



Durham  
University

Inspiring the extraordinary



**Be inspired.**

**Be you.**

Undergraduate Offer Guide  
2024/25





**Be inquisitive.  
Be you.**



## **Congratulations on your offer to study at Durham University!**

We've prepared this guide to give you useful and important information for your applicant journey with us. You should read it alongside your offer letter (sent by email), and the offer we've sent to UCAS which you can see on your [UCAS Hub](#).

You should also refer to our:

- [Statutes and Regulations](#)
- [Admissions Regulations](#)
- [Terms and Conditions](#)
- [Student Protection Plan](#).

These all form part of the terms and conditions of your offer and provide the basis of your student contract, should you accept our offer and enrol at Durham. It's important you read these documents carefully before accepting an offer with us.

We'll send additional important information by email, so please add us to your contacts and check your junk folders regularly to ensure you receive our messages.

If you have any questions, please [Ask Us](#). I hope you accept our offer as your firm choice!

**Miriam Clift,**  
*Head of Admissions*

# 1. Your offer

You'll have received either a conditional or an unconditional offer. You can see the exact details on your [UCAS Hub](#) and in your offer email. It's important to read these details carefully, including your course and year of entry. If you think something's not right, you must [tell us](#).

## Conditional offer

If you've received a conditional offer, this means your place is dependent on you achieving specific grades from your qualifications. For some courses there may also be non-academic conditions to meet – e.g. an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. You may also have other conditions listed.

If you've applied for a course in our Faculty of Science and are studying a Science A level with a practical component with an English exam board (AQA, Edexcel, Eduqas, OCR), you'll also need to pass the practical component to meet your offer conditions.

If you accept our offer, you may need to [send us](#) evidence of your qualifications. You'll need to do this if:

- you've already achieved a qualification which contributes to you meeting our entry requirements
- you're studying for an English language qualification such as IELTS
- you're studying for a qualification for which we won't receive the results through [UCAS](#).

In most cases, you'll need to do this by **21 July 2025**.

If you'll receive the results of your qualifications after this date, you must send them to us as soon as possible and no later than **3 September 2025**.

If you're offered a place on our Foundation Programme and took your qualifications a long time ago or are applying with alternative experience, you may not need to provide this evidence. Contact [foundation.admissions@durham.ac.uk](mailto:foundation.admissions@durham.ac.uk) to find out more.

If the qualifications you're studying change, please [tell us](#). In most cases, this won't affect your offer, provided you're still able to meet your offer conditions and any subjects specifically required for your course.



## Don't miss these dates:

Send us evidence of your achieved qualifications by **21 July 2025**.

If you're waiting for a re-grade, let us know the outcome by **3 September 2025**.

## Mitigating circumstances

If you experience mitigating circumstances that may impact your exam results, you or your school should report this to your examination board(s). The examination board will consider what, if any, impact your mitigating circumstances may have had on your performance and to make allowance for this.

We're unable to re-consider mitigating circumstances that have been submitted to and considered by examination boards.

## Re-grades post results

If you accept our offer and your application is unsuccessful following the publication of results, you may have the option to request a re-grade from the examination board.

You'll need to tell us the outcome of your re-grade by **3 September 2025**. If you meet your original offer conditions then we'll do our best to place you, depending on space being available. We may have to offer you deferred entry.



## Unconditional offer

If your offer is unconditional then you've already met our academic entry requirements, though you may still need to meet non-academic conditions.

You'll need to [send us](#) evidence of the qualifications you've achieved by **21 July 2025** if you accept our offer.

## Important information for all offer holders

If you've accidentally missed any educational history (e.g. starting a course at another UK university) or qualifications from your application (even if you didn't complete the qualification or pass the assessment), you must [tell us](#). It's important that we have all the relevant information about you to make a decision on your application.

