Cambridge is certainly a unique and truly memorable experience. Coming from a different university for my undergraduate, my preconceptions were challenged to what postgraduate study could look like.

My love of my topic was supported by an amazing supervisor, who shared my passion for the environment and climate. Moreover, I have met so many inspiring and dedicated people in this beautiful city who love to share their interests too - there is a strong postgraduate community in which I have found some of my closest friends.

Whether you are embarking on a Master’s or PhD, I have no doubt that you will find joy and innumerable possibilities to learn, grow, and just have fun. Cambridge is full of unexpected opportunities, don’t be afraid to seize them.

Amelia Jabry
Cambridge SU President (Postgraduate)
Welcome to Cambridge

Consistently rated 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 10
Cambridge is one of the top ten universities most often targeted by Britain’s leading graduate employers (The Graduate Market in 2022)

93%
93% of Cambridge research has been recognised as ‘world-leading’ or ‘internationally-excellent’ (Research Excellence Framework 2021)

140+
countries represented among undergraduates and postgraduate students

Top 10
for academic and employer reputation (QS World University Rankings 2022)

121
affiliates of the University have been awarded the Nobel Prize since 1904
An 800-year history

Cambridge is one of the oldest universities in the world, and during our 800-year history, we’ve welcomed thousands of students, many of whom have achieved incredible things.

Find out more about the history of the University on our website:

www.cam.ac.uk/about-the-university/history

1284
Peterhouse, the first College at Cambridge is founded.

1521
John Siberech borrows £20 from Cambridge University and sets up the first printing press in the city. Today, Cambridge is known throughout the world for its University Press (CUP) – the oldest publishing house in the world.

1687
Isaac Newton publishes Principia Mathematica, establishing the fundamental principles of modern physics.

1938
Dorothy Garrod is elected to the Disney Professorship in Archaeology, the first woman Professor at Cambridge.

1947
David Attenborough graduates having studied Natural Sciences.

1950
Code-breaker Alan Turing publishes his paper titled Computing Machinery and Intelligence; proposing an experiment now known as the ‘Turing Test’, which tests the intelligence of computers.

1953
Rosalind Franklin, Francis Crick and James Watson discover the structure of DNA. Their discovery opens the door to the study of an entirely new science – genetics.

1958
Anthony Hewish and Jocelyn Bell discover pulsating stars or ‘pulsars’ using Cambridge’s Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory. Their work alters the course of modern cosmology.

1968
Professor Stephen Hawking, Lucasian Professor of Mathematics, publishes his book, A Brief History of Time, one of the best-selling scientific books of all time. He is already eminent for his work on black holes and the Big Bang theory of the origin of the universe.

1988
Alumna Zadie Smith releases her debut novel, White Teeth, which becomes a best seller and wins a number of awards.

2000

David Attenborough
Credit: Ben Watkins

Rosalind Franklin
Credit: Newnham College, Cambridge

Zadie Smith
Credit: David Shankbone
Charles Darwin is recommended by Botany Professor John Stevens Henslow to join HMS Beagle as the naturalist on its scientific survey of South American waters.

Emily Davies, suffragist, and others found Girton College, the first residential university-level institution of higher learning for women.

J.J. Thomson, Cavendish Professor of Physics, discovers the electron. In following years, inventors use his work to develop new devices such as the telephone, radio and television.

The atom is split for the first time, creating the study of nuclear physics, by John Crockcroft and Ernest Walton under the direction of Ernest Rutherford. Their Nobel Prize for physics is awarded in 1951.

Xu Zhimo composes his influential poem *On Leaving Cambridge* whilst studying at the University as a visiting scholar.

The University of Cambridge celebrates its 800th anniversary.

Michael Levitt, who worked at Cambridge as a PhD student, wins the Nobel Prize in Chemistry alongside Martin Karplus and Arieh Warshel for the development of multiscale models for complex chemical systems.

Her Majesty the Queen opens the Papworth hospital on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

A new Virtual Reality (VR) software, vLUME, is created by Cambridge scientists which allows researchers to ‘walk’ inside and analyse individual cells.
At Cambridge, we are committed to achieving excellence in research, and to ensuring that our research contributes to the wellbeing of society.

