



Robert Smyth Academy

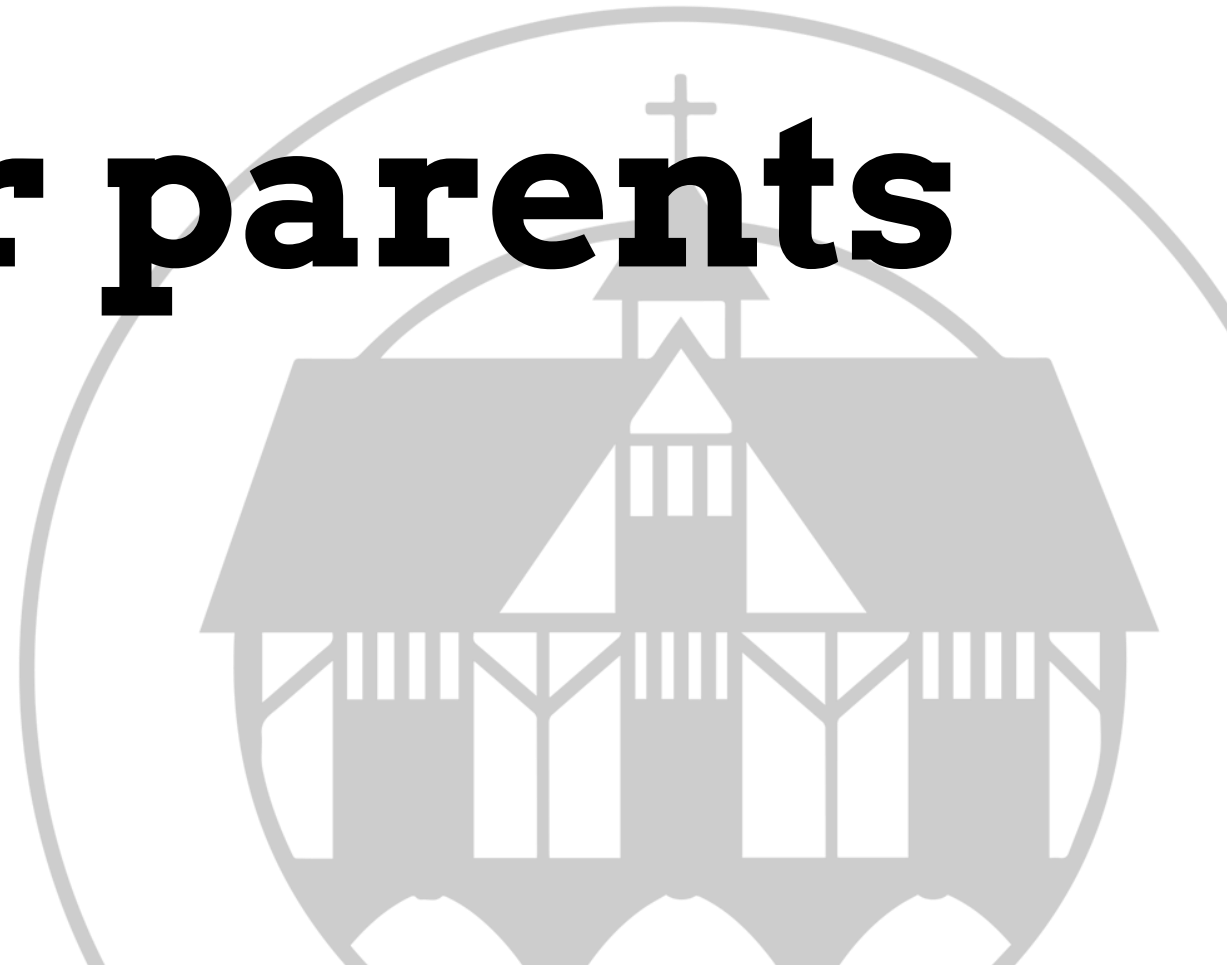


Tudor Grange
Academies Trust



UCAS

Support for parents





So Far...

