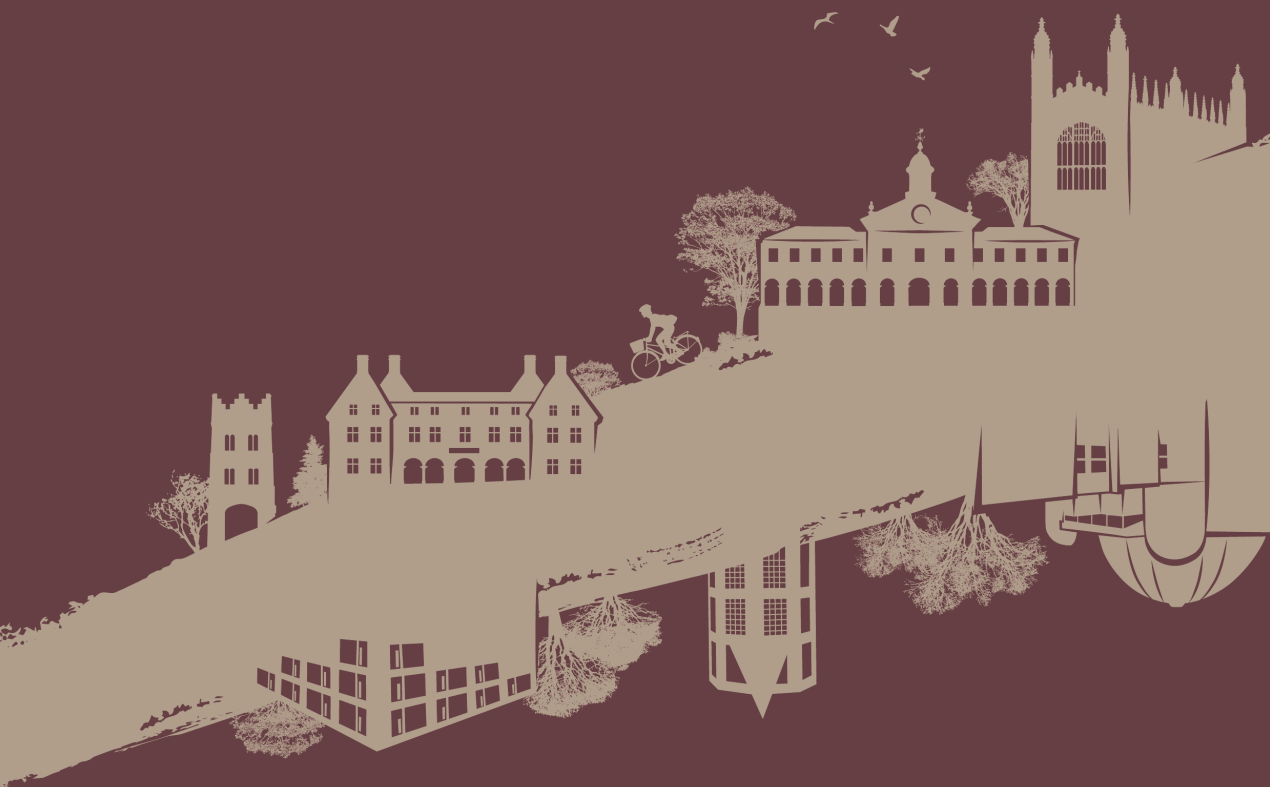




UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



Postgraduate Study
at Cambridge

Welcome

*For hundreds of years,
Cambridge has nurtured
generation after generation
of students.*

The collegiate University is bound together by a deep-rooted sense of community, shared purposes and a willingness to share resources and talents. Our commitment to excellence in education, learning and research is uncompromising and lived out in practice every day in our lecture theatres and supervision rooms, our libraries and labs.



My student days at Cambridge offered me the precious opportunity to challenge and deepen my knowledge. But they also provided the space and the time to broaden my intellectual horizons, allowing me to read voraciously and widely, and to interact with one of the most stimulating and diverse groups of people I had ever met – staff and students from around the globe.

At Cambridge, we continue to reach our hands outward. As we do so, we welcome an ever more diverse group of students who have the desire and ability to learn and produce new insights that shift our understanding of the world around us.