We only accept electronic copies of documents, so please don't send us original copies in the post and follow our [guidance for uploading documents](#) carefully. We can't access document storage areas such as Google Docs or Dropbox – please only send us documents through your Undergraduate Applicant Portal.

It's important that you send us what we need by the deadline we've given you. If you don't, your offer may be withdrawn.



## Offered a different course?

When you read your offer details, you may find that we've not been able to offer you the course you applied for. We make a change course offer when we're not able to offer your original choice, but we consider you a strong candidate for an alternative course.

We really hope you take the opportunity to consider this. Learn more on the [Your Change Course Offer](#) page.

## Requesting a change

We can consider, on a case-by-case basis:

- Change of year
- Change of course
- Change of replies (after 14 days).

If you'd like to [request a change](#) then please [Ask Us](#). Include your reason for wanting to change, and your plans for the year if asking to defer entry.

We can't approve all requests, but if we're able to, this will be confirmed on your UCAS Hub.



## 2. Replying to your offer(s)

Once you've received all the decisions from your chosen universities, your [UCAS Hub](#) will be updated, and you'll be given a deadline for your firm and insurance choices. You can only make an insurance choice if you've received one or more conditional offers – you won't be able to if all your offers are unconditional.

Your remaining offers will be declined automatically once you've made your firm and insurance choices. Your offers will also be automatically declined if you miss the deadline given to you by UCAS.

If you change your mind about your replies, or miss your deadline, you can change these within 14 days of making your choice by contacting UCAS. After 14 days, the process is more complicated and you'll need to [Ask Us](#).

No reply swaps are possible after **24 July 2025**.

Find out more about [UCAS replies and deadlines](#).

### Final Acceptance

We have an additional process for unconditional firm offer holders. You'll need to confirm your 'final acceptance' of our offer using our [Final Acceptance Form](#).

You must complete the Offer Acceptance Form by **21 July 2025** (if receiving early results), or within 7 days of becoming unconditional firm (whichever is later). If you don't receive your results until mid to late August, you'll need to complete the form within 7 days of becoming unconditional firm. If we don't receive your acceptance before this deadline, your offer may be withdrawn or deferred.



## 3. Visiting us

As an offer holder, you can visit us at one of our [Post-offer Visit Days](#) in spring 2025. You'll get the chance to learn more about the course(s) you have an offer for, explore our colleges and discover the social side of studying at Durham.

Once booking is open, we'll email you with the information you'll need to reserve a place.

If you can't make one of our Post-offer Visit Days, we also offer [Self Guided Tours](#) through our Durham University Tours App. You can use the app to take a tour in person or remotely from home.



## 4. College membership and accommodation

Every Durham student is a member of a [college](#). Colleges are residential communities that provide a sense of community and belonging, offering student-led opportunities and events in drama, music, sport and volunteering, as well as other activities and facilities. They also offer professional support for student wellbeing and self-development.

Most student rooms are in colleges themselves, with some in college-managed accommodation elsewhere in Durham City. Accommodation may be catered or self-catered, en-suite or standard. Learn more about expressing a college preference, the allocation process, accommodation advance rent and college accommodation and catering at [Your College – Undergraduate](#).

### Applicants who are under 18 at the start of their course

The University and its Colleges are adult environments. If you're under 18 at the start of your course, please [read our Under 18 policy](#). It describes the extent and scope of the support we'll provide to you the point of admission, and the expectations on your and your parent(s)/guardian(s).

If you were born after (and including) these dates:

- Studies starting in 2025:  
1 September 2008
- Studies starting in 2026:  
1 September 2009

and you accept our offer, you'll need to complete our Under 18 form. We'll let you know when.

## 5. Fees and funding

### Tuition fees

You're required to pay tuition fees at the start of your course and throughout your time with us. Your tuition fee can be found in your offer letter or on our [Courses Database](#). Learn more about [fees and funding](#).

Tuition fees differ depending on if you're classified as a 'home' student or an 'international' student. We [assess your fee status](#) using the [UK government fee regulations for Higher Education in England and guidance provided by UKCISA](#).

