

Higher Education entry guide 2026-27

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This annually updated guide has been developed to support Skills Development Scotland (SDS) staff and teams with collated Higher Education (HE) dates and details for:

- [University Admission & Entry Criteria](#)
- [Articulation Pathways: college to university](#)
- [SWAP Widening Access Programme](#)
- [UCAS Key Dates: 2026-2027](#)
- [UCAS Discovery Days: Scotland](#)
- [Live & Virtual: university open days](#)
- [Additional: HE research & support source](#)

[My World of Work - Applying for College or University](#) offers customer friendly content, including information on [Articulation](#) and [Course Search](#)

All dates and links are accurate at time of release: **5 August 2026**

If you notice anything that requires correction, please let us know

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UNIVERSITY ADMISSION & ENTRY CRITERIA 2026-2027

Each university sets its own entry criteria often reflecting levels of difficulty within a course OR competition for places. It's essential to research and compare course entry criteria and to be aware of these common entry policies:

HIGHERS Standard Entry vs. Minimum Entry	MORE or HIGHER GRADES after S6	ADVANCED HIGHERS (AdvH)	DOUBLE COUNTING	CONTEXTUAL or ADJUSTED ENTRY	APPLICATIONS OF MATHS (AoM)
Most Scottish Universities ask for <u>between 3 to 5 Highers</u> as their Standard/Typical entry requirement	Scottish Universities may expect <u>higher grade or additional qualification</u> from those leaving in S6	Most Scottish Unis <u>do not require Advanced Highers</u> for entry except for: - Medicine - Dentistry - Veterinary	Most Scottish unis <u>Don't Double Count</u> Where if you have a Higher + AdvH in the same subject, this is treated as one qualification	Universities may have 'Minimum' or 'adjusted' entry asking for lower grades or fewer Highers. This is usually linked to widening participation eligibility criteria <u>check individual uni details</u>	Applications of Mathematics (Nat5 / Higher) <u>are usually accepted</u> as an alternative to math by most courses <u>BUT not all</u>
For <u>Competitive courses</u> you may need more qualifications or higher grades than those listed	Universities might ask different entry requirements for "first sitting" end of S5 and <u>"second sitting" end of S6</u>	Some <u>strongly recommend Advanced Highers</u> to strengthen applications for competitive courses	Many universities state an Advanced Higher <u>can replace or upgrade</u> a lower Higher grade in the same subject.	Contextual admissions is <u>defined as</u> "allowing differentiated of lower offers where disadvantage is evidenced"	When mathematics is listed as a required subject, AoM may NOT be accepted – <u>check individual course information</u>
Several universities have <u>Minimum / Adjusted entry</u> asking for fewer Highers or lower grades if you meet contextual or widening access eligibility criteria	Where entry is competitive this is more common. Some examples of unis that use this: - Aberdeen Uni - Edinburgh Uni - Glasgow Uni - Strathclyde Uni	Many Scottish Universities offer <u>Advanced Entry</u> , usually to Year 2* if you have: - Adv Highers - HNC/HND	Double counting is usually <u>course specific</u> – check individual course information	Even if a uni has 'minimum' entry offers they usually still require qualifications in subjects listed as 'essential' UCAS should alert applicants of any 'Adjusted Entry' options	AoM is <u>NOT usually ACCEPTED</u> for entry to: - Engineering - Mathematics

RESITS:

Most universities accept resits though they often ask for higher grades, may restrict this to one subject only and/or specific circumstances, such as disruption or eligibility for contextual admission. **Resits are not usually accepted for entry to Medicine.**

Also see: [A Guarantee of Fairness when applying to university in Scotland](#) 2025 websites

SOURCES: HE Institute

PATHWAYS BETWEEN COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY 2026-27

What is Articulation?

Articulation is a formal progression pathway between a college Higher National Certification (HNC) or Diploma (HND) to a degree, allowing students to progress to the next level of study:

- HNC (SCQF 7) direct entry to 2nd year of a degree (SCQF 8)
- HND (SCQF 8) direct entry to 3rd year of a degree (SCQF 9)

full description of qualifications on [SCQF Interactive Framework](#)

College & universities may have formal **Articulation Agreements** where courses are aligned for smooth transition. Students get access to support and resources from both institutions.

Some Articulation Agreements or **Associate Student Schemes** include guaranteed degree places for those who pass the HNC/D

For more info see [SFC Guidance on Associate Student Articulation](#), Dec 2025 or university pages like [QMU](#); [UWS](#); & [RGU](#)

FINDING ARTICULATION INFORMATION ONLINE

There is a 'Where to find HN courses' map on the Qualifications Scotland (SQA) [HIGHER NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS](#) webpage. Most links take you to the college or university course search page.

www.pathways.ac.uk/ was created to help people find all formal college to university articulation agreements in the Stirling, Clackmannanshire, Fife, Falkirk, West Lothian, City of Edinburgh, Midlothian, East Lothian & Scottish Borders regions, covering:



- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| • Abertay University | • Heriot-Watt University | • St Andrew's University |
| • Edinburgh University | • Kingston University (Edinburgh College) | • Stirling University |
| • Edinburgh Napier University | • Queen Margaret University Edinburgh | • The Open University |

UNIVERSITIES NOT COVERED BY PATHWAYS often have Articulation info on their websites:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| • Aberdeen University
Entry from College | • Glasgow School of Art (GSA)
Advanced Entry | • Strathclyde University
Entry from College |
| • Dundee University
Life Science , Humanities & Environmental Science | • Glasgow University Widening Participation HNC Articulation | • University of the Highlands & Islands (UHI) Coming from College |
| • Glasgow Caledonian University
College Pathways | • Robert Gordon University
Degree Link | • University of the West of Scotland (UWS) College to Uni |

NOTE: Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RSC) almost all college entrants start in first year due to the practical nature of the courses

See: Open Days pages 6-14 for individual institution Articulation info and weblinks. Also see: [My World of Work Articulation routes](#)

SCOTTISH WIDER ACCESS PROGRAMME (SWAP) 2026-27

What is SWAP?

SWAP access programmes are for adults who left school with few or no qualifications, and who are looking to get into higher education. All programmes are delivered by colleges with progression opportunities to SWAP partner universities.

Specialist programmes include Access to Allied Health Professions, Nursing, Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Vet Medicine.

Places are not guaranteed, but SWAP is recognised by Scotland's universities.

SWAP is available across Scotland, but delivery is split across two regions SWAP East and SWAPWest. Eligibility criteria differ slightly between these areas. Each SWAP partnership has dedicated routes into degree subjects from their access programmes.

Not all colleges offer all routes. SWAP websites have information on which programmes are offered at each college.

There is no upper or lower age limit to apply as eligibility is based on educational background.

SWAP REGIONS

SWAP EAST – <http://swap-east.ed.ac.uk>

Highlands and Islands to Scottish Borders, central belt to Stirling

[Progression Routes EAST](#)

Contact: swap.east@ed.ac.uk

SWAPWEST - www.scottishwideraccess.org/swapwest

Argyll to Dumfries and Galloway, central belt to Stirling

[Progression Routes WEST](#)

Contact: swapwest@scottishwideraccess.org

SWAP ELIGIBILITY

contact SWAP if unsure

If you left school with **no qualifications higher than National 5** then you need to have been out of high school for **3-years**

SWAP is **not suitable** for those who already have a degree or international students

SWAP EAST - If you left school with **Highers or have a HNC** then you need to have been out of high school for **3-years**

SWAPWEST - If you left school with **Highers or have a HNC** then you need to have been out of high school for **5-years**

APPLYING

SWAP programmes run for one academic year, from around the end of August through to May/June.

The programmes are run by colleges, so applications are managed through the normal college online application system. Programmes will open for applications at the same time as other qualifications, typically around January depending on the individual college.

UCAS KEY DATES 2026 (green)

SOURCES: [UCAS Key Dates for applicants](#) and [UCAS Key Dates timeline for advisers](#)

KEY DATES – applications open in 2025 for 2026 Entry

	DATE	ACTION
	30 June 2026 by 6pm	Applications after this date automatically enter Clearing . Students monitor via UCAS Hub
	2 July 2026	Clearing officially opens and vacancies are displayed
	24 September 2026 by 6pm	Final date for applications to 2026 courses
	19 October 2026	Final date for adding Clearing choices for 2026 courses

2026 ENTRY - WHEN YOU SHOULD REPLY

DECLINE BY DEFAULT (DBD)

you must reply by the DBD, or your offer will be removed

CONSERVATOIRES 2026

You received an offer by:	You must <u>Reply by</u> :
12 March 2026	07 April 2026
14 May 2026	02 June 2026
07 July 2026	20 July 2026
01 August 2026	08 Sept 2026

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES 2026

31 March 2026	06 May 2026
13 May 2026	03 June 2026

2026 ENTRY WHEN YOU SHOULD HEAR BACK

REJECT BY DEFAULT (RBD)

Universities must decide **by the Reject By Default (RBD)**

CONSERVATOIRES 2026

You applied by:	Conservatoires must <u>Reply by</u> :
01 May 2026	07 July 2026
02 June 2026	21 July 2026

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES 2026

You applied by:	Universities must <u>Reply by</u> :
14 January 2026	13 May 2026

15 July 2026

22 July 2026

In grey: dates passed at time of update, 5 August 2026

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UCAS KEY DATES 2027 (blue)

SOURCES: [UCAS Key Dates for applicants](#) and [UCAS Key Dates timeline for advisers](#)