The University’s position as a world-leading institution has been recognised with the publication of the results from the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF), which is a system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. 93% of Cambridge’s submissions have been rated as ‘world-leading’ or ‘internationally-excellent’. The influential Times Higher Education rankings placed Cambridge joint third, making us the leading university that covers the broad range of disciplines from STEM to the arts, humanities and social sciences.

Global impact
Research conducted at Cambridge has made an impact in over 100 countries across the world. Our researchers partner with organisations in these countries to ensure that our collaborations address local needs and benefit those communities most in need. You can find out more about where our research is having an impact by visiting impactmap.cam.ac.uk.

In 2021, a study was led by astronomers focusing on the time that cosmic dawn, when stars formed for the first time, occurred.
Here are a few examples of recent research topics at Cambridge:

1. **Beyond GDP**
   Cambridge researchers are leading a global movement to determine how an economy can prosper sustainably without sacrificing the natural environment or the future health and wellbeing of its people. The Inclusive Wealth Framework provides the foundation for the calculation of sustainable development indicators seen in the United Nations’ Inclusive Wealth reports.

2. **Transforming lives with iris recognition technology**
   Technology designed by John Daugman that recognises people’s unique iris patterns has made aid and food distribution to refugees fairer, faster and more efficient, and increased the accuracy and security of systems at hospitals, airports and schools.

3. **SwiftKey: Text prediction technology**
   Research on how to program computers to process and analyse large amounts of natural language data has led to the saving of 100,000 years in mobile phone typing time and also enabled language learners to have feedback in less than 15 seconds. SwiftKey is a keyboard app designed to pick up the patterns in people’s language use and, through machine learning techniques, accurately predict what they were most likely to write next.

4. **Influencing education in international development settings**
   Evidence from Cambridge’s Research for Equitable Access and Learning (REAL) Centre has transformed how international bodies, national governments and aid organisations respond to the ‘global education crisis’. Researchers showed that there was an urgent need to target the most disadvantaged children first and at the earliest stage possible.

5. **Safeguarding the wonder drugs**
   Research at the Department of Veterinary Medicine identified a previously unknown antibiotic-resistant bacteria, MRSA mecC, in livestock. Their evidence on the prevalence of livestock-associated MRSA informed policymakers in the UK and Europe, contributing to new legislation to restrict the prophylactic use of antibiotics.

Read more about these projects and other research news on our website.

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/news
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.

Unlike undergraduate degree applications, Colleges do not assess and admit postgraduate student applications. The decision on whether you will be made an offer is decided by the department/faculty you apply to.

College choice
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 the system will automatically 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 over 65 per cent of postgraduate students at Cambridge become a member 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 the system 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.

“I have found the community at my College and Faculty to be welcoming, and this was an extremely helpful resource and I now consider Cambridge to be a second home.”

Tanya
Toronto, Canada
What does a College offer?

- **Welfare and practical support** through a Graduate Tutor. They monitor your progress and provide information on academic and pastoral matters and organise an induction programme to help you settle in. Colleges also provide a College nurse, Chaplain and/or counsellor and provide advice on childcare provision in Cambridge.

- **Accommodation and catering** with College catering offered in formal and informal environments, at a reasonable price. College accommodation and catering is not guaranteed – contact the Accommodation Office for more information about accommodation outside the Colleges (www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk).

- **Academic enrichment and support** with the provision of library and IT facilities, and opportunities to supervise undergraduates (where applicable).

- **A cross-intellectual community** with opportunities to exchange experiences across disciplines and generations in an informal setting through networks and seminars.

- **Finance and funding**: advice on identifying and obtaining financial assistance and help in cases of unforeseen and unforeseeable financial difficulties.

- **A strong social focus** with a student association or graduate society run by students with College support.

- **Social, cultural and recreational activities** with suitable facilities to enhance your personal development.

- **Lifelong membership** of the College.