Your offer states whether you'll be charged at the home or overseas rate. Your fee status is usually based on the information provided in your UCAS application.

If you think your fee status is incorrect, [contact us](#) with the reason you believe it should be changed. This must be based on the fee regulations ([UKCISA](#) provide good independent advice). We may then ask you to complete a fee status form so we can make an assessment. We recommend you raise this with us before accepting your offer, so you have a clear understanding of the offer you're accepting.



### Living expenses

You'll also need to fund your everyday living expenses. This will include costs for [college accommodation](#), or rent. You may need money for food and [other costs](#) such as utilities, travel, insurance, etc. (depending on your living arrangements), as well as clothes, phone and leisure. There can also be additional [course costs](#) such as books (if you want to purchase them), field trips, etc.

### Financial support

'Home students' may be eligible for a tuition fee loan and maintenance loan to help cover the costs of studying. You'll need to apply to the government of the country you live in for financial assistance.

If you normally live in:

- England, apply to [Student Finance England](#)
- Scotland, apply to [Student Awards Agency for Scotland](#)
- Wales, apply to [Student Finance Wales](#)
- Northern Ireland, apply to [Student Finance Northern Ireland](#)
- the Channel Islands/Isle of Man, apply to [Jersey](#) or [Guernsey](#) or the [Isle of Man](#).

If you're an EU student benefiting from Citizen's Rights under the EU Withdrawal Agreement, EEA EFTA Separation Agreement, or Swiss Citizens' Rights agreement, or are a citizen of the Irish Republic, you can find information at [UK Government](#).

There's no financial support if you live outside of the UK and are charged fees at the international rate. Please ensure you have funding in place to cover your tuition fee and living expenses before starting your course.

We also have a range of [scholarships](#) you may be eligible to apply for.

## 6. Fair Access

### Applicants with disabilities

We're committed to considering all applications equally. If you've declared a disability on your application form, you'll be invited to contact our Disability Support Service to discuss your support needs, including any financial support you might be entitled to. Doing this early in the application process means everything should be in place if you become a student with us.

Don't worry if you didn't declare a disability on your UCAS application, or have found you need to talk to Disability Support after you've applied. You can contact them on **0191 334 8115** or at [disability-support@durham.ac.uk](mailto:disability-support@durham.ac.uk)

### Estranged students

We recognise that it can be particularly challenging starting and studying at university without the support of a family network. For information about support, see our [Estranged Students Support page](#).

### Care-experienced students

As a care leaver, you may have concerns, questions or things happening in your life that other students may not have and want to ensure that you feel supported. Please visit our [care experienced students page](#) for information on the support available.



Scan the QR code to find out more.

## 7. Information for international applicants

### English language requirements

If English isn't your first language, you must provide evidence of your ability in spoken and written English.

If you have an **English language** condition in your offer, this is because we can't see evidence that you meet our **required English Language level** in your application.

You can take a **recognised English Language test** to fulfil the English language requirement. You must **upload** evidence of this by **21 July 2025**.

**Please note that UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI) regularly update the English language requirements for applicants to higher education programmes in the UK and this can happen at any point of the year. Therefore, all offers to applicants who require a visa are subject to change, should the UKVI change requirements mid-cycle.**

### Pre-sessional English courses

Durham Centre for Academic Development (DCAD) offer intensive **pre-sessional courses** in academic English language and literacy skills. To find out if you're eligible for these courses, please **Ask Us** and **upload** a copy of your most recent English language test. Please note there are application deadlines for each course.

If you need a Student visa to study with us, you should check our information about **English language requirements for visa purposes**.

### Student visas

#### Confirmation of Acceptance to Study for Student visas

If you need a visa to study in the UK, you'll need a Confirmation of Acceptance to Study (CAS) number from the university you're attending. You must include this 14-character number in your visa application.