KEY DATES – applications open in 2026 for 2027 Entry

	DATE	ACTION
	28 April 2026	UCAS search tool displays 2027 courses
	12 May 2026	UCAS Undergraduate application open for 2027 entry. Students can monitor via UCAS Hub
	9 July 2026	UCAS Conservatoire applications open for 2026 entry – register, pay & send applications
	1 September 2026	Completed applications can be submitted to UCAS. Universities & colleges can start making decisions right away.
	1 October 2026	Final date for Conservatoire music applications Dance, drama or musical theatre courses usually have later deadlines – check course details
	15 October 2026 by 6pm	Final date for applications for Oxford, Cambridge and most medicine, dentistry & veterinary medicine/science. Reference must have been completed and sent to UCAS
	13 January 2027 by 6pm	Applications for majority of courses should be sent to UCAS by this date. Including most Conservatoires. Reference must also have been completed and sent to UCAS
	25 February 2027	Extra 2027 Opens. If you have used all 5 choices on your original application and do not have an offer, you can add another choice (close 1 July)
	30 June 2027 by 6pm	Applications after this date automatically enter Clearing . Students monitor via UCAS Hub
	2 July 2027	Clearing officially opens and vacancies are displayed

	23 September 2027	Final date for applications to 2027 courses
	18 October 2027	Final date for adding Clearing choices for 2027 courses

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2027 ENTRY - WHEN YOU SHOULD REPLY	
DECLINE BY DEFAULT (DBD)	
If after applying, you receive an offer/s, you <u>must</u> reply by the DBD , or your offer will be removed	
CONSERVATOIRES 2027	
You received an offer by:	You must <u>Reply by</u> :
07 January 2027	09 February 2027
11 March 2027	06 April 2027
13 May 2027	02 June 2027
06 July 2027	19 July 2027
02 August 2027	07 September 2027
UNDERGRADUATE COURSES 2027	
You received an offer by:	You must <u>Reply by</u> :
31 March 2027	05 May 2027
12 May 2027	02 June 2027
14 July 2027	21 July 2027

2027 ENTRY - WHEN YOU SHOULD HEAR BACK	
REJECT BY DEFAULT (RBD)	
Universities must decide on any UCAS application by the <u>Reject By Default (RBD)</u> date or it is automatically declined	
CONSERVATOIRES 2027	
You applied by:	Conservatoires must <u>Reply by</u> :
30 April 2027	06 July 2027
1 June 2027	20 July 2027
UNDERGRADUATE COURSES 2027	
You applied by:	Universities must <u>Reply by</u> :
13 January 2027	12 May 2027
30 June 2027	14 July 2027

UCAS DISCOVERY DAYS 2026

SOURCE: [UCAS Discovery Events](#) Scotland 2026

UCAS Discovery Days	Dates 2026	Further information
Forth Valley	Thursday 27th August	University of Stirling, Stirling – 9.30am-3pm
Fife	Thursday 3rd September	Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline – 10am-2.30pm
Aberdeen	Tuesday 8th September	Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen - 9.30am-3pm
Moray	Wednesday 9th Sept	University of Highlands & Islands (UHI) Moray, Elgin - 9.30am-3pm
Inverness	Thursday 10th September	University of Highlands & Islands (UHI) Inverness - 9.30am-3pm
Glasgow	Tuesday 15th September	SEC Centre, Glasgow - 9.30am-3pm
Lanarkshire	Wednesday 16th Sept	University of the West of Scotland (UWS), Lanarkshire Campus - 9.30am-3pm
Ayrshire	Thursday 17th September	Ayrshire College, Ayr Campus - 9.30am-3pm
Edinburgh	Tuesday 22nd September	Royal Highland Centre, Edinburgh - 9.30am-3pm
Borders	Wednesday 23rd Sept	Borders Event Centre, Kelso - 10am-2pm

<u>Dumfries & Galloway</u>	Tuesday 29th September	Easterbrook Hall, Dumfries - 9.30am-2pm
If you can't make a live event, many SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES have virtual tours and online events – see Explore Scottish Universities UCAS have subject tasters and virtual lectures via UCAS Hub, see: <u>Subject Spotlights</u> and <u>Virtual Work Experience</u>		

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EXPLORE SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES

Live & virtual undergraduate open days, insight events and articulation options for undergraduate applicants

For list of all Open Days at all levels see HELOA Scotland – [Scottish University Events](#) (Excel)

SOURCES: College & University online information, Apprenticeship.Scot, new UCAS scholarships, bursaries & grants

[Aberdeen University Open Days 2026](#)

Saturday 6 June (Medicine)

Tuesday 25 August

Saturday 3 October

Also available: [Bookable campus tours](#) and [Summer School](#) opportunities

ONLINE

[Digital Prospectus](#)
with embedded videos,

[Virtual Campus Tours](#)

[Student life](#), [Student stories](#),
& [Chat to students & staff](#) (Unibuddy)

Follow the University of Aberdeen on – [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [Pinterest](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#); [Weibo](#).

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

[Entry from College](#) - webpages includes pathways and eligibility criteria in [Articulation Pathways Policy 2026/27](#)

College partners include: North East Scotland College (NEScol); Dundee & Angus; Moray UHI; Fife; Forth Valley; New College Lanarkshire.