Professor Stephen Toope

Vice-Chancellor



Consistently ranked among the top universities in both national and international league tables, the University of Cambridge offers a world leading postgraduate education. With a global outlook and reach, our mission is to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

Top 3

in the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings 2019 and the *Academic Ranking of World Universities* 2018.

140+

countries represented among undergraduates and postgraduates.

98

affiliates of the University have been awarded the Nobel Prize since 1908.

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Courses

With over 300 postgraduate courses on offer at Cambridge, including taught and research opportunities across an incredibly broad range of academic disciplines, you can choose a course combining your subject and research interests.

Master's at Cambridge: The MPhil explained

At Cambridge, the majority of our Master's degrees lead to a Master of Philosophy (MPhil). There are two types of MPhil on offer at Cambridge:

1. The MPhil by Advanced Study (includes a taught element)
2. The MPhil by Research

Both types of MPhil provide excellent preparation for full-scale PhD research. MPhil students are introduced to specialist knowledge and research skills by gaining valuable experience in preparing and producing a research dissertation.

PhD Research

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is the principal research degree at Cambridge and is available in all faculties and departments. As a doctoral student, you will be focussed on research which represents a significant contribution to learning, and you will work on this research in a department which is internationally recognised for the originality and global significance of its advances in theories and knowledge. A Cambridge PhD is academically demanding, but you can expect great rewards and intellectual satisfaction.

I love supervisions. I cannot recommend them enough. One-on-one time with a world-renowned academic, whose brilliant mind and experience with the discipline are focused only on my work?! I've found it to be the most helpful aspect of the Cambridge system.

Camille

Lyon, France

Teaching

At Cambridge, you will be taught by academics who are prominent experts and leaders in their field. Your department or faculty will assign you a personal supervisor who will guide your programme of study or research. It is this blend of academic challenge and supportive encouragement that makes postgraduate study at Cambridge an intellectually rewarding experience.

You can find the right course for you through our online Course Directory:

 www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses



Research Facilities and Support

Over 8 million volumes
in the University Library.

More than 100 libraries
across the collegiate University.


Libraries – The collegiate University has more than 100 libraries across the Colleges, faculties and departments. The main University Library is a legal deposit library holding more than eight million books, journals and other documents ranging from 3,000 year-old manuscripts to the latest online articles. Postgraduate students also have access to the University Library's 22 affiliated libraries, covering a broad range of subjects.

 www.lib.cam.ac.uk

Skills training – All postgraduate students receive training in research skills via their department or faculty's postgraduate training programme. Students also have access to optional skills-based courses provided by departments, the Centre for Professional and Personal Development, and the Careers Service.


 www.ppd.admin.cam.ac.uk

Museums – The University has nine specialist museums and collections, as well as the University Botanic Garden. Encompassing a wide range of resources from local archaeological finds and internationally renowned paintings to specimens collected by Charles Darwin, postgraduate students are able to use these collections for study, research, and also for personal interest.

 www.museums.cam.ac.uk



Language tuition – Whether you wish to learn a new language or improve your language skills to complement your studies and enhance your employability, the Language Centre offers taught and self-study courses at various levels in a number of languages. An academic English language support programme is also available for overseas students who require additional help to refine their language ability.

 www.langcen.cam.ac.uk

Computing and IT – All Colleges, as well as many departments and libraries, have computer suites offering a range of general and specialist software. Wi-fi is available throughout the Colleges and departments, and most College rooms are connected to the University network and internet. An IT service desk and free computer programme training courses are available to all students.

 www.uis.cam.ac.uk

No matter what resource you need access to, Cambridge can connect you to it. Be it journal articles, archived material, or collaborators around the world, Cambridge is a nexus for it all.

Samuel

Lethbridge, Canada



Student Life

In and around Cambridge

Cambridge for me is just the right size. Big enough so that there is lots going on and you don't get bored, but small enough that you feel part of a community.

