

- To allow *moderation* – comparison of applicants across Colleges before offers are made
- To ensure applicants squeezed out by competition can be considered by other Colleges
- To allow reassessment of applicants where indicators disagree

FINDING OUT MORE

- Undergraduate Prospectus
- University and College websites
- access@jesus.cam.ac.uk
- @Jesus_outreach
- Ask questions!



www.study.cam.ac.uk