[UCAS Scholarships](#) – [Widening Access Scholarship for Students from Scotland](#), application closing date 31 July 2026

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

[Explore Your Options Tool:](#)

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**
Includes entry into Law but **excludes** dentistry and medicine

Not offering Graduate Apprenticeships currently

More on Entry Criteria - [Abdn admissions policies](#)

[Abertay University Open Days 2026](#)

Dundee Campus:

Saturday 26 September

Saturday 24 October

ONLINE

[Always Online Open Days](#)

[Ask a student](#) (Unibuddy)

Follow the University of Abertay - [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [Vimeo](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

Articulation options appear on: www.pathways.ac.uk

[Widening access to university](#) – includes eligibility and ‘College Qualifications’ showing how HNC, HND and SWAP programmes link to Abertay Degree courses by subject. Support is available via ‘Applying from College’ and Abertay College Transition (ACT)

College Partners include: Dundee & Angus; Fife College

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

CHECK WITH INSTITUTION

[Explore Your Options Tool:](#)

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x1 Higher A**

[Abertay Curriculum for Excellence page:](#)

FAs equivalent to **x2 higher at BB** alongside Highers

Not offering Graduate Apprenticeships currently

More on Entry Criteria - [Abertay admissions policy](#)

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Dundee University Open Days 2026

Monday 8 June (S5/S6 Uni Taster Day)

Wednesday 1 July (Medicine)

Saturday 26 September

Saturday 31 October

ONLINE

[University of Dundee Virtual Tour](#)

Follow the University of Dundee - [Facebook](#); [X](#); [Instagram](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

Dundee University offers 1+3 Articulation routes; you need to go into individual course entry requirements and select 'I am studying: HNC/HND' to view 2nd year entry options.

College Partners: Dundee & Angus for [MA Humanities](#) / [BSc Anatomical Science](#) / [BSc Life Sciences](#) / [BSc Environmental Science](#)

[UCAS Scholarships](#) – [Alumni & Family Scholarship 2026/27](#), closing date to apply 28 August 2026

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

[Explore Your Options Tool](#):

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**
Excludes dentistry and medicine

[Graduate Apprenticeship Opportunities](#)

five options linked to Business, Engineering, and IT

More on Entry Criteria - [Dundee admissions policy](#)

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Edinburgh University Open Days 2026

Edinburgh College of Art - Monday 1 June

Monday 22 June

Saturday 26 September

Saturday 24 October

[Campus visits](#) – you can book student-led tours or download a self-guided audio tour

ONLINE

[Online information sessions](#) including regular “Introduction to the University of Edinburgh” events

[Chat to our students](#) (Unibuddy)

College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine [lecture videos](#)

Follow Edinburgh University, select from the [Social Media Directory](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

Articulation options appear on: www.pathways.ac.uk

[Entry with Higher National Qualifications \(HNC/HND\)](#) - Edinburgh have no formal articulation partnerships but do offer [2nd year entry](#) to a range of [Science, Engineering & Biomedical Science Degrees](#) and most Art & Design degrees.

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

[Explore Your Options Tool:](#)
 Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**
 See **[Edinburgh FA webpage](#)** for full details.

Not offering Graduate Apprenticeships currently

More on Entry Criteria - [Edinburgh University admissions policy](#)

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Edinburgh Napier University Open Days

Saturday 26 September

Saturday 24 October

[Live Campus Tours](#) ongoing bookable tours by subject at Craiglockhart, Merchiston and Sighthill campuses

ONLINE

[Virtual Campus Tour](#)

[Student Chat](#) (Unibuddy)

Mini lectures on **[BSc Quantity Surveying & Engineering](#)**: BEng Civil Engineering; BSc Architectural Tech; & MSc Advanced Materials

Follow Edinburgh Napier University - [LinkedIn](#); [Instagram](#); [Facebook](#); [X](#); [TikTok](#); [YouTube](#); [Bluesky](#); and [Reddit](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

Articulation options appear on: **www.pathways.ac.uk**

[College to University](#) options include an Associate Student Scheme with partner colleges, offering guaranteed places to students on specific Computing or Engineering courses to continue into linked Napier Degree programmes

College Partners include: Borders, Dundee & Angus, Edinburgh College, Forth Valley College, Fife College & West Lothian College

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

Explore Your Options Tool:
Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**

Graduate Apprenticeship Opportunities in
Engineering, Construction, Business Management and
IT including Software, Cyber Security & Data Science

More on Entry Criteria - [Understanding Napier entry requirements](#) & [Terms & Conditions](#)

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Glasgow University (UoG) Open Days 2026

Gilmorehill Glasgow Campus:

Thursday 18 June 9am-3pm

Wednesday 2 September 9am-3pm

Saturday 24 October 9am-3pm

Dumfries Campus:

Saturday 3 October 11am-3pm

Gilmorehill Campus Tours – book as tours have limited capacity, but there is a **self-guided tour** option

Dumfries Campus Tours – for School of Social & Environmental Sustainability

Garscube Campus Tour – for Veterinary and Veterinary Bioscience

ONLINE

Online Open Day – Recordings & On-demand content

Chat to our students, staff & alumni (Unibuddy)