Sarah

Peterborough, UK

Entertainment, music and festivals

However you like to spend your time, there's always something to keep you entertained. Cambridge has four theatres, three cinemas, and two major entertainment venues offering varied programmes that include comedy, drama, dance, concerts and club nights. Throughout the year, the city hosts a growing number of music festivals as well as lots of other events, fairs and festivals, including:

- Folk, Jazz and Rock Festivals
- Buskers and Street Performers Festival
- Watersprite International Student Film Festival
- History Festival
- Literary Festival
- Eat Cambridge Festival
- Beer Festival
- Strawberry Fair
- Midsummer Fair
- Shakespeare Festival
- Film Festival
- Dragonboat Festival
- Mill Road Winter Fair

Pubs, clubs and restaurants

Cambridge has a great range of pubs and coffee shops – there are more than 100 before you start to count the dozens of College and University bars and cafés! There's a great selection of places to eat for any mood, taste, occasion, and budget. Better still, various cafés and restaurants offer special discounts for students.

Shopping

Cambridge's three shopping centres, the market and the city's central streets house most high street names alongside independent shops and boutiques. Just outside the centre, you can find an eclectic mix of international food shops, cafés and restaurants.

Outside the city

If you want to explore further afield, London is just 50 minutes away by train and there's also plenty to discover in the region, including:

- Walking and cycling routes
- Punting up river to Grantchester
- Ely and its cathedral
- Historical buildings, gardens and museums
- Nature reserves, wildlife parks and zoos
- Karting, a real snow slope, and indoor skydiving



Student societies

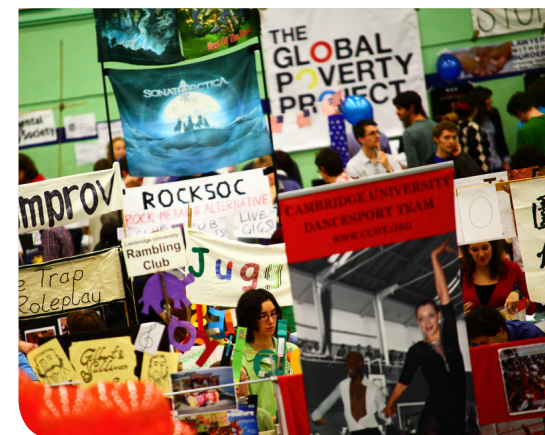
It's important that all students at Cambridge are able to take full advantage of the clubs and societies on offer at the University, and our postgraduate students get involved in all aspects of student life here beyond their academic studies.

At Cambridge, there are hundreds of student groups, clubs and societies relating to:

- Community, charity and volunteering projects
- Particular cultures and nationalities
- The environment
- Faiths and religions
- Food and drink
- Games, hobbies and outdoor pursuits
- Media (eg journalism, TV, radio, film-making, photography)
- Performing arts (eg comedy, dance, drama, music)
- Politics and debating
- Science and technology

See the full range on the Societies Directory:

 www.societies.cam.ac.uk



Sport

The sports scene at Cambridge is huge. More than 80 sports are offered here, including team games, water sports, martial arts, racket sports and extreme sports.

One of the advantages of being collegiate is how easy it is for students to get involved with sports at any level. There are College teams for novices and experts, as well as the University teams that represent Cambridge against other universities and club teams. Most sports teams at the University include a mix of postgraduates and undergraduates so everyone is welcome to take part.

Many clubs and groups offer taster sessions at the beginning of each year so you can try them out and find out more.

 www.sport.cam.ac.uk



Student Support


Graduate Union

Our Graduate Union (GU) represents the interests of all postgraduate students and provides a range of central services and support to help ensure you have a fulfilling student experience. We are proud that our Graduate Union is one of the only students' unions in the UK exclusively for postgraduate students. Membership of the Graduate Union is automatic and free, and spouses and partners are able to become associate members in order to attend events and use GU services.

The GU is run by a board of elected officers and an Executive Committee of voluntary student officers, who focus on four key areas:

- Representation
- Welfare and support
- Student services and facilities
- Events

The GU, along with the Undergraduate Students' Union (CUSU), also run the Students' Unions' Advice Service in order to provide free, confidential and independent support to all students of the University of Cambridge.

 www.gradunion.cam.ac.uk

Disability Resource Centre (DRC)

The Disability Resource Centre (DRC) offers guidance, information and support, and is an essential point of contact for disabled applicants, including those with a specific learning difficulty or long-term health condition.

