

## Year 13

### UCAS: After the Application Deadline

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018

1. \* Student Ambassador01: Hi, my name is Meaghan and I am currently in my 4th year studying Evolutionary Biology MSci (integrated masters degree). The theme for today's forum is 'UCAS: After the Application Deadline'. For those of you who are new to the forums, you are welcome to ask me questions either directly related to the theme or about any other aspect of university life. Anything I can't answer I will refer on and someone from the Exeter Scholars team will get back to you with a response in the next few days. For those of you that have logged on before, welcome back!

2. \* Student Ambassador01: Before we start I just want to give you a quick overview of how the session itself works in case you've not used one before.

When you post a message it will be sent to me to reply to and will show on your wall as awaiting reply. When I reply to your message it will then post to the public wall for you and everyone else to see. Until I have replied, no-one else will see your message. Bear with me, as when it gets busy it will take me a few moments to reply – but don't worry, you won't have been forgotten! I will start all messages with the name of the person I am replying to just to make the discussion easier to follow and if I'm posing a question to the whole group I'll start the message with 'Everyone'.

Also answering your questions today is Charlotte and they will introduce themselves to you in a moment.

3. \* Student Ambassador01: Hello everyone! I'm Charlotte, and I'm currently in my fourth year studying Biology.

4. Lydia Knight: Hello! My question is that I sent off my UCAS application for law at Exeter the end of last week. How long do you think it will take for me to hear back from them?

\* Student Ambassador01 2: Hi Lydia, I'm sorry, I can't confirm at present when the application team will be able to get back to you (it's quite busy at the moment as you can imagine) and response times can vary. When I applied, I heard back after a week but this will vary on how busy they are etc. I'll forward your question on and I hope you hear back soon!

5. Nicole Jones: Can I bring my car to uni? Someone said there's no student parking at Exeter, is this true?

\* Student Ambassador01: Bringing your car to uni can be a tricky one and, off the top of my head, I'm not 100% sure. If you know which halls of residence you're going to be applying for I would suggest getting in touch with them and asking as it probably differs. However, in my second and fourth year I brought my car to uni. Usually, it's not a problem and you just apply for a parking permit from the council.

\* Student Ambassador01: Another thing worth mentioning about bringing your car to Exeter is that everything is usually within walking distance!

6. Emily Skipp: Hi! Wondering when is Exeter Universities application deadline (specifically the deadline for business management courses?). Thanks!

\* Student Ambassador01 2: Hi Emily! UCAS application deadline is the 15th January (this should be the same for all courses at Exeter)

7. zara thompson: After application, when can you select which halls you live in?

\* Student Ambassador01: There's no rush with selecting accommodation as applications aren't processed in date order. As long as you submit your preferences by 31st July it will be considered. It might be useful to have a look on the accommodation website to keep updated with things to do with halls:

<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/accommodation/applying/howtoapply/>

8. Lydia Knight: Thank you! I was also wondering which on campus accommodation has the best facilities/that you would recommend.

\* Student Ambassador01: There are lots of accommodation options at Exeter so there's definitely something to suit everyone! One of the main things to consider is whether you'd like to be catered or self-catered, as well as whether you'd like an en-suite or a shared bathroom. Also, one of the best things about first year is that most of the accommodation is on-site, with some a short walk away from the uni. I lived in Lafrowda in my first year, which was a flat of 7 people sharing a kitchen, but with en-suite bathrooms. Personally, I can say I had a really positive experience in those halls but it really depends on what you're looking for. I had friends who lived in Birks Grange in a townhouse with more people and shared bathrooms, and they loved it!

9. Jack Munday: Hi, I know that this isn't totally to do with the theme, but I was wondering what you should wear when you go to unis for interviews.

\* Student Ambassador01 2: Hi Jack – this question is perfectly fine! Unless stated on the University website, you should aim for smart clothes (smart shirt, trousers, shoes etc.) – usually no need for formal wear (i.e. suits, dress clothes). If you're worried about University specific policies then they will be more than happy to advise you prior to interview!

\* Student Ambassador01: Does anybody have any more questions about firm / insurance choices?

10. zara thompson: Do different levels of accommodation cost different amounts, for example a private bathroom in comparison to a shared one?