Follow the University of Glasgow – [Bluesky](#); [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

Widening Participation: Articulation - UoG has agreed HNC Articulation route with college partners for entry to 2nd year of:
BSc Life Sciences; MA Arts & Social Sciences (not Psychology)

College partners: Ayrshire; City of Glasgow; Glasgow Clyde; Glasgow Kelvin; South Lanarkshire; & West Colleges

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

[Explore Your Options Tool:](#)

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**
Excludes dentistry, law, medicine & vet medicine

[Graduate Apprenticeship Opportunities](#) in Software Engineering

More on Entry Criteria - [Admissions Guidance](#) & [University regulations](#)

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Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) Open Days 2026

Friday 4 September, 10am-2pm

Saturday 3 October, 10am-2pm

[Campus Tours](#) – ongoing bookable tours of the Glasgow & London Campuses

[Teachers' and Advisers Conference](#) next event 2027, date to be confirmed

ONLINE

Virtual Tour – [Glasgow Campus](#)

[Ask a Student](#) (Unibuddy)

Follow GCU: [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [TikTok](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

[GCU Pathways](#) - **13 Pathway courses options** where you study for 2 years at college then one to two years at GCU.
GCU also have [College Connect Events](#) and transition support

College partners include: City of Glasgow College; Glasgow Clyde College; Glasgow Kelvin College

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

[Explore Your Options Tool:](#)

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher B**

[Graduate Apprenticeship Opportunities](#) in Business Management
(option with Hospitality or HR), Accountancy, Cyber Security, software
Development, AI & Data Science, Engineering & Construction.

Further detail in [GCU How to Apply:](#)

More on Entry Criteria – [GCU Admissions policies](#)

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Heriot-Watt University Open Days 2026

EDINBURGH CAMPUS:

Saturday 26 September 10am-4pm

Saturday 7 November 12-6pm

SCOTTISH BORDERS CAMPUS:

Friday 9 October 10am-3pm

Friday 30 October 10am-3pm

[Campus Trails](#) themed self-led maps to guide you round the campus

ONLINE

[Explore Edinburgh Campus virtual tour](#)

[Explore Orkney Campus info & short videos](#)

Follow Heriot-Watt University – [Bluesky](#); [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [TikTok](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

Articulation options appear on: www.pathways.ac.uk

[College Qualifications](#) - HW has an Associate Student Scheme linked to Engineering or Brewing & Distilling Degrees.
College partners include: Forth Valley College & Edinburgh College

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

Explore Your Options Tool:

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**
Course entry may ask for a specific FAs such as Engineering

Graduate Apprenticeships: Business Management; Business Management with Finance; Civil Engineering; Construction & Built Environment; Data Science; Engineering Design & Manufacture (Electronic or Mechanical); Software Development

More on Entry Criteria – [HW Fair Access Policy](#)

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University of the Highlands & Islands (UHI) Open Days 2026 / 2027

UHI INVERNESS	Tuesday 28 April 12pm-2.30pm Social Services with Employers	Saturday 16 May 10am-2pm Applicant & Information Day	Friday 31 October 2026 10am-2pm
UHI PERTH	Saturday 6 June 2026, 10am-2pm	Academy of Sport & Wellbeing Saturday 3 October 2026 10am-2pm Wednesday 13 January 2027 2pm-5pm Saturday 6 March 2027 10am-2pm	
	Wednesday 16 June 2027, 2pm-5pm		
UHI MORAY	Saturday 14 November 2026, 10am-2pm		
UHI Sabhal Mòr Ostaig	Gaelic open day Wednesday 26 August 2026, 10am-4pm,		
UHI NWH FORT WILLIAM	Centre for Golf Open Day Monday 12 October 2026, 2pm,	School of Adventure Studies Open Day Friday 13 November 2026, 11am - 2pm,	
SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR MARINE SCIENCE (SAMS) OBAN	Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) open day Monday 26 October 2026, 11am-3.30pm,		

ONLINE

- **Wednesday 19 August 2026, 6pm-8pm** [Game Art and Animation – Online Taster Session](#)

Follow UHI - [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

Coming from College - UHI has internal articulation paths agreed with UHI college and articulation agreements with college partners.
College partners include: Ayrshire; City of Glasgow; Dundee & Angus; Edinburgh; Fife;
Forth Valley; Glasgow Kelvin; North East Scotland; & West Lothian Colleges

Continued over:

UHI APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

Explore Your Options Tool:

Most Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher B**
Enhanced recognition varies, equivalent to **x 2 highers** for some FAs

UHI Graduate Apprenticeships: Accountancy; Business Management; Civil Engineering; Construction; Engineering Systems – Design & Manufacture; Learning & Childcare.

