## **Results Day FAQs**

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1. **Clearing**

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/results-confirmation-and-clearing/what-clearing>

## **When can I use Clearing?**

## It's available July to October each year.

## If you already have your exam results but you have no offers, you can use Clearing from July.

## If you had conditional offers but your exam results didn't go to plan, you can use Clearing from results day, when Clearing vacancies will be listed in our search tool.

## If you're eligible, you can add a Clearing choice on results day.

## If you are holding a firm unconditional place but have changed your mind, you can decline your place in your application.

## **How will I know I’m in Clearing?**

## You'll know you're in Clearing if your application status says 'You are in Clearing' or 'Clearing has started. Or, you follow the on-screen prompts to decline your firm place, and your application status then says ‘You are in Clearing’ or ‘Clearing has started’.

## **Where can I find my Clearing number?**

## If you’re eligible for Clearing, your Clearing number will show under ‘Application status’ in your application.

## **I think I’m in Clearing, why don’t I have a Clearing number yet?**

## If your application doesn't say ‘You are in Clearing’ or ‘Clearing has started’ it might just be waiting for your results to update. Get in touch with the universities/colleges if it's taking a while – they might still be considering you, even if your results are a bit lower than required.

## **How much does it cost?**

* If you originally only applied for one course for the reduced fee of £22.50, you'll have to pay an additional £4.50 to apply through Clearing.

## **Where can I find Clearing vacancies?**

* All Clearing vacancies are listed in the [search tool](https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/clearing-and-results-day/what-clearing) from July. They are updated regularly by the unis until mid-September.

## **How do I add a Clearing choice?**

* Go to the ‘Your choices’ section of your application and click 'Add Clearing choice.’ Then enter the details of the course.
* Only add a Clearing choice if you’ve been given permission by a uni.

**How do I reply to a Clearing offer?**

## You don’t need to reply to a Clearing offer. Once you add the choice, it’s then up to the uni/college to confirm your place in your application.

## **I don’t want my firm choice; can I use Clearing?**

## Yes. If you change your mind and no longer want to go to your firm choice, you can use the ‘decline my place’ button in your application – [find out more.](https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/results-confirmation-and-clearing/what-clearing/declining-your-firm-place-track)

## **Why hasn’t my application updated?**

## Your application will update once the uni/college makes a decision. If you’ve met the conditions of your offer, your place will be confirmed soon.

## **Can I swap my firm and insurance choices now I’ve got my results?**

* No, you can’t swap your firm and insurance choices.
* If you now want to go to your insurance choice, you need to go through Clearing. You need to check with your insurance choice uni that they can accept you in Clearing.

**My results are better than I expected, can I use Adjustment?**

* From 2022, Adjustment is no longer available. But, if you’ve done better than you thought and want to change universities, you can decline your place in your application to go through Clearing instead.

**Clearing Plus**

**What is Clearing Plus?**

* Clearing Plus is a tool that provides students with personalised courses based on their course choices. Clearing Plus is specifically for students who have not been placed on a course and are still actively looking.
* UCAS will find options for you. Your previous course choices are taken and then cross-referenced with similar courses that are still available in the Clearing process and then suggested to you.

**How does Clearing Plus work?**

* UCAS looks at the original choices you applied for.
* These are then cross-referenced with the courses that universities and colleges have said they are happy to be entered into Clearing Plus.
* This is then further cross-referenced with data on what students in Clearing studied in previous years.
* Your profile is then matched to a course.
* You can then see these results by clicking the “see matches” button.

**Do I have to use Clearing Plus?**

* You don’t have to use Clearing Plus if you don’t want to. Plenty of students have been able to use Clearing without using Clearing Plus.
* UCAS does not always recommend using Clearing Plus, owing to how quickly spots are taken. Clearing Plus is an effective tool to use. However, it can be a time-consuming one that does not always yield good results for students who are on a short deadline.



1. **Deferring**

**What is deferring entry?**

* Deferring simply means delaying. A deferred entry means applying for a course and then taking a year out before starting it. This might be pre-planned, for example if you want to go on a gap year, or you might change your mind during the application.
* You can select a ‘deferred’ start date for your chosen course when you apply, but it’s important to contact the uni or college before submitting your application to make sure they are happy to accept a deferred application.
* Usually you can only defer your entry by one year, and it’s up to the university or college whether they accept it for your course.
* The conditions of your offer won’t change even though the date does. For example, if your conditional offer is based on attaining ABB in 2023 to start your deferred course in 2024, you must attain those grades in 2023 to secure your deferred place.
* If you’re applying for a conservatoire course, you’ll need to speak with the conservatoire directly to request a deferred entry. It’s not an option in the standard conservatoire application process.