- Course searches – UCAS / Unifrog
 - Logging experiences
 - Personal statement preparation
 - Open Days and UCAS Discovery event
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Key Dates

- **End of summer break** Personal statement drafting
- **Monday 5th October** Early applicant deadline
- **Friday 13th November** Academy deadline
- **Wednesday 13th January** Official UCAS deadline



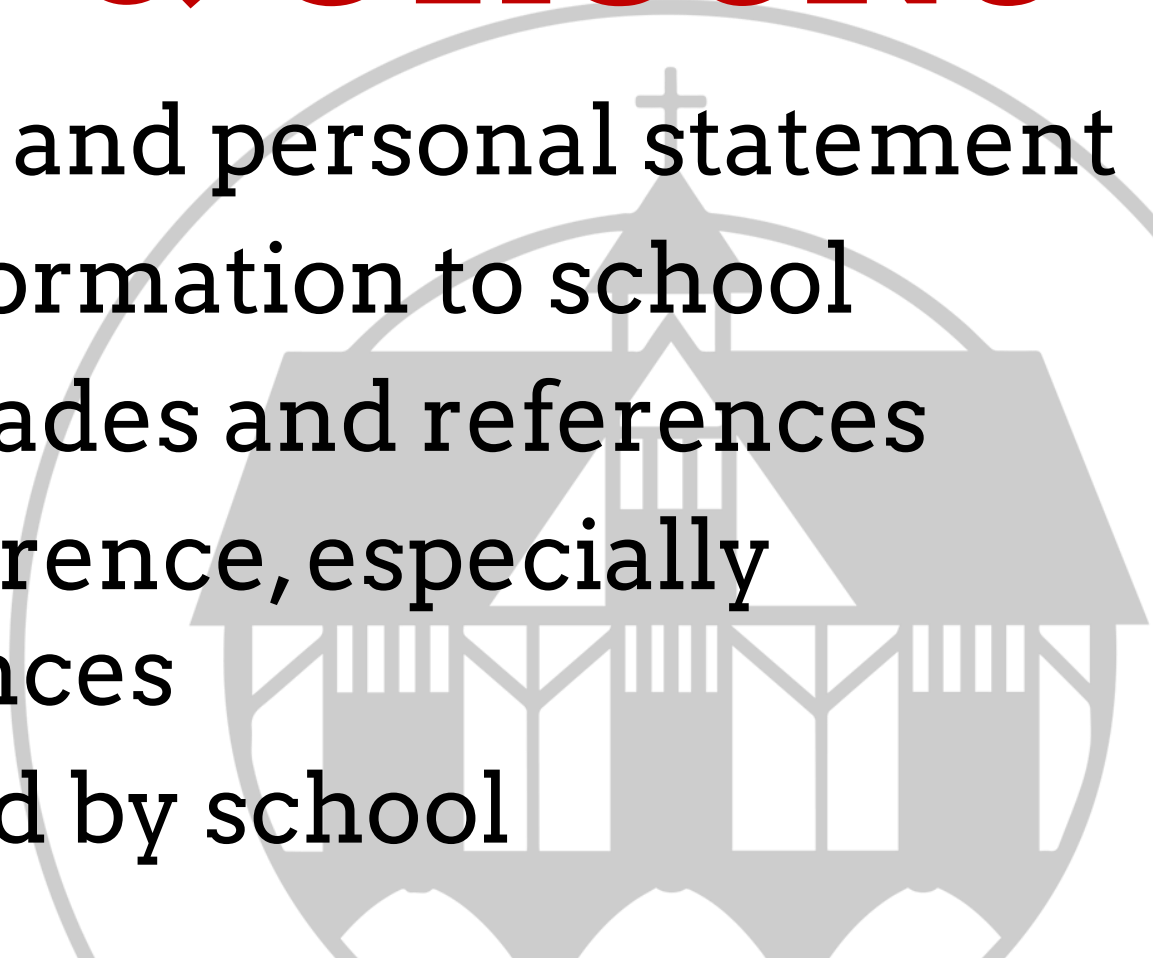
The Process

- Choosing courses
- Filling in the form
- References and checks
- Applicant days / Interviews
- Offers





