



University of  
**Salford**  
MANCHESTER

# APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY

OUR GUIDE FOR PARENTS,  
CARERS AND SUPPORTERS

**2021 ENTRY**



# SUPPORTING THE APPLICANT JOURNEY

We recognise the impact that you as parents, carers and supporters have on your child's higher education decision-making process. We want you to have easy access to all the information you might need and for you to feel like you are well equipped for the big decisions that are coming ahead. That's why we've created this guide to give you the important information (and a little extra!) to help you throughout this process.

As our student body changes, so too do those people that support our applicants – we know

you're parents, carers, supporters, siblings, partners, social workers and much more. For the purposes of this information, to make things easier we're going to use the terms son, daughter or applicant as all-encompassing when referring to the prospective student you're supporting.

This guide will include details on supporting prospective students with looking for the right course and institution, how to apply, funding the degree, accommodation and all the other bits in between.

## GET IN TOUCH

We hope this guide covers all the initial questions you may have about supporting an applicant on their journey to university. However, if you do have any questions at all please don't hesitate to contact our Recruitment Support Team who will be more than happy to help. We're open from 9am-5pm Monday to Thursday and 10am-4pm on a Friday.

Email: [enquiries@salford.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@salford.ac.uk)

Phone number: **0161 295 4545** (option 1 then option 1 again)

We also have a range of social media channels that you can contact us through if you prefer (see details at the bottom of the page).

During the application process, we are unable to provide any information to you as the parent, carer or supporter of an applicant, without their express permission. This is in keeping with the terms of the Data Protection Act 2018 and all universities operate in the same way. We appreciate that this can be quite a challenging transition, and if your applicant would like you to discuss their application with us, they will need to provide consent to us on [enquiries@salford.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@salford.ac.uk)

# THE APPLICATION PROCESS

## STEP 1



Encourage your applicant to think carefully about what they want to achieve from their degree. Although we may be *\*slightly\** biased to Salford, we do encourage students to explore all their options (courses, location, experiences they can gain, etc.) and pick the institution that is right for them. They need to feel like the place is the right fit for them and attending as many Open Days as possible will help them get to this.



## STEP 2



When they've made up their mind about which course they want to take, prospective students need to apply through UCAS for full-time courses or direct to us for part-time study. Applications will open in early September 2020 and the deadline is 15 January 2021 for September intake. Although we can still accept applications after this date, we are unable to guarantee that late applications will be considered.

## STEP 3



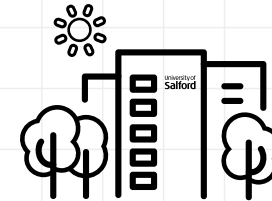
UCAS has created a handy guide to filling in a UCAS application. This includes notes about what personal details should be included and all the required documentation such as qualification history, personal statement and references: [www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/apply-and-track/filling-your-ucas-undergraduate-application](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/apply-and-track/filling-your-ucas-undergraduate-application)

## STEP 4



Once we have received the application, this will be reviewed by our Admissions Team. The potential decisions are: unconditional offer; conditional offer; invitation to interview/audition or an unsuccessful decision. You can find details on the types of offer and what they mean at [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

## STEP 5



If a conditional or unconditional offer has been made, we will send out an invitation to attend one of our Applicant Visit Days, which will take place between February and April 2021. The Applicant Visit Days are a chance to visit the University and get a valuable insight into what it would be like to study here, as well as have another opportunity to explore our campus and facilities.

## STEP 6



If they have submitted an application by 15 January and receive all their decisions by 31 March, applicants need to select their firm and insurance choices by early May 2021.

\*Dates correct at time of publication, June 2020. We do not yet know whether the coronavirus pandemic will affect UCAS deadlines.





## CHOOSING THE RIGHT COURSE



We know that this is the biggest decision for all our prospective students and their parents/carers. There are so many courses on offer nowadays that it might seem overwhelming even looking at where to begin. Not to worry though! We've included some helpful tips below to help get you and your applicant started on deciding what course is right for them.

- 1) Take a look at subject guides (often available on university websites or UCAS) to get an idea of what types of subjects your applicant could study.
- 2) Ensure they consider their career goals and the qualifications that may be required as part of this.
- 3) Let them explore different job sites and graduate career options to look for ideas on what they might want to do once they finish their studies.
- 4) Encourage them to think about what they enjoy day-to-day as this could be included as part of a future job role.

It's also worth noting that there are a range of different undergraduate courses available. These include (but are not necessarily limited to): undergraduate degrees, integrated master's, foundation years, foundation degrees, degree apprenticeships or a HNC.

# STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

We know that one of the most important decisions students will make about life here at Salford is where they are going to live and this can be a big transition period for both the students and parents/carers. With the University being based close to such a vibrant city like Manchester, there are many accommodation options available. We want you to feel comfortable with the decision your child is making in this regard and we understand you may want to explore all the possibilities.



*Diamond room in John Lester and Eddie Colman Courts*



*Gold room in Peel Park Quarter*

### LIVING ON CAMPUS

Accommodation at Salford is managed by our accommodation partners, Campus Living Villages (CLV) and we have two accommodation villages. Peel Park Quarter is on our Peel Park campus and is based close to the library, Students' Union and campus shop. The other is our John Lester and Eddie Colman site which is located next to our Frederick Road campus and just a short walk from our Peel Park campus. Our MediaCityUK campus can be reached easily by bus (free to students) from both Peel Park and Frederick Road.