More on Entry Criteria - [UHI policies](#) & [Admission process](#) T&Cs

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Queen Margaret University Edinburgh (QMU) Open Days 2026

Saturday 26 September

Saturday 7 November

[Campus Tour](#) ongoing bookable student led campus tours

ONLINE

[Experience QMU portal](#) includes virtual campus tour and course 'Experience' case studies and videos

[Ask a Student a Question](#)

Follow the University of – [Bluesky](#); [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [TikTok](#); [Threads](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

Articulation options appear on: www.pathways.ac.uk

[College Leavers & Mature Students](#) – has info for HNC, HND and SWAP East applicants. They also have an [Associate Student Scheme](#) with Newbattle Abbey for three Psychology and Sociology BSc options.

[College Partners](#): City of Glasgow; Edinburgh; & Fife Colleges; plus, New College Lanarkshire; West College Scotland

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

Explore Your Options Tool:
Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**

Graduate Apprenticeship in Early Learning & Childcare
(starting September 2027)

More on Entry Criteria - [QMU Admissions policy](#)

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Robert Gordon University (RGU) Open Days 2026

Wednesday 2 September

Saturday 31 October

Saturday 28 November

Campus Visits upcoming dates **7 August / 21 August 2026**

ONLINE

RGU Virtual Tour

Online Webinar Series

Chat to RGU staff & students

Biomedical Science, 7 October 4pm
UCAS Applications, 7 October 6.30pm
Allied Health Interviews, 11 November 6.30pm
Nursing, Midwifery & Paramedicine Interviews, 18 Nov 6.30pm
Grey's School of Art Portfolio Prep, 25 November 6.30pm

Virtual Parents Evening – **Tuesday 5 May** (2026 applicants) **Wednesday 9 September** or **Wednesday 2 December** (2027 applicants)

Follow Robert Gordon University - [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [TikTok](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION

Articulation options appear on: www.pathways.ac.uk

[Degree Links](#) - has details on all HNC/HND routes and transition support. RGU also have an [Associate Student Scheme](#)

College Partners include: North East Scotland (NEScol), Dundee & Angus, Fife, City of Glasgow, Glasgow Clyde, and Forth Valley Colleges

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

[Explore Your Options Tool:](#)

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**
or **x 2 Highers at B**

[RGU Graduate Apprenticeships](#): Cyber Security; Engineering: Design & Manufacture; Engineering: Instrumentation, Measurement & Control; Business Management; Business & Project Management; Accounting; Construction & Built Environment; Data Science with AI

More on Entry Criteria - [RGU policies](#) including recruitment & admissions

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) Open Days 2026

[School of Music Open Day](#)
Thursday 14 May 9.30am-5pm

[Education Open Day](#)
Monday 18 May

[BA Production Tech & Management](#)
Monday 5 October

[BA Production Arts & Design](#)
Friday 9 October

[BA Arts with Community](#)
Friday 16 October

[BA Filmmaking](#)
Monday 19 October

[BA Modern Ballet](#)
Friday 23 October

[BA Acting and BA Performance for
Deaf and Hard of Hearing \(HoH\) Actors](#)
Monday 26 October

[BA Musical Theatre](#)
Friday 13 November

Registration for events will open in SEPTEMBER – join the mailing list to get notified as places are limited

[RCS In-Person Tours](#) can be booked to join a group or for a private tour.

Anyone under the age of 17 must be accompanied by a parent/carer/guardian or other responsible adult

ONLINE

Friday Information Sessions for those applying for September 2027 entry

10 April 10am

8 May 4pm

5 June 10am

17 July 4pm

14 August 10am

25 September 4pm

[RCS Virtual Tour](#)

Follow the RCS - [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [TikTok](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

RCS accepts college applicants but rarely Advanced Standing – applications for entry to year 2 or 3 are on a case-by-case basis

[Explore Your Options Tool](#):
Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**

More on Entry Criteria - [RCS policies](#) admissions in General Policy menu

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St Andrews University Open Days 2026/2027

Saturday 10 October 2026

Wednesday 28 October 2026

Wednesday 14 April 2027

Bookings will open Monday 17 August 2026 at 12.05pm

Bookings from Monday 1 March 2027

[Talk & Tour](#) student led tour and Q&A with admissions staff or [Self-Guided Tour](#) available

ONLINE

Wednesday 23 April 2026

Wednesday 20 May 2026

Wednesday 24 June 2026

Wednesday 4 November 2026
Book from Monday 24 August 2026

Wednesday 28 April 2027
Book from Monday 1 March 2027

Wednesday 19 May 2027
Book from Wednesday 7 April 2027

Wednesday 23 June 2027
Book from Monday 10 May 2027

Undergrad ONLINE Events

- **Undergraduate Study at St Andrews Q&A** – (all on Wednesday)
12 August 9-10am / 19 August 4-5pm / 26 August 9-10am
- **Undergraduate Ask a student** – Tuesday 18 August 10-11am

Also see: [Explore St Andrew's ONLINE](#) virtual tour & [Ask a student](#), book to attend small group Q&A

Follow the St Andrews - [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION	APPRENTICESHIP LINKS
Articulation options appear on: www.pathways.ac.uk	Explore Your Options Tool: Foundation Apprenticeships recognised x 1 Higher A Excludes medicine St Andrews Entry Requirements: equivalent to x 1 Higher for entry to the Faculty of Arts or Science in non-required subjects No Graduate Apprenticeships currently
More on Entry Criteria – St Andrew's Admissions policy	

