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Making a Competitive Application

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KING'S
College
LONDON

A competitive field
How many...?

- King's offers over 150 courses
- We receive over 45,000 applications
- 50% are for 12 courses
- 70% are for 25 courses



A competitive field
What can you do?

- Different name, similar course
- Research the course
- Start your application early
- Prepare and practice for interviews and aptitude tests



What you need to know

Key dates for 2019 entry



Check [ucas.com](https://www.ucas.com)
for full dates and
deadlines before
you apply

September
2018

APPLICATIONS
OPEN
www.ucas.com

November
2018

KING'S BEGIN TO
SEND OUT OFFERS

15
Oct 18

DEADLINE FOR
MEDICINE AND
DENTAL COURSES

31
March 18

DEADLINE FOR KING'S
TO RESPOND TO ALL
APPLICATIONS

15
Jan 19

DEADLINE FOR THE
MAJORITY OF
KING'S COURSES

7
May 19

STANDARD DEADLINE
TO ACCEPT YOUR
OFFER

A competitive application

What do we look for?

- Suitably qualified
- Required work experience or skills
- A genuine enthusiasm for the subject
- Research into the subject



UCAS Apply
The Application Form

1. Personal information
2. Course choice
3. Education information
4. Employment information
5. Personal statement
6. Reference

5

Choices on your
UCAS
application
form

UCAS Apply Personal statement

- Tell us what excites you about your chosen course
- Helpful if applying for competitive courses
- Orientated towards a profession
- 4,000 characters



Personal statement

What to include

- 75-90% relevant to academic pursuits in and outside of school/college
- Extended Project Qualifications
- Key skills and competencies
- Work experience or placements
- Relevant extra-curricular activities
- Any awards/achievements



Remember!
Five choices,
one personal
statement

Introduction – Why do you want to study the course? What interests you about the subject area? What aspirations do you have, further to university study?

Academic achievements/subjects studied at level 3 (AS and A2 levels, BTECs etc.) – Write about your academic achievements. What academic skills and knowledge do you have that will prepare you to succeed in your chosen subject?

TOP TIP

It's great to talk about your aspirations but remember you are applying for a course at university, not for the career that you hope university will lead to.

Work experience/employment/volunteering – Write about any skills that you have gained from work experience, employment and/or volunteering opportunities and how these experiences prepare you for university study.

TOP TIP

This section will be bigger if you are applying to a course that requires work experience such as Dentistry, Medicine or Veterinary Science.

Extra-Curricular activities/awards (e.g. a First Aid course or Duke of Edinburgh award) – Mention any other achievements or extra-curricular activities that demonstrate you have the relevant skills for the course you are applying to.

Conclusion – Finish with a brief summary. Why should you be offered a place? Remember what the admissions tutors are looking for and leave them with a good impression.

“Ever since I accidentally burnt holes in my pyjamas after experimenting with a chemistry set on my eighth birthday, I have always had a passion for science.”

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Your personal statement
Make a start now

- Make a list of your experiences, interests and qualities
- Be selective – What's most impressive? What's relevant?
- Draft it, think about it, discuss it with others and redraft



Personal statement

Our top three tips

1. Start as soon as possible
2. Written by you
3. Don't get stressed



Visit ucas.com
for more tips and
advice on writing
your personal
statement



A competitive field
Aptitude tests

- A way of differentiating between a number of good applicants
- Assess professional competencies
- Can't revise but you can do practice tests



Check
online for
past papers



A competitive field Interviews

- Check if an interview is part of the application process
- Assess your suitability for the course/profession
- Questions based on personal statement
- May be given a case study to discuss
- Type of interview



Interviews

Our top three tips

1. Be prepared for likely questions and have questions to ask
2. Give full answers but don't memorise speeches
3. Be yourself!



Visit ucas.com
for more tips and
advice on writing
your interviews



Questions?

For more information:
www.kcl.ac.uk/study

Come and visit us
Open days 2018

Arts & Sciences courses

- Strand Campus
- 23 June & 8 September

Health courses

- Guy's Campus
- 9 June & 7 July
- Bookings open in March 2018



Visit
kcl.ac.uk/openday