You are strongly encouraged to disclose any disability, including any specific learning difficulty (SpLD), long-term health condition or mental health condition, and provide any relevant information in your application. Your application will be processed in exactly the same way as any other application. If you have disclosed a disability and receive a conditional offer of admission to the University, the DRC will get in contact to put a support plan in place to make any reasonable adjustments during your time at Cambridge.

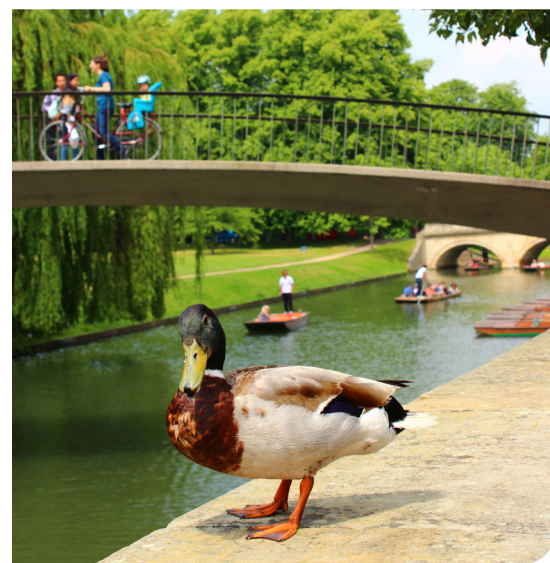
 www.cam.ac.uk/disability

Other sources of support

- Accommodation Service (www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk)
- Childcare Office (www.childcare.admin.cam.ac.uk)
- International Student Office (www.iso.admin.cam.ac.uk)

The options for support available to students at Cambridge are very wide, and it is easy to find someone appropriate to approach.

Cohor
Cork, Ireland



Careers

Career destinations

Cambridge graduates are highly employable and our students go on to careers across many industries and sectors. But it is not just employment that our postgraduate courses prepare you for – many Master's students go into further research study, and many of our PhD students pursue research careers and careers in academia.




The Careers Service

The University's Careers Service offers a wide range of services, including advice and support specific to postdoctoral students. The Careers Service staff can help you make informed career choices and work out what to do next, whether that is:

- matching your interests and skills to possible careers
- providing guidance on working as a postdoctoral student or research staff member
- offering job application support

There are also numerous opportunities for you to meet employers through events organised by the Careers Service. You can also make an appointment with the Careers Service for personally tailored advice and to consider your options. Even after you graduate, you can still continue to access the Careers Service at any time in the future.

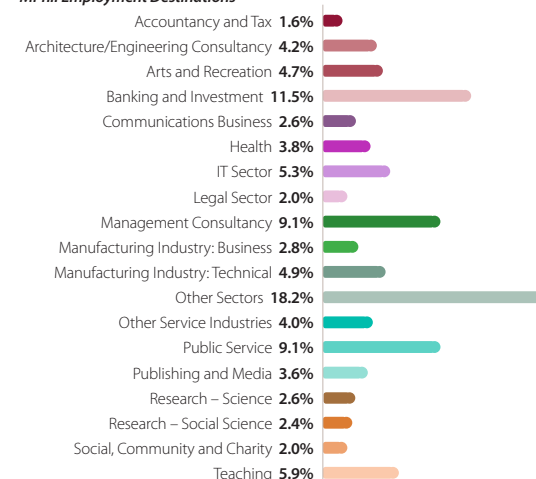
 www.careers.cam.ac.uk

Over 200

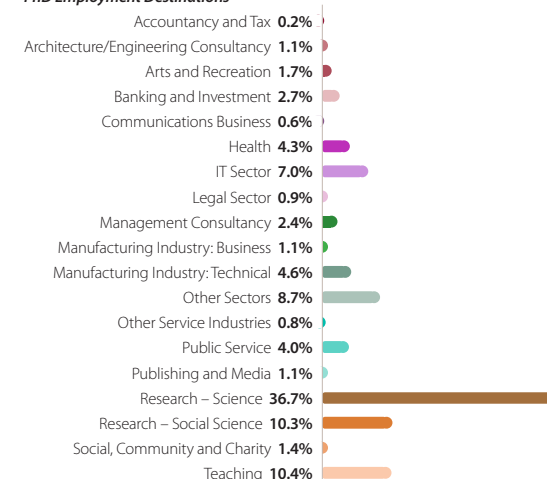
careers events and briefing and skills sessions typically offered by the Careers Service each year.