We can only issue CAS from April 2025 at the earliest (for courses starting in 2025).

Before we can issue your CAS, you must have:

- accepted Durham as your firm choice
- met all the conditions of your offer
- had your place at Durham confirmed
- sent a copy of your current passport (this should be valid at least until after you plan to travel to the UK and start your course)
- provided the University with relevant documents, including a copy of a certificate showing the qualification(s) you've achieved and evidence of your English language ability (if required), e.g. IELTS scores or equivalent
- submitted your **final acceptance**.

If you need to renew your passport, we strongly advise you do this as soon as possible to avoid a delay in issuing your CAS.

If any of these documents aren't in English, you will need to provide a **certified translation** in line with UKVI requirements.

**Please do not book travel to the UK until you've received all documentation needed to travel.**

**UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI) regularly update the requirements for applicants to higher education programmes in the UK at any point of the year. Therefore, all offers to applicants who require a visa are subject to change, should the UKVI change requirements mid-cycle.**

For support on applying for a visa to study in the UK, visit **UK Government** and **applying for a visa**.

We strongly recommend checking these sites regularly for updates.

You can also contact our Student Immigration Service at **immigration@durham.ac.uk**



### Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS)

Offer holders of our four-year Physics courses may need to apply for **ATAS** as part of the visa process. Some countries are exempt from the ATAS scheme, so you should **check** if you'll need this.

You can submit your ATAS application as soon as you receive an offer. You can do this for any (or all) of your choices, even before you've decided on your firm choice. They're specific to the course and university you've applied to.

See below for the code you need for your ATAS application:

		Codes needed for ATAS application
Course Code	Course Name	CAH Code
F301	MPhys Physics	CAH07-01-01
FF3N	MPhys Physics & Astronomy	CAH07-01-01
F344	MPhys Theoretical Physics	CAH07-01-01

Find out more about **ATAS**.



## 8. When to arrive

If you've firmly accepted an unconditional offer at Durham and completed your **Final Acceptance Form**, your Induction Week is:

**2025 entry:**

29 September 2025 to 3 October 2025

**2026 entry:**

28 September 2026 to 2 October 2026

You'll need to arrive before Induction Week, but we'll send you all the information you need to get your time with us off to a smooth start.

To prepare, you can also look at our [term dates](#).



## 9. How we'll contact you and how to contact us

Please keep your email address and phone number up to date to avoid missing important information. It's also important that your legal name is correct at UCAS for when you enrol.

If you're planning a gap year, you should update your details with us during that year.

We'll communicate with you by email – please add our email address to your favourites to avoid missing anything. You should check your spam and junk folders regularly, just in case.

For any questions about your application or course, please [Ask Us](#).



We strongly recommend you use a personal email address rather than a school one, as school email accounts often close during the summer. This also applies to postal addresses.



## 10. Right to cancel

You have the right to cancel your acceptance of a place and Enrolment Contract within 14 days without giving any reason.

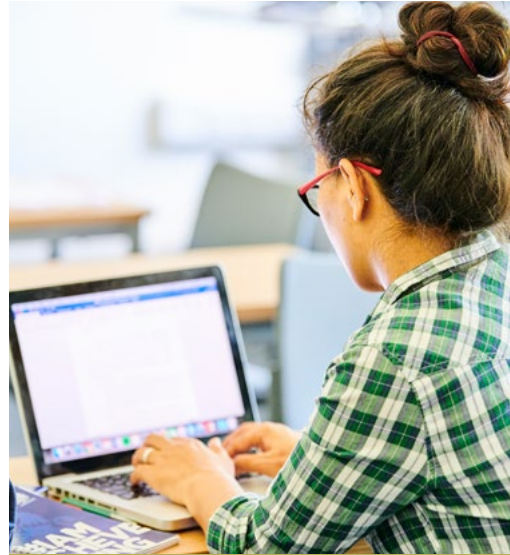
The cancellation period will expire after 14 days from the day of the conclusion of the contract (i.e. 14 days following the date you accepted our offer of a place for your Pre-Enrolment Contract, **or** 14 days following the online enrolment date for your Enrolment Contract).