References & Checks

- Student – drafting form and personal statement
 - Parents can provide information to school
 - Teachers – predicted grades and references
 - Tutor – collates the reference, especially extenuating circumstances
 - Admin check completed by school
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Finance

- Applications to Student Finance England
- A necessary expense
- Grants, bursaries, scholarships will be explored with students



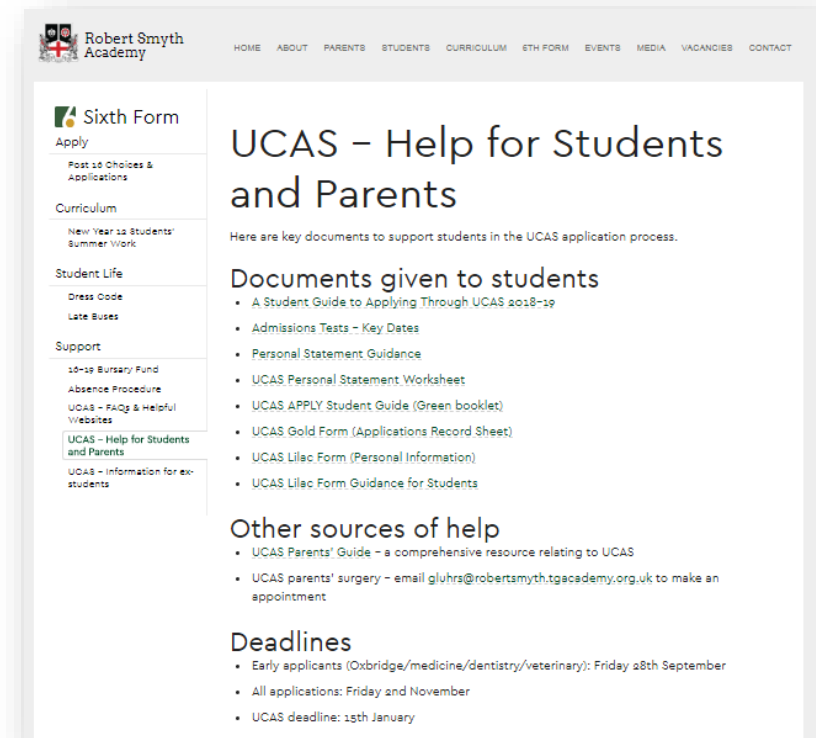
Key Advice

- Talking
- Aspiration vs realism in choices
- Contact
- Offers



Guidance

- Website
- Tutor
- Head of Year
- Head of Sixth Form



CITIZENS OF A STATE OF MIND

It's your turn to take your place



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UCAS Process

Isobelle

UK Student Recruitment Officer



Applying to University

Presentation Overview

- Choosing a Course/Uni
- Application timeline and process
- Top tips
- Personal Statements
- What happens on results day?



How to choose a course?

Things to consider

- What **courses** are on offer?
- Qualifications and **entry requirements**?
- Your preferred **learning style**?
- Is the course **accredited**/highly ranked?
- **Career** ideas? (Prospects)
- **Study abroad** or **placement year**?



How to choose a university





Things to consider

- Does the university do the course you want?
- Campus or city university?

Choosing a university (1)



Facilities

To consider:

- Students' Union
- Library
- Lecture Theatres and classrooms
- Subject specific facilities
- Sports facilities
- Facilities around the city - supermarkets? Hobby based facilities?



Open Days

Free to attend with family, friends or on your own

Sometimes travel incentives to get there – check with each university!