Employment destinations of 2016-17 Cambridge postgraduates (six months after graduating)

MPhil Employment Destinations



PhD Employment Destinations



Applying to Cambridge

To apply to the University of Cambridge, you must submit an online application through the Applicant Portal on our Graduate Admissions website. Applications to our postgraduate courses open in early September each year with various deadlines throughout the year that you need to consider. This section guides you through the postgraduate application process, from finding your ideal course, to receiving an offer.

1

Course

Before applying, you should thoroughly research your prospective course, including its requirements, deadlines and course costs. If you are applying for a PhD, you are advised to get in touch with a potential supervisor in the relevant Department/Faculty. For advice on how to find a suitable supervisor, you can check the Department's PhD webpages or contact the Department/Faculty directly.



www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses

2

Deadlines

There are two deadlines that you need to consider: the application deadline and the funding deadline.

If you wish to be considered in our Graduate Funding Competition (see p12-3) you need to apply by the funding deadline. Course and funding applications are made via the same online form, so you must apply by whichever deadline comes first.

Please note applications may close before the course deadline if all places have been filled, so we recommend applying as early as possible.

3

Applicant Portal

The Applicant Portal is where you write, pay for and submit your application. Once you have selected your course in the Course Directory, click the Apply Online button to be directed to the Applicant Portal.

Any supporting documentation requested on the course page (eg transcripts) must also be uploaded in pdf format via the Applicant Portal by the deadline.

4

Academic references

You are required to submit two academic references, which you can request and submit via the Applicant Portal. You should ensure you have your referees' consent before you apply.

Your referees must submit their references before you submit your application, so you should request your references as early as possible.

5

Colleges

All postgraduates are a member of a College (see p14-5). In your application to Cambridge, you can indicate two College preferences or choose to make an open application to have a College allocated to you. While over 60 per cent of applicants get one of their College preferences, this cannot be guaranteed. Please note that departments/faculties make admissions decisions for postgraduate courses at Cambridge.



6

Apply

Once you have finished writing your application, uploaded all required supporting documents and received references, your application is ready to be submitted and you will be asked to pay the application fee. You will not be able to download a copy of your application after submission so please save your application before you submit if you would like your own copy.