If you **have not yet enrolled** on your course and wish to cancel this contract, inform the University of your decision with a clear statement (e.g. a letter sent by post or email). You can use the [model cancellation form](#), but it's not mandatory. Please write to: Undergraduate Admissions, Durham University, Mountjoy Centre, Stockton Road, Durham DH1 3LE.

If you **have enrolled** on your course and want to cancel, inform the University of your decision by a clear statement (e.g. a letter sent by post or email). You can use the [model cancellation form](#), but it's not mandatory. Please write to your academic department and college. To meet the cancellation deadline, it's sufficient for you to send your communication before the cancellation period has expired.

### Financial liability

**If you cancel (withdraw from your course), you may be liable for a proportion of your annual tuition fee and for accommodation costs as described in the terms and conditions of your licence to occupy.**



### DISCLAIMER

The University issues all its offers in good faith and on the basis of the information provided in the applications it receives. If any of the details provided within an application or supporting documents provided are found to be false or fraudulent, or if relevant material information is omitted from an application, any offer of a place made may be revoked. For further information please see our [Admissions Policy](#).

UCAS has a dedicated [Verification Team](#) and offers advice and guidance to fraud and similarity for applicants.

If you're concerned that your application may contain fraudulent information, or if you believe that important information has been omitted, please contact us at the earliest opportunity to discuss this.

## Applicant Journey

# 1

Book your [Post-offer Visit Day](#) or sign up for a [Discover Durham Tour](#)

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# 2

Let us know if you have a college preference

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# 3

Reply to your offer (Firm/Insurance/Decline) using your UCAS Hub

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# 4

Complete your final [Offer Acceptance](#) (once you're unconditional firm at UCAS)



**Contact details**

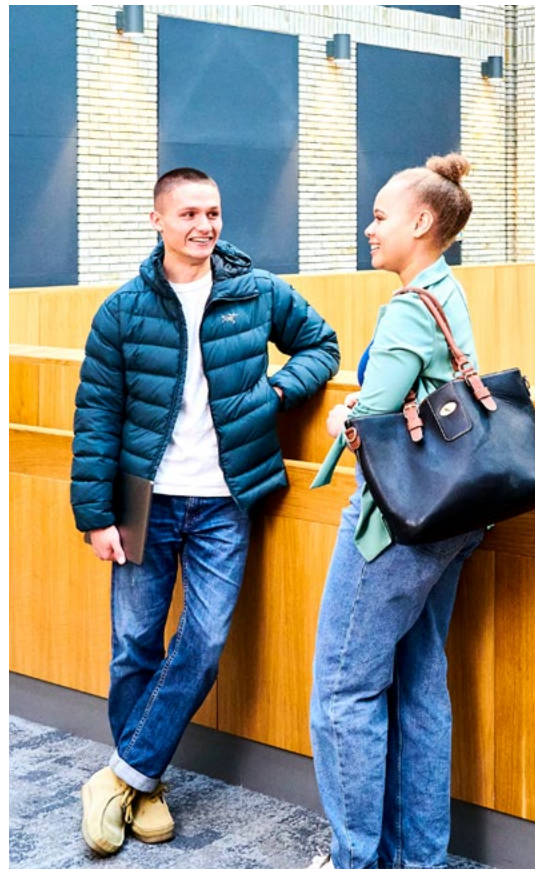
Durham University  
The Palatine Centre  
Stockton Road  
Durham DH1 3LE  
UK

**Enquiries**

**T:** +44 (0)191 334 1000

**W:** [durham.ac.uk/study/askus](https://durham.ac.uk/study/askus)

**[durham.ac.uk](https://durham.ac.uk)**



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