Choosing a College

Here are some things to consider, which may help you make a decision about which College you would prefer:

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

- **Your chosen study option** – 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 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 needs. The Disability Resource Centre’s Access Guide is a good source of additional information regarding facilities and accessibility. www.cam.ac.uk/accessguide

Please note, two of our Colleges (Murray Edwards, www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk, and Newnham, www.newn.cam.ac.uk) accept applications from female students only. Both Colleges offer more details on their websites.

There's lots of information on the College websites to help you narrow down your choices.

Many full-time postgraduates live in College accommodation, but few Colleges are able to house all their student members and 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
With more than 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 that suits 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:

- **The MPhil by Advanced Study**
- **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.

Please be aware that we also offer other Postgraduate qualifications including the Master of Research (MRes), Master of Studies (MSt), Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma. To find out more about these, visit [www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses/qualifications](http://www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses/qualifications).

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 focused on research which represents a significant contribution to learning, and you’ll work on this research in a department or faculty which is internationally renowned for the originality and global significance of its advances in theories and knowledge.

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 whose role is to 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.

"What I enjoy the most here is the access to a large amount of training. Also, the visiting scholars that this university attracts make the discussion much more interesting.”

Simon

PhD in Theoretical Chemistry
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 in age from 3,000 year-old manuscripts to the latest articles available online. Postgraduate students also have access to the University Library’s 32 affiliated libraries, covering a broad range of subjects.

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 skill-based courses provided by departments, the Centre for Professional and Personal Development, and the Careers Service.

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.

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 international students who require additional help to refine their language ability.

Computing and IT
All Colleges, as well as many departments and libraries, have computer suites offering a range of general and specialist software. Wifi 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.

“Being in Cambridge gives you access to virtually any resource that you might need to consult in your research: not only the existing stock in all the libraries, but also additional books, articles, etc. that they can quickly acquire for you.”

Samuel
PhD in Plant Sciences

“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.”

Yui
PhD in English
Applying to Cambridge

To apply to the University of Cambridge, you must submit an online application through the Applicant Portal on our Postgraduate 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.

2

Deadlines

There are two deadlines that you need to consider: the application deadline and the course funding deadline. If you wish to be considered for many of the major University funding opportunities available to you, you need to apply by the funding deadline (see p14-5 for more details). This deadline will be in either December or January, depending on your course. Course and most 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. If your course starts in Lent Term (January) or Easter Term (April), you may need to apply for funding 18 months in advance.

www.cam.ac.uk/pgcourses
Applicant Portal
The Applicant Portal is where you write and submit your application, as well as pay the application fee. Visit our website to see if you are eligible for an application fee waiver. 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 (e.g., transcripts) must also be uploaded in a pdf format no larger than 2MB via the Applicant Portal by the deadline.

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 application is complete only when all your references have been submitted, so you should request your references as early as possible.

Colleges
All postgraduates are a member of a College (see p6-7). 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 65 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.

Submit your application
Once you have finished writing your application, and all your documents are uploaded, your application is ready to be submitted and you will be asked to pay the application fee. Please note that you will not be able to edit your application once it has been submitted. You will also 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.

The Applicant Portal opens in September each year for admissions to the next academic year. Please allow plenty of time to complete your course application and any specific funding applications that require additional information in the Applicant Portal.

Interview
Most departments/faculties will want to interview you if your application is progressed 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: What happens next?

Application form and supporting documents submitted via the Applicant Portal.

Department/faculty reviews application and may hold interview.

Offer recommended by department/faculty?

Yes

Degree Committee reviews application.

Offer recommended by Degree Committee?

No

Application is declined. Unsuccessful applicants are notified by email and via the Applicant Portal.

Yes

Postgraduate Admissions Office reviews application.

Does application satisfy the University’s requirements for admission?

No

Most offers of admission are made in February and March. If you applied before the general funding deadlines in December or January, you should find out the outcome of your application during these months.

Yes

Applicant is offered Conditional Admission by the Postgraduate Admissions Office on behalf of the University of Cambridge.

Application is sent to up to five Colleges and applicant receives College membership within three weeks of receiving formal offer of admission.
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 on an individual basis.

Offers
If your application has been recommended by the department/faculty and approved by the Postgraduate 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.

