

Clearing Top Tips

If you haven't got the results you were hoping for, or if you are late in applying for a degree, you may find yourself in Clearing. First of all, don't panic! Almost 14% of students gained their place through clearing in 2020, and UCAS have lots of resources to support and guide you. Clearing is where students are able to apply direct to Universities for courses where places are still available. We have produced a step-by-step guide below on the process of Clearing and how you can secure your place on a degree this year.

1.

Check UCAS Track

Your university may accept you onto the course anyway. If not, don't assume all is lost if you don't meet the conditions of your offer. Pick up the phone and ask if they will still consider your place on the course. It might be that they have a Foundation Year or Foundation Degree you could enter as an alternative route.



Search Available Courses

If you have done the above and there is no alternative, go to digital.ucas.com/search and search for the type of course you want to study. This will show you a list of all courses with places still available. You can search by University (e.g. Middlesex University) or by subject area (e.g. Sport).

2.

3.

Research

Although this can be a stressful time, it's important you research all the options available to you before contacting Universities and accepting a course. It's not easy to change your mind if you later find a different course, and it can prevent places being available for other students in the same position.



Be Prepared

The University will ask you for your 10-digit UCAS number, clearing number (if you have one), the qualifications you've taken and the grades achieved. Having this to hand will make it quicker and easier to offer you a place on your chosen course. Don't worry if you're not already in the UCAS system, the University should be able to set you up with UCAS directly if they can make you an offer.

4.

5.

Be Yourself

Universities want to speak to the students themselves, not your mum or dad. Don't be shy and make sure you pick up the phone and contact them yourself so you can make the right decision for you.



For further guidance on UCAS clearing visit:

www.ucas.com/undergraduate/results-confirmation-and-clearing/what-clearing

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z4rncqf#:~:text=Clearing%20is%20a%20system%20that,the%20unis%20you%20applied%20for