[Content Page](#)

University of Stirling Open Days 2026

Saturday 19 September	Saturday 24 October
Book a student led Campus Tour	
ONLINE	
Virtual Open Day - Wednesday 7 October 2026	Watch Virtual Open Day October 2025
Virtual Tour is available anytime	
Follow Stirling uni on - Facebook ; Instagram ; LinkedIn ; TikTok ; X ; YouTube	
ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships	
Articulation options appear on: www.pathways.ac.uk Coming from College – webpage has info for HNC,HND and SWAP applicants, there is also an Articulation listing where you can see all options by Degree course - linked college HNC/D, and entry requirements	

College Partners include: Forth Valley College; Fife College; Perth College UHI; New College Lanarkshire

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

Explore Your Options Tool:

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher B**

Stirling Uni [UK & Republic of Ireland Qualifications](#) page say
FAs are **fully accepted** for all undergrad courses, generally
equivalent to a Higher-grade B, depending on how
relevant the FA is to the degree applied for.

Not offering Graduate Apprenticeships currently

More on Entry Criteria – Stirling [Admissions policy](#)

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University of Strathclyde Open Days 2026

Tuesday 1st September

Saturday 3rd October

[Visit Strathclyde events](#) with campus walking tour - **20 August**

Or bookable 1hr [Campus Tours](#)

ONLINE

[Virtual tour](#)

[Chat with students](#)

Follow Strathclyde uni - [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [TikTok](#); [X](#); [YouTube](#)

ARTICULATION & UCAS Scholarships

[Entry from college](#) – has detailed information on course options for year 1 entry and year 2/ 3 entry.

They have [Formal articulation](#) via 'feeder' college HND course, like [Engineering Academy](#), allowing entry to year 2 or 3 of a degree.

[College partners](#): Ayrshire; City of Glasgow; Forth Valley; Glasgow Clyde; Glasgow Kelvin Colleges;
and New College Lanarkshire; West College Scotland

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

Explore Your Options Tool:

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher B Excludes** law. If applying to **Engineering** only FA in Civil Engineering or Engineering is accepted

Strathclyde Subject Guidance says FA cannot replace a 'required' subject, like maths or physics for entry to Engineering, but will count as an additional Higher.

Graduate Apprenticeships:

Business Management; Cyber Security; Civil Engineering; IT: Management for Business; IT: Software Development; Engineering: Design & Manufacture

More on Entry Criteria – Strathclyde [Admissions policy](#)

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University of the West of Scotland (UWS) Open Days 2026

CAMPUS	Spring / Summer Open Days (passed)	Autumn Open Days	Subject Showcase
PAISLEY	Saturday 30 May, 11am-2.30pm	Saturday 17 Oct, 11am - 2.30pm	Saturday 21 November, 11am - 2pm Computing / Engineering / Physical Sciences / Nursing / Health & Social Care / Business / Law / Education / Social Sciences
LANARKSHIRE	Saturday 6 June, 11am-2.30pm	Saturday 26 Sept, 11am – 2.30pm	Saturday 7 November, 11am - 2pm Nursing & Midwifery / Paramedical Science / Life Sciences / Sport / Education / Business / Computing / Engineering
AYR	Saturday 13 June, 11am-2.30pm	Wednesday 7 Oct, 4pm - 7.30pm	Saturday 24 October, 11am – 2pm Creative / Nursing / Sport / Education
DUMFRIES	Thursday 18 June,	Thursday 8 October, 5pm – 7pm	

	5pm-7pm		Thursday 12 November, 5 – 7pm Nursing / Social Work / Childhood studies
Eventbrite - UWS Campus Visits / UWS Subject Showcases 2026			
ONLINE			
Virtual Campus Tours of Paisley, Lanarkshire, and Ayr Campuses		Online Information Sessions - Events	
Follow UWS - Facebook ; Instagram ; LinkedIn ; X ; YouTube ; Weibo			
Continued Over:			
ARTICULATION			
College to Uni – UWS webpages have information for SWAP and HNC/HND students. Including their College to Uni Pathways Guide and Associate Student Scheme option.			
College Partners Guide includes: Ayrshire; City of Glasgow; Dumfries & Galloway; Glasgow Clyde; South Lanarkshire Colleges; and West College Scotland; New College Lanarkshire			
UWS APPRENTICESHIP LINKS			
Explore Your Options Tool : Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as x 1 Higher A Foundation Apprenticeships are accepted for most but not all courses. Not listed within Law entry requirements.		Graduate Apprenticeships : Business Management; Business Management & Project Management; Data, AI & Software Engineering; Engineering: Design & Manufacture; Civil Engineering; Town Planning; Operating Department Practitioner; Early Learning & Childcare; Social Work	
More on Entry Criteria – Undergraduate Entry Requirements			
Content Page			

