



Supporting you from start to finish

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Hello and welcome to the July newsletter. In this edition, you will receive information about UCAS, the summer vacation period, and an upcoming open day for the Growth Project.

Applying to UCAS for 2026 entry

Although you will not be able to submit a UCAS application until the **2nd September 2025**, you can now make a start on filling out your application for 2026 entry. If you would like to make an early start on your application your tutor is able to support you with this and you can link your application to us.

As a start point look on the toolkit tab of your learner account for advice on how to apply to UCAS - there is a slide show, lots of guidance, and links to useful information on the UCAS website.

Applying through the UCAS system as a DistanceLearningCentre.com student
my Diploma Name: Access to Higher Education Diploma (Science)

NB If you have completed your Diploma we strongly advise that you apply to UCAS by October 2024.

INTRODUCTION

The UCAS website provides lots of help in terms of how to use their online applications, with FAQs, video tutorials etc and as such it is important that you familiarize yourself with it www.ucas.com.

The advice below relates specifically to DistanceLearningCentre.com students, the procedures you need to follow, what you can expect from us and what we expect from you. Before you apply to UCAS **you must read this webpage and watch the powerpoint below.**

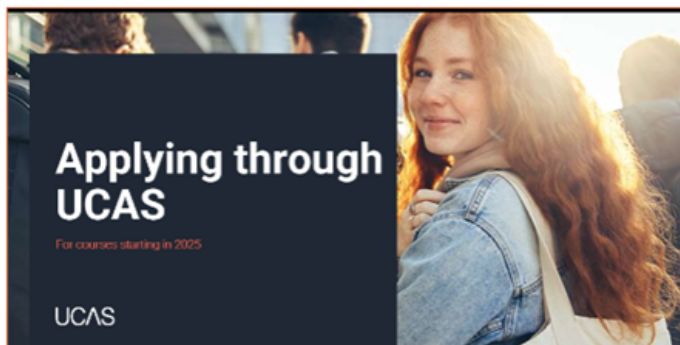
As a DistanceLearningCentre.com student there are two ways for you to apply to University:

1. **Apply through DistanceLearningCentre.com.** The benefits are:
 - Your tutor will check your personal statement and form for content, spelling and grammatical errors and advise accordingly.
 - Your tutor will also provide a reference.
2. **Apply as an independent student.**
 - You can apply at any time and do not need to adhere to our deadlines.
 - Your form will not be checked.
 - You will not receive a reference from your DistanceLearningCentre.com tutors.

Your decision whether to apply as a DistanceLearningCentre.com student or an independent student really depends on whom you wish to use for your referee.

If you have completed a significant number of Modules (particularly Graded Level 3 ones), it is a good idea to register with UCAS as a DistanceLearningCentre.com student. If you have not yet completed much of the course, so your tutor does not know you well, you may decide you would prefer to have another professional as your referee who knows you better, for instance, a manager at work. In this case you need to apply as an independent student. **Ensure you check the university requirements before you go ahead as some universities may require an academic reference.**

HOW DO I APPLY?



November Moderation 2025

If you are aiming to complete your studies in time for November moderation, the final date for submission of all of your assessments is **Friday 31st October**. Submitting your work in advance of this date allows plenty of time for any resubmission work and remarking.

If you are worried about meeting this deadline please arrange to speak to your tutor.

Growth Project Open Day

Some of you will know that we have a charitable arm to DistanceLearningCentre.com called Hourglass where we work with people with mental health issues on a huge site in Rochdale Greater Manchester. Each year we open under the National Garden Scheme (NGS). So, if any of you would be interested in seeing what we do, [click here to follow the link to the NGS](#) and join us on **Sunday 27th July**.

[You can also follow us on Facebook!](#)



Summer Leave

The summer months are a popular time for us to take our vacations. Please be assured that even if your tutor is on leave, there will be a cover tutor available to answer your emails.

Also, a reminder that you can take a vacation over summer too! If you are going away, or plan to have a staycation, and do not wish to be contacted in this time, please let your tutor know, then we can avoid interrupting your break (Please note, this is different to taking a study break).



Your questions answered



This month's question is:

Why do we ask you to complete Student Assessed Questions (SAQs)?

Our Answer:

SAQs have a number of purposes. Primarily they check your understanding of the materials as it wouldn't be good to start completing your assessment without some background understanding of the area you are being assessed on. As you mark your own answers, looking at any areas you could have developed further allows you to check your understanding of the materials and is a good way to further develop your understanding. The SAQs are scaffolded towards the assessment so are good preparation for this. Finally, the awarding body requires us to document your learning journey and completion of SAQs provides evidence of this.

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