

INTRODUCTION

At the University of Dundee, we are committed treating everyone fairly, and admitting the brightest and best students, regardless of background. We aim to:

- Expand opportunity, achievement and attainment and so widen participation through carefully targeted educational opportunities, underpinned by excellence in teaching, research and guidance.
- Encourage those who might otherwise not benefit from Higher Education. Outline options and routes open to them and then help them achieve them.
- Influence local and national access policy and demonstrate commitment to inclusion through practice.

An overview of our work to widen access is below.

CONTEXTUAL ADMISSIONS

The University of Dundee's approach to [Contextual Admissions](#) acknowledges that achieving the required grades for entry can be challenging.

That's why when assessing an applicant's grades, certain factors may generate a contextual support flag to highlight who is eligible for additional help. The factors we use to generate a contextual flag are:

- An applicant's postcode at the time of application
- Whether the applicant's school is included on our priority list
- If the applicant's personal circumstances have been particularly challenging

Those applicants allocated a contextual flag will either be made an offer or, for subjects that interview, prioritise them for an interview. Applicants will also be offered a further route to qualify and prepare for university (methods detailed below).

Beyond the factors above, the University can take into account further evidence of the applicant's path to university being made more difficult by circumstances outside of their control, including:

- An applicant hailing from an SIMD Quintile 2 postcode, or a school with a progression rate to further study average above 23.0% but below the 37.4% national average
- An applicant being an adult returner (out of school for five years or out of education for three years), or who has a relevant accreditation of prior learning or work record, or who has been made redundant
- Other factors including being transgender; estranged; having declared a disability or a mental health issue; or hailing from a vulnerable group

DUNDEE UNIVERSITY ACCESS TO LEARNING (DUAL) SUMMER SCHOOL

[The DUAL Summer School](#) is an alternative route for eligible students to earn an undergraduate place at the University of Dundee. Students:

- prepare for study by completing a Personal Academic Skills course, equipping them for university and beyond
- complete 3 taught introductory subject modules
- receive advice and support from a dedicated team of experts, including from a Student Mentor who has completed the course the previous year
- gain experience of student life and our extensive student facilities (including IT suites, Library and the Students' Union)

ONLINE SUMMER SCHOOL

[The Online Summer School](#) is an alternative qualification and preparation route for eligible students who narrowly miss the academic requirements for entry, and who have firmly accepted their UCAS offer from the University of Dundee.

Students complete and pass either one or two subject modules to the required standard, with advice and support from a dedicated team of experts, including a Personal Tutor and Student Mentors. The modules are delivered completely online.

Every student who passes the course to the required standard is offered an undergraduate place at the University of Dundee.

REACH

[Reach Tayside](#) encourages young people from 'non-traditional' backgrounds to consider studying Medicine, Dentistry or Law at university – in particular those who are the first in their family to attend university, those who have care responsibilities, or are from low-income backgrounds.

Reach enables young people to explore degrees with taster sessions and experience days; offers support throughout the application process via webchat, one-to-one mentoring, and group workshops; and student shadowing and work experience opportunities.

ACCESS TO CREATIVE EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND (ACES)

[ACES](#) is a national project which provides encouragement and advice for students who may be under-represented in universities and who are considering applying to Art & Design or Architecture courses. It is co-ordinated in Tayside by the University of Dundee.

ACES offers support for S4-S6 pupils with their university application, including via activities to help develop key skills and in building a portfolio of work. The programme of activities includes on-campus practical tasters of Art & Design and Architecture disciplines, school-based workshops, online learning activities and one-to-one advice and information.

DISCOVERING DEGREES

[Discovering Degrees](#) is a free, tailor-made programme providing motivational insight into university life for eligible S2 pupils.

The programme aims to help increase participation of groups currently under-represented in Scottish Higher Education through a series of one-day taster courses involving interactive, hands-on workshops; subject tasters; campus tours; joint projects with pupils from other schools; and interaction with university students.

DISCOVER LEARNING AT DUNDEE (DLAD)

[Discover Learning at Dundee](#) fully prepares and qualifies potential students – regardless of age -- for undergraduate entry to the range of University of Dundee degrees, via a special online programme. All students joining the Discover Learning at Dundee programme who wish to use this route to enter the University of Dundee must successfully complete a compulsory academic skills course, as well as three subject courses.

Successful completion of these four subject courses to the required standards means students are eligible for an undergraduate place at the University.