\* Student Ambassador01: Yeah, the accommodations tend to fall into different price brackets so, once you've got an idea of your budget, I'd recommend looking on the accommodation website for pictures etc. of the different halls. Or, if you can, attend an accommodation tour at an open day!

11. Emily Skipp: what are the price ranges for the accommodation?

\* Student Ambassador01 2: Hi Emily, prices will vary greatly between Universities and within Universities (can be as low as £3300 a year or as high as £11000; although the higher number is less common). However, there should be an affordable option for every student which can be managed with your student maintenance loan. Prices will generally increase if you are living on your own (or with only one other person) and have food (and bills) included. Universities will disclose prices with what's included in accommodation and I recommend viewing the ones you're interested in at offer-holder days

12. zara thompson: Should your insurance choice always be lower grades than your firm?

\* Student Ambassador01: I guess ideally your insurance would have lower grades, as it's intended to be your back up. However, there's nothing to say that you have to follow that. I'd suggest weighing up your options and bear in mind that having a second choice that you actually wouldn't mind studying at is probably a good idea.

13. \* Student Ambassador01: Sorry, I don't think I sent that last message in the right way. Does anybody have any more questions about firm/insurance choices?

14. zara thompson: When do you have to select them by?

\* Student Ambassador01: There are a few different dates. If you receive your last decision from your universities on or before 31 March 2019, your reply date is 1 May 2019. If you receive your last decision on or before 2 May 2019, your reply date is 6 June 2019. If you receive your last decision on or before 6 June 2019, your reply date is 20 June 2019. If you receive your last decision on or before 11 July 2019, your reply date is 18 July 2019. Sorry for that big list! But, usually, it'll be 31st March.

\* Student Ambassador01: Sorry, 1st May\* (31st March is one of the deadlines for receiving offers)

15. Jack Munday: When would we have to apply for student finance?

\* Student Ambassador01 2: Hi Jack, the deadline for new students is usually May/June which you complete via the Student Finance.gov website. You don't need a confirmed place to apply.

16. \* Student Ambassador01: Has everybody submitted their UCAS applications?

17. Jack Munday: Yes, my application is in and I have had a few replies.

\* Student Ambassador01: That's great! I know it can be a bit of a nerve-wracking time of year waiting for replies.

18. \* Student Ambassador01: Another thing we could discuss is Offer Holder Visit Days?

19. \* Student Ambassador01 2: Offer holder visit days are a great opportunity to get a realistic student experience with practice lectures and to chat to lecturers themselves! Does anyone have any ideas for questions to ask on these days?

20. \* Student Ambassador01: I remember going to a few offer holder visit days. My one at Exeter even had a taster session in the lab, so it's definitely a good way to get a feel for your course and the place you'll be studying in. You'll usually get a lot more information about the finer details of the course too, including options to study abroad/year in industry. Has anybody signed up to any offer holder days yet?

21. \* Student Ambassador01: One thing I found useful was actually getting to talk to current students. It's definitely an opportunity to find out what studying there is really like, and this helped me make my firm and insurance choices. As I mentioned just now, you also get to find out about the details of the course, and perhaps speak to a lecturer about an area you're particularly interested in.

22. \* Student Ambassador01 2: It will also give you an opportunity to look around the University again including the accommodation so you can see which halls you may prefer living in a bit closer to the time!

23. \* Student Ambassador01: Does anybody have any other questions about Exeter in general, or anything else?

24. Nicole Jones: I came to an open day at Exeter and already looked around the accommodation etc. is it worth coming back again for an offer day?

\* Student Ambassador01 2: Hi Nicole, from my experience I would say yes – offer holder days will give you a chance to experience a real lecture and ask staff/lecturers/students any questions that you may be concerned about closer to the time of starting University. My offer holder day was quite a fun experience and I got to have coffee with my future lecturers which helped calm my nerves about starting!

25. \* Student Ambassador01: Hi everyone, we only have a few minutes left so if you have any last questions then get them in now!

If not, Thanks very much for taking part in today's online forum; I hope you've found it useful! Details of the next session can be found at [www.exeter.ac.uk/exeterscholars/currentparticipants/liveonlineqaforums/](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/exeterscholars/currentparticipants/liveonlineqaforums/). If you have questions in the meantime, please contact the Exeter Scholars team, who will be happy to help: [www.exeter.ac.uk/exeterscholars/contact/currentparticipants/](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/exeterscholars/contact/currentparticipants/).