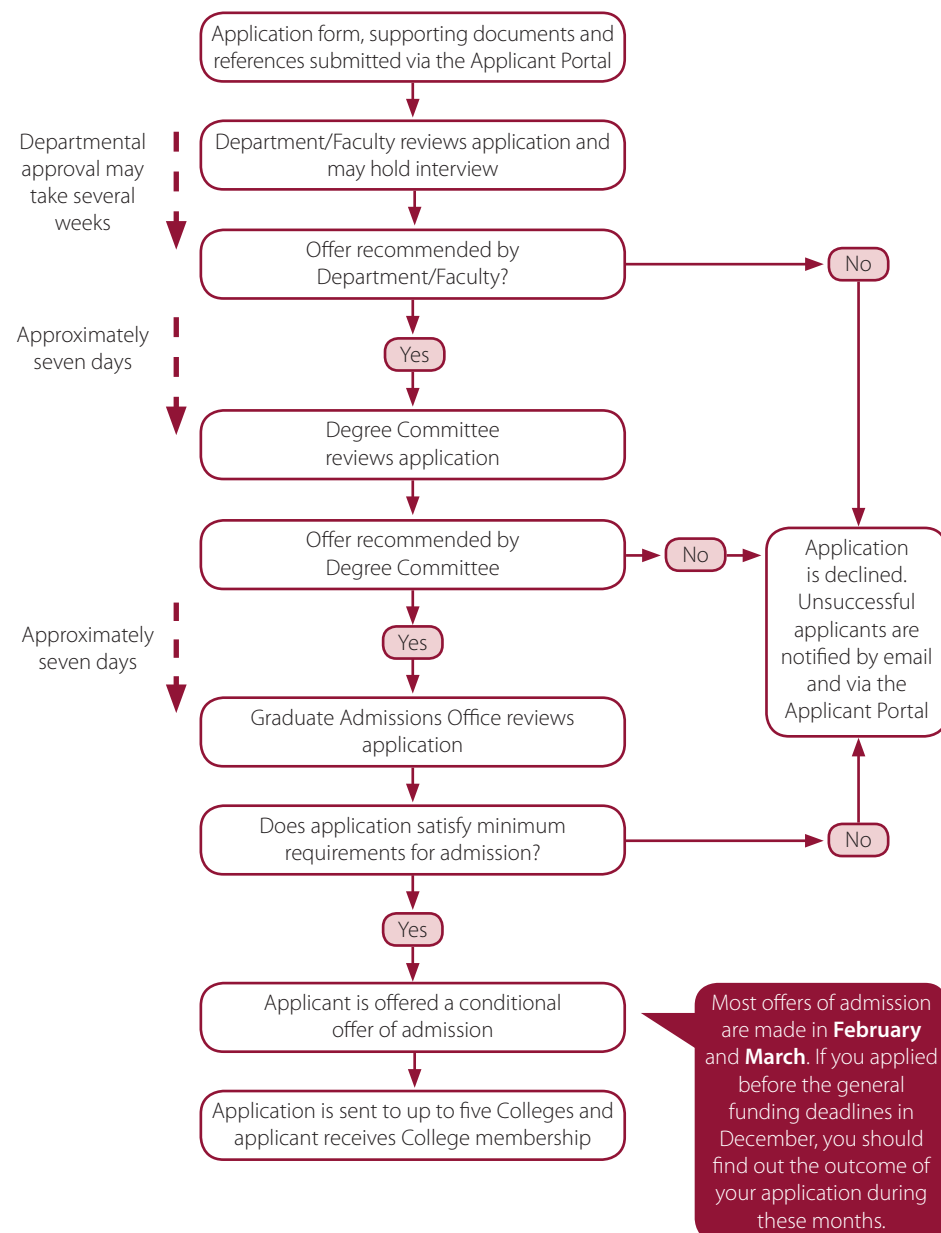
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Interview

Most departments/faculties will want to interview you if your application is accepted to the next stage in the admissions process. Some scholarships and studentships will also invite shortlisted candidates for interviews. Most interviews will be conducted via video conferencing or telephone.



After Applying



Decisions and Offers

What are we looking for?

Decisions on admission to the University for postgraduate study are made on academic merit and your suitability for the course. The availability of an appropriate supervisor and space on the course are also taken into consideration in our admissions process. We consider all applications holistically and on an individual basis.

Offers

If your application has been recommended by the Department/Faculty and approved by the Graduate Admissions Office, you will receive a formal offer of admission by email. If you have made more than one application, you may receive more than one conditional offer, but you will only be able to accept one offer.

Meeting offer conditions

Once you have received an official offer of admission, you will receive access to your Self-Service Account which tells you everything you need to know about your offer conditions.

Your Self-Service Account allows you to:

- View your offer conditions
- Print a certificate of your offer
- Accept or decline your offer
- Request a deferral of admission¹
- Provide documents to meet your conditions

Offer holders will need to provide an official transcript. Your official transcript may be sent to us electronically if your institution has a recognised secure electronic transcript system, namely Digitary, HEAR or GradIntel. You will need to contact your institution to find out whether they offer this facility. If you are not able to send an electronic transcript, you will need to send us your certified original transcript by post.

The deadline to meet the conditions of your offer is 31 July for courses starting in Autumn.



¹ Only possible for courses with multiple start dates within an academic year.

Finance and Funding

The cost of studying at the University of Cambridge is broken down into two areas:

1. University Composition Fee (UCF)

The UCF is paid to your College to cover the cost of your education and College membership and its value is dependent on your fee status (Home/EU/Overseas) and course of study.