Overview of main facilities, usually including accommodation

Go to a lecture about your area / course of interest

Really good way to do course and university research

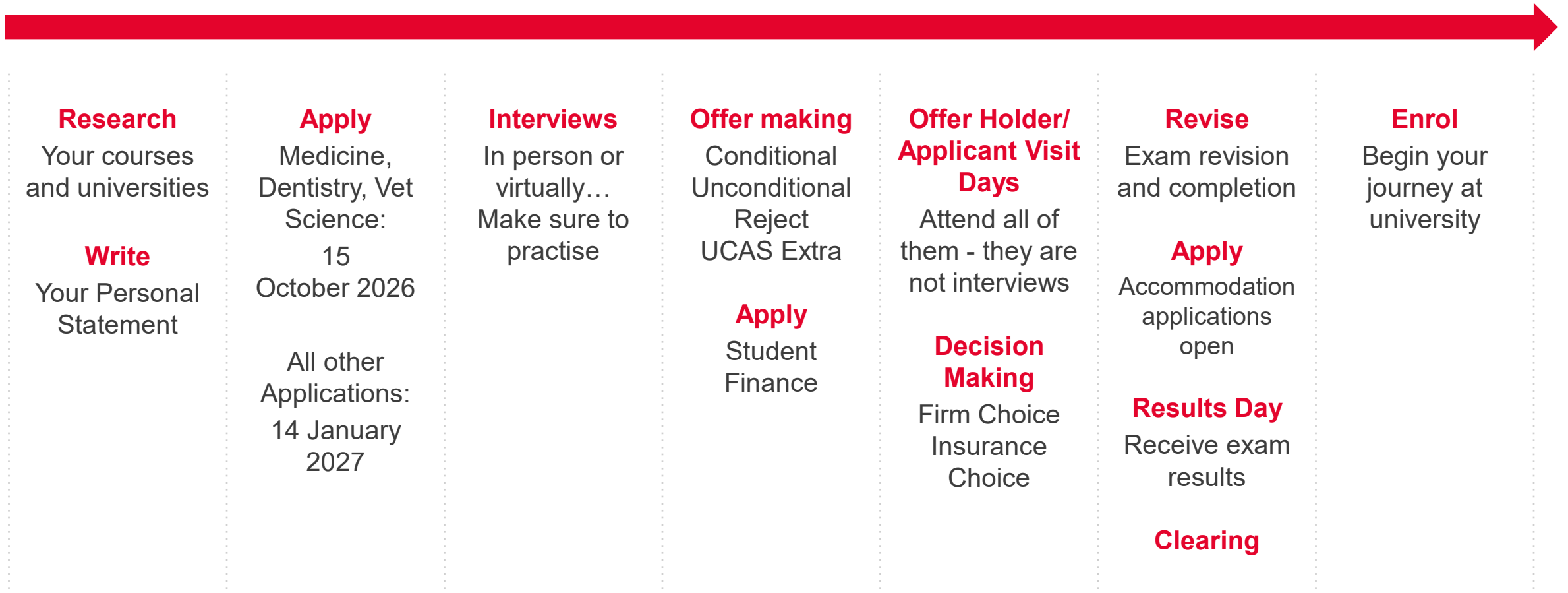


Making the most of Open Days

- Take pictures to look back on
- Don't forget to spend time touring the city in addition to the University
- Attend talks: subject specific sessions, sample lectures, student finance talks and more
- Take a notepad to write down any notes you may have
- Take a parent or a friend
- Wear sensible shoes
- Enjoy the day!



The Application Timeline





Your UCAS Application

- You submit 1 application via UCAS
- You have a maximum of 5 choices
- If you chose Medicine, Dentistry or Vet Science then you have a maximum of 4 choices for these courses + 1 alternative
- Your place of study will provide a reference to you



- Personal Details
- Contact and residency details
- Nationality Details
- Supporting information
- English language skills
- Fees and funding
- Diversity and Inclusion
- More about you

Profile



Personal Details

- Once you've completed a section you must remember to mark the section as complete and save it at the bottom of each page

Personal details

[Nationality details](#)

[Where you live](#)

[Contact details](#)

[Supporting information](#)

[Finance and funding](#)

[Education](#)

[Employment](#)

[Personal statement](#)

First and middle name(s) *

Make sure your name is as it appears on any official documents, such as your passport, birth certificate or driving licence.

Last name *

Make sure your name is as it appears on any official documents, such as your passport, birth certificate or driving licence.