Meeting offer conditions
Once you have received an official offer of admission from the Postgraduate Admissions Office, you will receive access to your Self-Service Portal which tells you everything you need to know about your offer conditions.

Your Self-Service Portal allows you to:
• View your offer conditions
• Print a certificate of your offer
• Accept or decline your offer
• Request a deferral of admission, if the course permits
• 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 enquire whether they offer this facility. If you’re unable to send a transcript to a secure electronic transcript system, you will need to send us a scan of your original transcript.

The deadline to meet the conditions of your offer is 31 July for courses starting in Michaelmas Term (October).
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/overseas) and course of study.

2. Maintenance
‘Maintenance’ refers to the absolute minimum estimated living costs that you’ll need to have available during your time at the University. You won’t need to pay anyone this amount, but you do need to make sure you have these funds available to support yourself and any dependants for the duration of your studies.

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.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/finance

Funding at Cambridge
Every year the University awards over £100m in scholarships to new postgraduate students. Many of our students are also able to fund their studies from external sources, such as loans, charities or government schemes.

Applying for funding is a key part of applying for postgraduate study at Cambridge, as this is usually awarded separately. You should read through these pages and refer to our website to help you understand what is required and what funding opportunities are available.

Applying for funding
There are several different ways to apply for University funding and different funding deadlines apply depending on which course you’re applying for and if you’re a US citizen applying for a Gates Scholarship.

We’ve included an overview here, but please check our website for full details.

How to apply for funding
There are three ways to apply for University funding:

1. Automatically through the Applicant Portal
   By ticking ‘I want to be considered for funding’ when you apply through the Applicant Portal, you will automatically be considered for most Cambridge Trust funds,¹ some Research Council funding (please check the website for details), and some department and College funds. To be considered for these funds, you will need to apply by the course funding deadline.

2. Through the Applicant Portal with additional information
   Other funds are still applied for through the Applicant Portal but require either additional fields within the form to be completed or an additional application form to be uploaded. This includes the Gates Cambridge Trust, certain Research Council funding (please see the website for details) and some College funding.

   Please note if you miss your relevant funding deadline, you cannot be considered for any of the funding opportunities above, though other departmental or College funding opportunities may still be open to you.

3. Through a separate form
   Various other funds are administered separately and may require an additional form. Many of these are listed on our Student Funding Search (www.student-funding.cam.ac.uk) but you should also check the Cambridge Trust website (www.cambridgetrust.org) as well as College and department websites.

   Further information can be found at www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/funding/how-apply-funding
Funding deadlines
You should check the funding application deadlines carefully as these will vary depending on what course you’re applying for and what type of funding you’re applying for.

The deadlines below² relate primarily to University and Research Council (UKRI) funding. Department and College funding may have different deadlines. Please check the course directory to find out which course funding deadline applies to you: www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October 2022</th>
<th>December 2022</th>
<th>January 2023</th>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>5</td>
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You will need to apply by this deadline if you are a USA citizen normally resident in the USA, and wish to be considered for Gates funding.

First University funding deadline.

The majority of funding offers are made in March and April, though some funding offers continue to be made until July.

Second University funding deadline.

Useful advice for finance and funding
There’s a lot to consider when it comes to postgraduate finance and funding, so we’ve put together some useful tips below:

• **Research early**
  Start researching funding opportunities as soon as possible. If you have time, start at least a year before your course begins. You can use the Postgraduate Funding Search on our website (www.student-funding.cam.ac.uk). You’ll also find details of external funding opportunities online.

• **Apply early**
  Many scholarship deadlines fall early in December, for admission in the following year. If your course starts in January or April you may need to apply for funding 18 months in advance. Some funding will require additional statements or references, so make sure you leave plenty of time to complete your funding application.

• **Secure funding or finance before you start studying**
  In order to take up a place, successful applicants will need to evidence how they plan to finance their study. You shouldn’t expect to be able to find funding after your course starts.

• **Apply for many funding opportunities**
  We encourage you to apply for as many funding opportunities as possible, both internal and external to the University. If you’re applying for a department award or a funded place, remember to also search and apply for other funding schemes to increase your chances.