2. Maintenance

The absolute minimum estimated living costs during your time at the University.



When considering postgraduate study at the University, you may find it helpful to look at the estimated annual financial commitment for your course, which you can calculate on our website.

www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/finance

Graduate Funding Competition

There is much financial support for those applying for postgraduate study at Cambridge. To make the process of applying for funding easier for our applicants, we operate an annual Graduate Funding Competition.

The Graduate Funding Competition co-ordinates funding from a wide variety of sources including the Cambridge Trust, Gates Cambridge, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), and some funding from Colleges and other awards.

To be eligible for consideration in the Graduate Funding Competition you must:

1. submit your application and supporting documents via the Applicant Portal by the relevant funding deadline
2. tick that you wish to be considered in the Funding section¹

Funding Source	Eligibility	Funding Deadline
Gates Cambridge	Citizens of any country outside the UK	October (USA citizens/residents) December/January (course specific)
Cambridge Trust	International Students	December/January (course specific)
UK Research Councils	UK, EU and EEA students. Generally, eligibility for full or partial funding depends on meeting residency requirements	December/January (course specific)

The application procedure for funding was smooth and easy, as no extra complicated documents were needed.

Tobias

Munich, Germany

Over one third

of postgraduate students starting study in 2017-18 were awarded funding from the University of Cambridge.



If you have been successful in the Graduate Funding Competition, you will be notified sometime between the beginning of March and the end of July. The majority of awards tend to be made in March and April. Unfortunately, due to the number of applicants, only successful candidates will be notified. If you have not heard anything by the end of July, you should assume that you have not been successful in being awarded funding.

The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) runs a training programme that covers a number of different issues related to research and future careers. It is also possible to access extra funding for particular research activities, or for training that will enrich your work more broadly.

Tessa

Norwich, UK

Other financial support and scholarships

There are still many other funding opportunities outside of our Graduate Funding Competition. You should make use of the comprehensive online search tool to find other awards you may be eligible for that are not part of the Graduate Funding Competition:

www.student-funding.cam.ac.uk

Student loans

It may also be possible to take out a loan to help fund your studies. Home fee status students who live in England and Wales, are under 60, and are applying for a Master's course may be eligible for a UK Government Postgraduate Loan. You can find out more information about these and additional private loan opportunities online:

www.cambridgestudents.cam.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/student-loans

Being part of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP) community has a number of incredible perks. The ESRC run a range of bespoke training courses for their students which allow for even greater development and opportunities.

Amarpreet

Manchester, UK

I would not have been able to stay at Cambridge for my PhD without the support of the Cambridge International Trust.

Janasz

Oregon, USA

¹ For further information on funding deadlines please see the Course Directory and funding section of the Graduate Admissions website: www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/finance/funding

Colleges

At Cambridge, as well as being a member of the University, you are also a member of one of our 31 Colleges.

Cambridge Colleges form one of the key communities for postgraduates during their studies, offering a range of academic and pastoral support, accommodation, and facilities for study and leisure. No matter which College you join, you will be welcomed into an inclusive, interdisciplinary, supportive, and social community for postgraduate students.

As part of your application, you can indicate two College preferences or you can choose to make an open application. Opting for an open application simply means that a computer programme will allocate College choices for you.

Choosing College preferences or making an open application has no effect on the outcome of your application to the University as Colleges do not make admissions decisions for postgraduate courses at Cambridge. Your application will only be sent to a College after you have been made an offer of admission to the University.

Although the majority of postgraduate students at Cambridge become a member of one of their preference choices, you may be considered by up to five Colleges. The first two Colleges will be the preferences indicated in your application or the two Colleges assigned to you if you made an open application. If you are not accepted by either of your preference Colleges, the additional Colleges will be determined by a computer programme based on the availability of spaces within a College.

If you have been made a formal offer of admission by the University, you are guaranteed to be accepted by a College.



Choosing a College

Here are some things to consider, which may help you make a decision about which College is right for you:

Your age – four Colleges only consider applications from mature students (aged 21 and over), and two Colleges are for postgraduate students only.