Previous name(s)

Tell us any other names you've been known by (for example maiden name), as it helps when we're matching educational records.

Preferred first name

Let us know what we, and your chosen universities and colleges, should call you in our correspondence.

Date of birth *

Day Month Year



Education

- You must enter all your qualifications from secondary education onwards
- You need to include any qualifications you're still waiting for results for (choose 'Pending' in the Grade field)
- Make sure you use the correct qualification type and title
- It's up to you whether you include module information



Education

- This is an important part of your application. It shows your qualifications and helps universities decide if you meet their requirements.
- Double check the details are correct, especially qualification titles, levels and awarding organisations.

Tip! School / college can help you with this if you're stuck

Name of the school, college, or university *

Exam centre number

This may be automatically filled in based on your school, college, or university

Start date *

Month Year

End date *

Select the date you left or plan to leave.

Month Year

Attendance type *

☐ Full time ☐ Part time ☐ Exam only

Study Mode *

If you had lessons that were taken online over COVID lockdowns but now returned to school-based, please select "In person".

☐ Online ☐ In person

Save and add Qualification

Save and return to Education Section

Cancel



Employment and Extra Activities

- Only enter paid work here (work experience/volunteering goes in your personal statement)
- Please add in any activities you have done to prepare for University (e.g. summer schools / Realising Opportunities / Access programmes)
- You can use your personal statement to talk more about these activities, the skills you learned and how this prepared you for University



Extra Activities

- This includes activities such as national or regional schemes, university-run programmes, summer schools, taster courses and booster courses.
- Employment is for any paid employment relevant to the courses or subjects you're applying for.

Extra activities

Have you attended an activity to prepare you for higher education?

Please select any activity you have taken part in to prepare for higher education. For example: national or regional schemes, university-run programmes, summer schools, campus days, taster courses, and booster courses. You can also use your personal statement to include more details about the activities you took part in, the skills you learned, and how this prepared you for higher education.

Note: Open days are not relevant to this question.

If you haven't attended any such activity, please leave this section blank.

If this section is relevant to you, please provide the following details:



Add activity

☒ Mark this section as complete *

You must complete all mandatory fields in this section before you can mark it as complete. All sections must be marked as complete before you can send your application.

Save this section



Gap Years

Top Tips

- Universities like to see that their students have life experience outside of their academic career.
 - A gap year is a great chance to pick up new skills, that can help you at University
- What did you do during your gap year?
- What skills did you gain/ what did you learn?
- How does this relate to your course?



Personal statement

To showcase you as a person and prove you deserve to be made a university offer

- Submitted as part of your application with **UCAS**
- Total **4000** Characters
- **1 statement** for all **5** applications
- 3 questions to answer
- UCAS detection service



Personal Statement Questions:

1. Why do you want to study the course?
2. How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?
3. What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

A photograph of a modern university building at night, featuring a large glass facade that reflects the sky and shows the interior lights. The building is illuminated from within, and the sky is a deep blue. In the foreground, there is an outdoor seating area with tables and chairs.

The Questions

You need to write a minimum of 350 characters for each question



Top tips

Top-Tips from Admissions Tutors

- Reduce: Be concise, don't repeat yourself
- Proofread: Grammatical and spelling errors are such easy mistakes to fix
- Redraft: Write multiple drafts and ask friends, family and teachers to read through it
- Be yourself: Showcase your selling points as a potential student
- Be on time: Do not miss your internal deadlines



Top Tips

- Use a non-school related email (this is how UCAS and universities will contact you)
- Start early and don't miss internal and external deadlines
- You can apply to the same university multiple times for different courses
- There is a slightly different form to apply to conservatoires
- £28.50 application fee upon submission. For those receiving Free School Meals or similar bursaries, this is free – talk to your school / college