**What if I deferred my place but now changed my mind?**

* If you applied for and receive an offer of a deferred place for the following year’s entry, but then decide you want to start your course this year, you need to contact the university or college directly.
* This process is not straightforward and will depend on whether there are places available on the course.

**How to defer your application**

* If you have applied for 2023 but would now like to defer, it will be up to your university or college to approve this. Some may only accept deferrals for certain courses. You should call them to check, but be ready to explain your reasons.
* If you have been offered a place for 2023 but would now like to defer, it will again be up to the university or college. As this is considered a late deferral, you may be asked to reapply. Make sure you’re confident of your choice, if you defer at this point it will become a final decision.
* If you defer your place then change your mind, you will need to contact the university or college. This process is not straightforward, and will depend on whether there are places available on the course.
* If you are applying through Clearing, you can only apply for the current year. However, if you are holding a deferred place and want to apply for a place this year through Clearing, you can use the ‘Decline my place’ button in your application, complete a new application, and follow the Clearing process. You should let the university or college know that you won’t be keeping your deferred place.
* You have right up until your start date to decide whether to defer or not, but accepting your decision is completely at the discretion of your university or college. The earlier you speak to them, the higher the chance that they will help you out, and the lower the chance you lose your place.
* If you have any questions about your deferral decision, please give us a call and we can explain everything in simple and straightforward terms over the phone. Don’t panic, there’s plenty of time left.
* If you accept a deferred entry place for 2024 you cannot then reapply in the next application cycle while holding this place. You would need to completely withdraw your application before you reapply. If you want to do this, please contact us for advice

**Can I apply through Clearing as a deferred applicant?**

* No, you cannot apply through Clearing using your deferred application.
* If you’ve changed your mind and want to apply for a different course, you need to let the university you hold a deferred place with know that you don’t want to attend anymore.



1. **Student Finance**

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

**If you haven’t applied for student finance yet**

If you’ve got a place through Clearing and would like funding but haven’t applied for student finance, it is important that you as apply soon as possible - [apply now](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login).

**If your university, college, or course changes**

If you accept a place at uni through Clearing, you’ll need to [sign in to your student finance account](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login) and let them know of any changes. You’ll need to change the university or college on the application, as well as your course.

**If your living situation changes**

It’s important that you update where you’ll be living on your application if this has changed. Otherwise, you might not get the right amount of maintenance Loan. You should do this at the same time as you update your university or course.

**If your application is based on your household income**

Make sure your parents give their income details as soon as possible.



1. **Apprenticeships**

* Some apprenticeship opportunities may be limited. However, vacancies are still available.
* Search for current vacancies through the following link:
* Find an Apprenticeship - <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
* Indeed - [Job Search | Indeed](https://uk.indeed.com/)
* Not going to uni - [Find Apprenticeships near you in the UK | NGTU (notgoingtouni.co.uk)](https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/opportunities/apprenticeships)
* Rate My apprenticeship - [Apprenticeship & Degree Apprenticeship Jobs Search for School Leavers | RateMyApprenticeship](https://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/search-jobs)
* QA Apprenticeships (Digital, Tech, and IT) - [Find an Apprenticeship | QA](https://www.qa.com/apprenticeships/become-an-apprentice/)
* KPMG Apprenticeships - [Vacancies (kpmgcareers.co.uk)](https://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/search/vacancies/?experienceLevels%5B0%5D=Apprenticeships&intakeType=Student)
* This [student apprenticeship guide](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2020/03/Interactive-Student-Guide_2020.pdf) provides useful advice and guidance about searching and applying for apprenticeships.
* Be prepared to work/study remotely for the foreseeable future.



1. **What can I do if I don't have a plan or my plans have changed?**

* Career Pilot <https://careerpilot.org.uk/information/your-choices-at-18> outlines all the options available to you.
* Work out which is the right pathway for you...
* [This skills assessment](https://beta.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/) asks you to think about the type of work you want to do.
* [The Skills Health Check](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/skills-assessment/skills-health-check/home) is a set of quizzes and activities designed to help you explore your skills, interests, and motivations. It can help you decide what kind of job might be right for you.
* Use the [wheel of life](https://www.futurequest.org.uk/media/transfer/doc/the_wheel_of_life_2.pdf) tool to reflect on which areas of your life are going smoothly and which need some more work.
* Explore careers related to your [favourite subject](https://careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/subjects)

Book an appointment with careers: [ceiag@stbrn.ac.uk](mailto:ceiag@stbrn.ac.uk)