

Section 1 – Understand what happens on Results Day



Confirmation and Clearing process

All being well, A level and BTEC results will be available on the second Thursday in August. You should be able to log in to UCAS at 8am to check whether you have been accepted by your first choice university.

What happens on Results Day?

Hopefully you'll get the exam grades you need, but if you just miss out, the university or college might accept you anyway.

- You might get a place on either your firm or insurance choice, depending on your confirmed grades.
- You might be offered an alternative by the university/college – a 'changed course offer' (which you'll need to accept or decline).
- You might not get a place, but you can search through the [Clearing](#) service to see what courses still have vacancies.
- If no decisions are showing, give your universities or colleges a call to find out more.

Have a look at [this guide](#) on the UCAS website.

Then if you've got a place...

Congratulations! Your Confirmation letter should appear in UCAS five to seven days after your place is confirmed. (Your letter is not emailed or posted to you.)

Make sure you check your Confirmation letter carefully – it will say if there's anything else you need to do, or if your university or college will be in touch with further instructions; maybe to provide proof of your qualifications or medical requirements for example.

Clearing is how universities and colleges fill any places they still have on their courses. You find courses (with vacancies) that interest you, and contact universities or colleges directly, to see if they will offer you a place.

From early July to mid October, you can apply for a course using Clearing if you're not already holding an offer from a university or college, and the course still has places.

You can use Clearing if:

- you're applying after the end of June
- you didn't receive any offers (or none you wanted to accept)
- you didn't meet the conditions of your offers

If you haven't already applied, you need to register and make an application, but you'll only be able to add a choice after you've submitted it.

Read the [UCAS Clearing guide](#) for detailed advice about how the Clearing system works.

How will I know if I am in Clearing?

You'll know you're in Clearing if your UCAS status says 'You are in Clearing' or 'Clearing has started'. Or, you follow the on screen prompts to [decline your firm place](#), and your UCAS status then says 'You are in Clearing' or 'Clearing has started'.

If UCAS doesn't say either of these yet, it might just be waiting for your results to update. Get in touch with the university if it's taking a while – they might still be considering you, even if your results are a bit lower than required.

What help will I have from School?

If you find yourself in Clearing, a member of the Careers Team will work with you to guide you through the process until you have a confirmed university place. Please note that this process can take several days. We will also help to remind you about sorting out accommodation and changing your Student Finance application. Some students may be required to have an interview over the phone or even in person. Again, the Careers Team or a member of staff will help you to prepare for this.