More details can be found on CLV's website at: [www.campuslivingvillages.co.uk/salford](http://www.campuslivingvillages.co.uk/salford)

### LIVING OFF CAMPUS

Some of our students may choose to live off campus and there is a wide range of accommodation available in the area. To support your search, we would recommend using Manchester Student Homes who run a landlord accreditation scheme. Find out more at: [www.manchesterstudenthomes.com](http://www.manchesterstudenthomes.com)

### COMMUTING TO US

A number of our students also commute to the University each day and we have on-campus spaces dedicated for commuting students which include lockers and kitchen facilities. We're well served by public transport links and parking permits are also available for students who wish to drive in each day.

# FUNDING AND STUDENT FINANCE

Understandably, funding an undergraduate degree is often a key concern for parents' and carers. However, the finance side of things really isn't as daunting as it first appears.

The primary route of funding students use is from Student Finance England. This is a government body that allows eligible students to borrow money to help pay for their tuition fees and their living costs.

## A few quick points to note:

- ✓ Applications are made directly to Student Finance England and the deadline will be towards the end of May 2021.
- ✓ The tuition fee loan is paid directly to the university to cover the tuition. If students are eligible for the loan, the full cost of the tuition fee will be paid to the university for up to four years.
- ✓ The maintenance loan is paid directly to the student in three instalments each year. This loan is means tested and the household income of the student will need to be inputted into the application.
- ✓ You can take a look on [www.gov.uk/student-finance/who-qualifies-to-see-the-eligibility-criteria-for-the-funding](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance/who-qualifies-to-see-the-eligibility-criteria-for-the-funding).

Our askUS team will be available at our Open Days and Applicant Visit Days both giving finance presentations and running drop-in stands if you want to have a chat with them. They're a friendly bunch and we'd recommend paying them a visit.

If you have specific questions about eligibility for student finance, it's better to contact the relevant student finance organisation directly – we can provide generic advice on eligibility, but not necessarily specific advice based on your individual circumstances, or those of your child.

It's also worth noting that Student Finance England has a YouTube channel that explains their system and how things work via video. These are great tools that you may find really useful in learning more about the financial side of University.

Contact information for Student Finance England and other funding bodies for elsewhere in the UK can be found below:

Student Finance England:  
[www.gov.uk/contact-student-finance-england](http://www.gov.uk/contact-student-finance-england)

Student Finance Northern Ireland:  
[www.studentfinancenir.co.uk/contact/general-enquiries](http://www.studentfinancenir.co.uk/contact/general-enquiries)

Student Finance Scotland:  
[www.saas.gov.uk/contact.htm](http://www.saas.gov.uk/contact.htm)

Student Finance Wales:  
[www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/contact](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/contact)

If you're coming from outside the UK, you can find more information about funding for EU students\* on the Student Room:  
[www.thestudentroom.co.uk/student-finance/eu-students](http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/student-finance/eu-students)

# SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

Although choosing the right course is a big decision, it's important that your child also takes into account the other facilities that are available to support them with their studies and life whilst at University.

## askUS

Our askUS team are available to provide help and advice on a wide range of issues. This includes (but is not limited to) wellbeing and counselling, disability and learner support, LGBTQIA\*, money matters, care leavers and estranged students.



## THE SPORTS CENTRE AND TEAM SALFORD

Our sporting facilities include a fitness studio (with classes), multi-use sports hall, swimming pool, strength and conditioning rooms and sports pitches. In addition to this, Team Salford unites all our sports teams with the aim of making exercise accessible for everyone.

## THE STUDENTS' UNION

The Students' Union (SU) is a charity which is independent of the University and run by student-elected representatives. Their role is to ensure that students' voices are heard both at the University and on a national level. As well as providing advice and support, the SU runs regular events, as well as supporting over 70 student-led society groups to suit every interest.

Find out more at:  
[www.salfordstudents.com](http://www.salfordstudents.com)



## THE CLIFFORD WHITWORTH LIBRARY

We're really proud of our 'Library in the Park' which has had an extensive refurbishment to turn it into a light, bright learning space.

Based on our Peel Park campus, it is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We also have smaller learning spaces at our Frederick Road and MediaCityUK campuses, as well as quiet study spaces across all campuses.



# SALFORD IN PICTURES



Clifford Whitworth Library



Team Salford Sport



## HELP AND ADVICE

Our Recruitment Support Team is your first port of call for all advice and guidance through the application process. They can be contacted on [enquiries@salford.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@salford.ac.uk) or 0161 295 4545.

For information on courses available at the University, use our search facility at [www.salford.ac.uk](http://www.salford.ac.uk)

If, at any point during the pre-application and application phase, your son or daughter has any queries or concerns we would encourage them to contact us as soon as possible to discuss this. We're here to help and advise and even though it might feel difficult or a silly question it's what we're here for and the chances are, we've seen it before.

We recognise that going to university can be a difficult transition period for students and parents alike and our support teams are here to ease that transition wherever we can.

### USEFUL LINKS:

Money Matters:  
[www.salford.ac.uk/askus/our-services/money-matters](http://www.salford.ac.uk/askus/our-services/money-matters)

Wellbeing and Counselling:  
[www.salford.ac.uk/askus/our-services/wellbeing-and-counselling](http://www.salford.ac.uk/askus/our-services/wellbeing-and-counselling)

Disability and Learner Support:  
[www.salford.ac.uk/askus/our-services/disability-and-learner-support](http://www.salford.ac.uk/askus/our-services/disability-and-learner-support)

Careers advice and guidance:  
[www.salford.ac.uk/askus/work-and-careers](http://www.salford.ac.uk/askus/work-and-careers)



Recording Studio



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The Crescent  
Salford  
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T: **+44 (0)161 295 5000**  
**[www.salford.ac.uk](http://www.salford.ac.uk)**

Course Enquiries Service  
T: **+44 (0)161 295 4545**  
E: **[enquiries@salford.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@salford.ac.uk)**  
**[www.salford.ac.uk](http://www.salford.ac.uk)**