Scottish Rural College (SRUC) Open Days 2026

Campus	August	October	November
ABERDEEN CAMPUS	Wednesday 5 August	Wednesday 28 October	Wednesday 11 November
Animal care & vet nursing	Wednesday 19 August	Wednesday 7 October	Wednesday 4 November
Veterinary science	Saturday 8 August morning or afternoon	-	Saturday 7 November morning or afternoon
OATRIDGE CAMPUS	Friday 21 August Clearing Open Day	Friday 9 October	Friday 13 November
ELMWOOD FIFE CAMPUS	Thursday 20 August Clearing Open Day	Thursday 8 October	Thursday 25 November
EDINBURGH CAMPUS	Wednesday 5 August	Saturday 26 September	Wednesday 18 November

BARONY DUMFRIES	Thursday 13 August	Thursday 8 October	Thursday 26 November
ONLINE			
Personalised Virtual Tour Experience		Podcast & Video channels	
Follow SRUC - Facebook ; X ; Instagram ; LinkedIn ; YouTube			
ARTICULATION		APPRENTICESHIP LINKS	
SRUC has its own internal HNC and HND progression pathways but also accept qualifications from other institutions for advanced entry to most courses		Explore Your Options Tool : Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as x 1 Higher A Modern Apprenticeship (MA) course are available via SRUC	
More on Entry Criteria – SRUC Flexible entry requirements & admissions policy			
<u>Glasgow School of Art (GSA) Open Days 2026</u>			
Eventbrite : GSA Open House – Friday 30 & Saturday 31 October , 10am - 4pm GSA Reid Building Campus Tours – August / September, must be booked in advance			
ONLINE			
Follow GSA Open to get events notifications		Virtual Tours & Subject videos on Vimeo	
ARTICULATION			
Advanced Entry - GSA have Articulation routes with Associate Student Schemes: BDes Sound Production; BDes Sound for Moving Image; School of Fine Art; School of Design (except Interaction Design & Product Design Engineering); and Product Design in the School of Innovation & Technology. College partners: Glasgow Clyde College; Forth Valley College			

APPRENTICESHIP LINKS

[Explore Your Options Tool:](#)

Foundation Apprenticeships recognised as **x 1 Higher A**

More on Entry Criteria – GSA [How to apply](#)

Open University (OU) Open Day 2026

Follow OU on - [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [YouTube](#)

[Explore Your Options Tool](#): Foundation Apprenticeships 'Open recognition'

All FAs are recognised as an acceptable qualification when applying to a related OU degree

SCOTTISH COLLEGES – LINKS TO ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS & ONLINE INFORMATION

[BORDERS COLLEGE](#)

[CITY OF GLASGOW COLLEGE](#)

[DUNDEE & ANGUS COLLEGE](#)

[EDINBURGH COLLEGE](#)

[FIFE COLLEGE](#)

[FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE](#)

[GLASGOW CLYDE COLLEGE](#)

[NORTH EAST SCOTLAND \(NESCoI\)](#)

[SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COLLEGE](#)

[WEST LOTHIAN COLLEGE](#)

Colleges not listed here are still highly likely to have articulation options, however, they do not currently have an articulation web area describing their offer.

Articulation may appear on individual course titles or descriptions, one example of this is

Ayrshire College [HNC Applied Science \(in partnership with the University of Glasgow\)](#)
or [Engineering Academy](#) in partnership with University of Strathclyde

This may be because the offer is covered on university partner websites
See 'Articulation' links within University Open Days

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ADDITIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH & SUPPORT SOURCE



DISCOVER UNI: www.discoveruni.gov.uk

UK and Scottish University data for individual courses. You can look up and save multiple courses to compare student experience, entry data or post study employment & earnings:

NOTE: Entry data is shown as UCAS Tariff points. You can work out how many points Scottish qualifications are worth using the [UCAS Tariff Calculator](#)



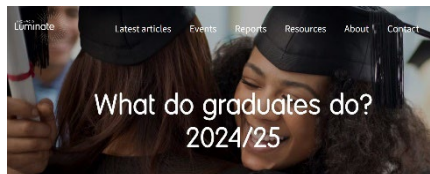
INTRODUCTION TO WIDENING PARTICIPATION IN SCOTLAND

SCAPP resource designed for anyone working in widening access (WA), widening participation (WP) and outreach. Of value to those who wants to better understand the support, tools and activities employed to widen participation in Higher Education.



UNI TASTER DAYS - www.unitasterdays.com

Search for university events by school name or postcode. Access over 80 videos to introducing different university subjects, they also have a [Jargon Buster](#), and annually updated student and parent HE guides.



PROSPECTS LUMINATE - <https://luminate.prospects.ac.uk/>

Insight into UK graduate experience and post-study opportunities. Their annual ['What do graduates do?'](#) resource analysing HESA graduate destinations data 15 months after leaving, can support conversations about where a degree may lead. HESA data used in Discover Uni

Skills
Development
Scotland



**Skills Development Scotland (SDS), National CIAG Team,
Contact: cmsresource@sds.co.uk FAO: Lynn Haughton**

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