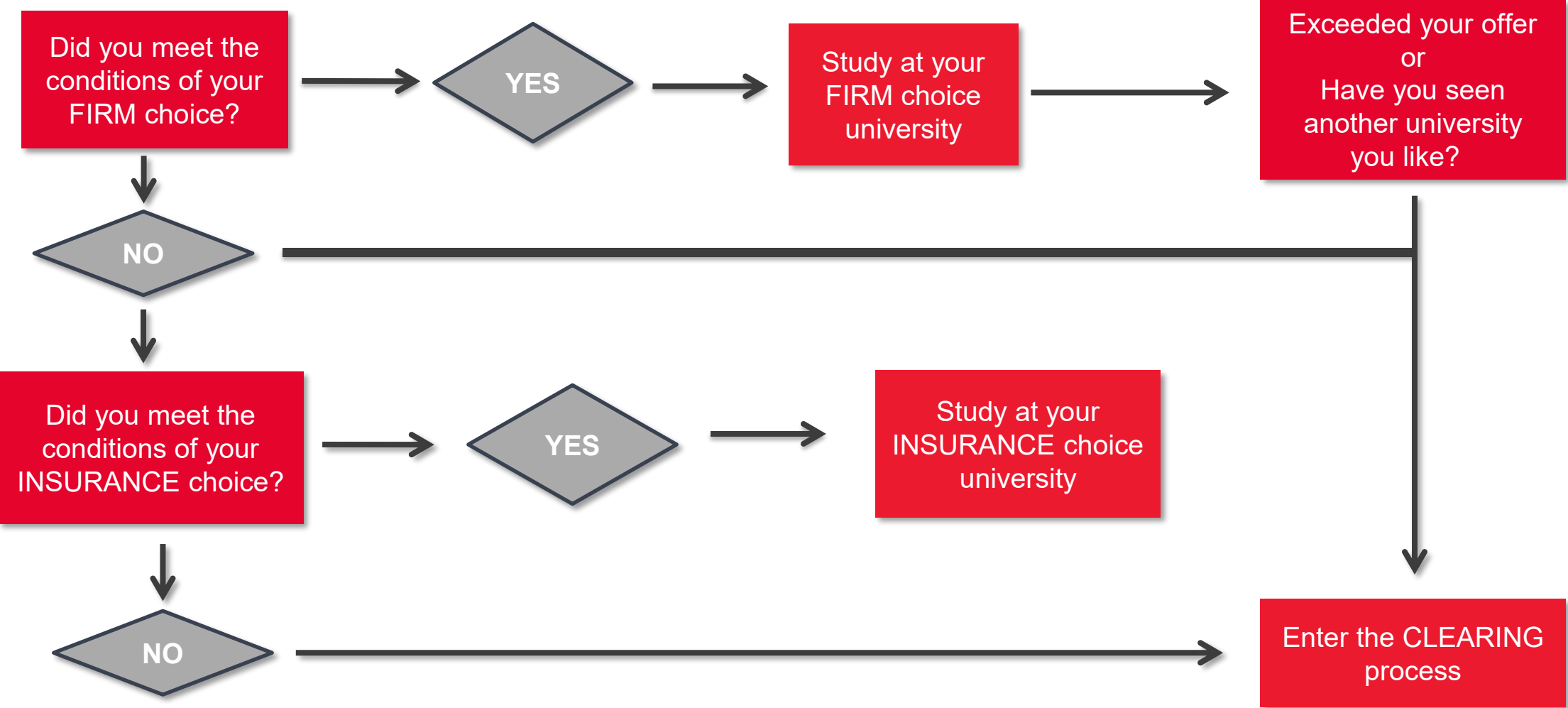
What happens after submitting your application?

- Universities review your application and may make you an offer based on certain grades
- For some courses, they may invite you to an interview
- From your offers (max. 5), you choose to make a **firm** choice and an **insurance** choice
- Then you'll complete your qualifications and wait to find out your results

What next?



Results Day





Next steps for now

- Get logged in and familiar with the UCAS hub pages
- Read their guidance on the application and answering the personal statement questions
- Decide on your universities
- Check if you need to do any admissions tests before applying (e.g. LNAT / UCAT)
- Get started on your application and find out your school deadlines
- Speak to your careers team and teachers if you need help



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Thank you

Any questions?