Further information
www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/funding

¹ The Cambridge Trust has a large number of varied funds, some of which have quite specific eligibility requirements. Therefore, in the Applicant Portal you are invited to indicate if there are any funds you feel you are particularly eligible for as this will help us identify the most suitable funding for you. You are not required to indicate any specific funds in order to be considered.

² Please note these deadlines are for applicants for courses starting in the University’s three termly starting points: Michaelmas 2023, Lent 2024 and Easter 2024.
“I had a terrific experience with my scholars/friends from the funding body and they were one of the main reasons why Cambridge has been such a welcoming place for me from the very beginning. They not only provided me with essential financial support, but also with many other social and academic opportunities during the whole duration of the course.”

Filip
MPhil in Physics (by Research)
Entertainment, music and festivals
However you like to spend your time, there’s always something to keep you entertained. Cambridge has theatres, cinemas and entertainment venues offering varied programmes that include comedy, drama, dance, concerts and club nights. Live music is also a big part of life in both the city and University, from buskers and pub gigs, to classical concerts and big name acts. The city usually hosts a number of music festivals featuring a wide variety of acts and musical styles, including folk, jazz, rock, ska, UK urban and dance.

Pubs, clubs and restaurants
Cambridge has a great range of pubs, bars and cafes, from traditional pubs with open fires to modern bars overlooking the river. 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 shops, cafés and restaurants.

Outside the city
If you want to explore further afield, Cambridge has direct rail links to London, Brighton and Birmingham, and there’s also plenty to discover in the region.

• Walking and cycling routes
• Punting up river to Grantchester
• Ely and its cathedral
• Historical buildings, gardens and museums
• Nature reserves, wildlife parks and coastline

Student societies
All students at Cambridge are able to take full advantage of the clubs and societies on offer at the University, and our postgraduate students can 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:
• Academic subjects
• Community, charity and volunteering projects
• Particular cultures and nationalities
• The environment
• Faiths and religion
• 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.cambridgesu.co.uk/opportunities/societies

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 undergraduates and postgraduates 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.
Student support

Cambridge SU
Our Students’ Union (Cambridge SU) represents the interests of all postgraduate and undergraduate students and provides a range of central services and support to help ensure you have a fulfilling student experience. Its aim is to make sure all students, regardless of study level, are represented, supported and have their voice heard across the University. Cambridge SU is led by a team of elected sabbatical officers. Cambridge SU:
• represents the student interests on University committees
• campaigns on students’ priorities such as mental health provision, structural disadvantages faced by marginalised groups, education policy and climate action
• supports and connects College student unions through training, forums and advice
• runs the professionally staffed Student Advice Service

Cambridge Students’ Union (Cambridge SU)

01223 333313
www.cambridgesu.co.uk

Disability Resource Centre
The Disability Resource Centre (DRC) offers guidance, information and support, and is an essential contact for disabled applicants, including those with a specific learning difficulty, mental health conditions, or long-term health conditions. Disclosing this information won’t form part of the decision-making process and your application will be processed in exactly the same way as any other application. You are strongly encouraged to disclose any disability including any specific learning difficulty (SpLD), long-term health condition or mental health condition, and to provide any relevant information in your 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 needed during your time at Cambridge.

Disability Resource Centre (DRC)
01223 332301
disability@admin.cam.ac.uk
www.disability.admin.cam.ac.uk/students/prospective-students

Student parents and childcare
The University’s Childcare Office operates the Information Service that provides comprehensive guidance on family-related matters such as childcare, schooling, healthcare, financial support and local community resources. The Childcare Office also oversees the facilities and assistance available to student parents, including the West Cambridge and Eddington Nurseries, and the Holiday Playscheme. Some Colleges can provide family accommodation (see the individual College websites). Where this isn’t available, please refer to the central Accommodation Service (see below).

www.childcare.admin.cam.ac.uk

Faith
The University of Cambridge and its Colleges are a multi-faith community and provide facilities and opportunities for individuals to explore their faith and beliefs. The University provides a range of faith societies and communities which are open to all individuals, with multi-faith facilities and designated spaces for prayer and reflection by students of all faiths or none. Around Cambridge there are also a range of religion-specific places of worship. Some Colleges also have a Chaplain or Dean who have a pastoral role among members of the College community and are available to all students of all faiths.

