

Is it 'first come, first served'?

No, it isn't.

The 26th January deadline is the '**equal consideration**' deadline for UCAS (unless you are an early applicant in which case the deadline is the 16th October).

Equal consideration means that '**course providers must consider all of the applications received by this time equally.**' (Source: UCAS website)

It is important to meet the internal THS deadline (**30th November**) so that we can check your application and help you to make changes if necessary. If you do this then your application will be sent before the 26th January deadline.

My friends have offers. Places must be filling up

Universities make 'conditional' offers.

You only secure a place at a university on receiving your results in August.

This is what 'conditional' means: you have a place on the course **if** you meet the conditions (i.e. the entry requirements).

Do not panic if your friends are receiving offers. Remember, if you submit your application before 26th January, you are ensured 'equal consideration'.

I received one conditional offer but am still waiting for my other universities to make an offer.

Be patient.

The deadline for universities to make you an offer is early May (if you have applied by the 26th January).

A university might reply very quickly to your application. On one hand this seems good, but have they read your personal statement and/or reference?

It is advisable to wait for all offers before making a decision about where to go.

I received an 'unconditional offer'. What is this?

This means that the university will accept you regardless of the grades you achieve for A level.

There is lots of controversy about this practice. On the one hand, it can remove stress. However, evidence suggests that students who accept unconditional offers achieve lower A level grades.

Be wary of unconditional offers. Only accept one for the right reasons. UCAS has published advice on 'making the right decision' which contains more guidance: <https://wwwucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/making-right-decision>.

I have all my offers. What do I do?

You can choose one conditional offer to be your 'firm choice'.

If your firm choice is a conditional offer, you can select an 'insurance choice' – this is a back up choice in case you don't meet the entry requirements for your firm choice.

(You can't have an 'insurance choice' if you accept an unconditional offer)

I still have questions...

Please let us know and we can help you. Email: tayre@thomas-hardye.net