



UNIVERSITY of  
BRADFORD

# EXPLORING YOUR OPTIONS & CLEARING





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# TODAY'S SESSION

- What is clearing?
- Key dates
- Types of offers
- What happens at HE providers on results day
- Get results day ready
- What do we take into account and interviewed courses
- Over achievement, deferring and Plan B
- Questions



# CLEARING

Clearing is how universities and colleges fill any places they still have on courses

From 5 July - 20 October, students can apply through Clearing if students:

- Are applying after 30 June
- Didn't receive any offers
- Don't want to accept any of their offers
- Did not meet the conditions of their offers
- Have declined their firm place





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# KEY DATES 2025 ENTRY

UCAS set the following deadlines for decisions to be made by the university/college:

**16 May 2025** – Applications received by 30 January

**5 July 2025** – Clearing opens

**17 July 2025** – Applications received by 30 June (this includes UCAS Extra choices)



# TYPES OF OFFERS

- **Conditional offer** - students are starting to find out grade information (Access courses etc) these will need to be verified by exam boards
- **Withdrawn** - course choice has been withdrawn by either the student or the HE provider
- **Unconditional offer** - Once all results are in and entry requirements have been met





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# WHAT HAPPENS AT HE PROVIDERS

- Pre- Clearing, all HE providers are offering a range of support for example:
  - Clearing masterclasses
  - Clearing support for parents and carers
  - Webinars
  - Find out about the support available for students with Disabilities



# GET RESULTS DAY READY



Remember  
we are all  
here to help

Collect  
results from  
school or  
college

Research  
in advance

Find a quiet  
space, to  
process  
and plan

Consider  
what to say  
before  
making  
calls

We prefer  
to speak to  
the  
applicant

UCAS ID,  
pen and  
paper at  
the ready

Stay calm  
and  
confident

Have a  
Plan B and  
be realistic

# ON THE DAY

- HE providers become call centres, with staff and students receiving and making phone calls
- Ambassadors in schools and colleges
- We are all on hand to speak to students, parents and carers and staff in schools and colleges
- We are open extended hours and over the weekend and some HE providers have Clearing Open Days







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# WHAT DO UNIVERSITIES TAKE INTO ACCOUNT DURING CLEARING?

- Academic achievements - have students met the required grades for the course?
- Non-academic achievements/previous experience/s
- Have students taken part in any activities which might reduce their offer (contextualised admissions schemes)



# INTERVIEWS

- Courses that interview in the main cycle will still interview in Clearing
- This interview could be in person, but is most likely to be online with an academic
- How can students prepare for a clearing interview?
  - Research the course and HE provider
  - Think about what you might be asked and contact universities before results day to see if they have resources that they can share







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# WHAT HAPPENS IF STUDENTS OVER-ACHIEVE

- If results are higher than expected and students want to change universities/courses, if they are holding a firm unconditional place, they can release themselves into Clearing – we recommend speaking to universities first before you do anything



# DEFERRING

- Students can select a 'deferred' start date for their chosen course, but we recommend speaking to HE providers first to make sure that they are okay with this
- Deferred entry can be a great way to travel, earn money and gain experience before starting a course







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# PLAN B

- Resits and Gap years
- Access to HE course
- Foundation Years

# RESIT/GAP YEARS

- Resit and look to 2026 entry
- If students were unsuccessful at an interview for a course but gained the required grades; they might decide to take a gap year and apply for 2026 entry – There are some courses where students can be reinterviewed in clearing (check with each HE provider)
- Gap years can be a great way to gain valuable experience especially for subjects related to health, where students need experience as well as qualifications
- Universities do not look negatively upon applications from people taking a gap year or doing further study prior to applying again if they have not been successful in the first year of applying





# ACCESS TO HE COURSES

- A great option if students did not do the right subject(s) at Level 3
- Students can look at these as an option if they did not achieve the grades they wanted in their Level 3's, as they are:
  - They take 1 year
  - There are lots of different options including Access to Social Sciences, Access to Science, Access to Engineering, Access to Computing

# FOUNDATION YEARS

- They offer a great entry point to lots of degrees
- Funding is from Student Finance
- Study takes place at a HE provider
- Access to fantastic facilities
- Student life
- They are a great way to find out about courses and subject interests before progressing to an Undergraduate course





# INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

A range of support is available for students before they join:

- Care experienced students
- Estranged students
- Adult learners
- Young carers
- Refugee and Asylum Seekers
- Children of service personnel
- Gypsy, Traveller, Romany, Showman and Boater (GTRSB)
- Disabled students





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# ANY QUESTIONS?







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# KEEP IN TOUCH



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