Other sources of support
Accommodation Service
www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk

International Student Office
www.iso.admin.cam.ac.uk

“Support from academic supervisors has been exceptional - I have a great relationship with my supervisor and other staff in the department. I have engaged with the Counselling service at the University who provide excellent support and welfare services and are an integral part of the support/welfare at the University.”

Rebecca
PhD in Medical Science

www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk
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 careers in research and academia.

The University of Cambridge Careers Service can work with you from day one to explore options, connect you with employers and help you navigate the complex job market – saving you time and maximising your employability prospects. Whether you have no idea what to do next, a few ideas or a definite plan, the Careers Service offer plenty to help you take the next step, such as:

- One-to-one guidance consultations
- Typically around 15 major careers events each year
- An extensive programme of briefings and skill sessions
- Upcoming employer presentations
- Free resources to help create CVs and cover letters
- Free access to online practice psychometric tests
- A database of over 4,000 job vacancies

Advice tailored to you
The Careers Service offers a wide range of services, including advice and support specific to postgraduate students. You can make an appointment with the Careers Service for personally tailored advice and to consider your options, and our careers advisers 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 postgraduate student
- Offering job application support

www.careers.cam.ac.uk
Frequently asked questions

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. However, if you're applying for Master’s courses in the School of Life Sciences, you may be eligible for the three for one scheme. You can apply for up to three courses within the scheme for only one application fee. Further details, including a list of eligible courses, can be found on our website.

Can I apply to both Cambridge and Oxford?
Yes, the restriction on applying to both universities only applies to undergraduate admissions.

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.

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

I am having difficulty uploading my supporting documents. What should I do?
Occasionally applicants have difficulty uploading their documents to the Applicant Portal due to encryption of the file or that the file is too large. To solve this issue, we always recommend that applicants print their documents and scan this back into their computer so that the scanned version can be uploaded instead.

Can I defer my place?
Deferrals are only possible if your course has another start date within the same academic year and the course permits deferred entry. 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.cam.ac.uk/pgfaq
Virtual Postgraduate Open Days

The University offers Virtual Open Days in November each year with Warm-up Webinars taking place from August to October. The event offers the opportunity to ask staff your questions, find out more about the application process, finance, Colleges, part-time study and more. You will be able to access webinars and resources, learn about our courses and hear from students about their Cambridge experience. There will also be presentations to give advice on making an application and writing a research proposal, plus information about funding opportunities at the University.

To find out more about the Virtual Open Days and to book your place, visit our website:

www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/openday

Other Postgraduate events

The Postgraduate team attends various fairs and events throughout the year, both in the UK and internationally. For more information about upcoming events, visit our website:

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

Glossary

You might come across many new and unfamiliar words and terms when applying for postgraduate study. We’ve explained some of these below, however if you come across anything else that isn’t clear or you simply want to find out more about life at Cambridge, have a look at our website or complete the Postgraduate Admissions contact form (www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/contact-form).

**Colleges** – the University is made up of 31 Colleges. These offer a range of support, accommodation, facilities and social opportunities. You can include two College preferences in your application, or you can make an open application if you don’t mind which College you belong to.

**Conditional offer** – all offers to the University of Cambridge are conditional on achieving the required academic criteria, as well as confirmation of financial undertaking and membership to a College. Once all these conditions of an offer are met, applicants are said to have a confirmed offer.

**Maintenance costs** – the minimum estimated living costs that will be needed to support yourself and any dependents while you are studying at Cambridge.

**Resubmission** – the act of moving an application from one academic year to another (deferral of an offer across academic years are not permitted). Applications are re-considered and an offer is not guaranteed.

**Schools** – There are six Schools at the University of Cambridge, each of which includes a group of Faculties as well as additional facilities such as libraries.

**University Composition Fee (UCF)** – a fee which is paid to your College to cover the costs of your education and College membership. The value of this fee depends on if you are a home or overseas applicant, as well as the course you study.