Your gender – three Colleges only consider applications from female students. (Please note female applicants can apply to any College).

Part-time students – not all Colleges accept part-time students.

College size – Colleges accept differing numbers of students and so some student populations are larger than others.

Particular facilities – whilst all Colleges offer many fantastic facilities, there are differences in the exact nature of the facilities they offer. You should look at College websites to find out more about what each has to offer.

Accessibility – facilities and accommodation provision vary between Colleges. Therefore, if you have particular access requirements, we recommend you check which Colleges would best meet your needs. You may find it helpful to get in touch with the College directly to discuss your specific requirements.

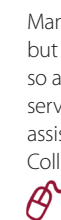
The Disability Resource Centre's Access Guide is a good source of additional information regarding facilities and accessibility.

www.cam.ac.uk/accessguide



To help you narrow down your College choices, you can use our College Key Facts and Figures:

www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/colleges/key-facts-and-figures



Many full-time postgraduates live in College accommodation, but few Colleges are able to house all their student members, so accommodation tends to be offered on a first-come-first-served basis. The University's Accommodation Service can assist those who need to find accommodation outside the Colleges:

www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk

I've met fantastic friends at my College – working on a huge range of topics – and am grateful for the support and friendship!

Eleanor

Bristol, UK


International Students

We are proud of our diverse student community, with around 50% of postgraduate students coming from overseas, representing more than 140 countries around the globe.




Applying with non-UK qualifications

We accept a large number of qualifications from around the world so, if you have not previously studied in the UK, you can check the equivalent qualifications guidelines for your country on the International section of the Graduate Admissions website.

 www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/international-qualifications

English language requirements

If English is not your first language, you may be required to take a language test. You can check whether you are likely to be asked to take a language test, which language tests your course accepts, and the minimum required score in the International Students section of the Graduate Admissions website.

 www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/international-students

For further information about applying as an international student, such as visas and immigration advice, please visit the International Students website.

 www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk

There's such a large international population at graduate level that I didn't feel alone in being far away from home when I moved to Cambridge.

Lindsay
Boston, USA

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I apply for more than one course?

Yes, you can apply for as many courses as you wish. You must complete a separate application form for each course and you must also pay the full application fee for each application you make.

2. Can I apply to both Cambridge and Oxford?

Yes, the restriction on applying to both universities only applies to undergraduate admissions.

3. I am still studying and do not have a final transcript. What do I do?

Please request an interim transcript of your courses/ results so far from your university and upload this. If you receive a conditional offer, you will need to provide the original final transcript to meet the conditions of your offer.


4. Should I submit a CV?

Yes, all courses require you to upload a CV to the Applicant Portal as part of your application.

5. Can I defer my place?

Deferments are possible only if your course has another start date within the same academic year. Whether you can defer your place is at the discretion of the Department/Faculty.

For more answers to Frequently Asked Questions, please visit our website.

 www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/applicant-faq

Find Out More

If you would like more information or details about anything mentioned in this guide, or if you have questions that have not been answered here, please visit the Graduate Admissions website or contact the Graduate Admissions Office directly.

Graduate Admissions Office

 01223 760606

 www.cam.ac.uk/graduate-contact-us

 www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk

Graduate Union

 01223 333313

 enquiries@gradunion.cam.ac.uk

 www.gradunion.cam.ac.uk

International Student Team

(including visa advice service)

 www.iso.admin.cam.ac.uk/contact

Disability Resource Centre (DRC)

 01223 332301

 disability@admin.cam.ac.uk

 www.cam.ac.uk/disability

Visit Us

The University offers a Postgraduate Open Day, usually in November each year. The Postgraduate Open Day provides an excellent opportunity to speak to department academics, visit Colleges, and get further information and advice about applying.

The Postgraduate team also attend various roadshows and events across the UK and overseas, which provide additional opportunities to find out more about postgraduate study at the University.

For details of these events and how to book a place, visit the website:

 www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events





UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

Graduate Admissions Office

17 Mill Lane
Cambridge CB2 1RX

01223 760606

www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk



Details are correct at the time of printing (October 2018).

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