

Cambridge Applicant Support Programme

What is the Cambridge Applicant Support Programme (CASP)?

The *Cambridge Applicant Support Programme* is a series of interactive sessions, mentoring and guided independent learning which is offered by the Cambridge Admissions Office to support eligible students who are considering making an application to the University of Cambridge in October 2020 for entry in September 2021. The programme will run from the beginning of August 2020 until December 2020, with the potential for continued academic and mentoring support for offer holders from January to March 2021.

What do you have access to as a student on the programme?



Exclusive webinars with an element of independent study required



Expert admissions support and feedback on each element of the Cambridge application stages

Live Q&As with Cambridge Admissions Tutors and student ambassadors to receive feedback on your work



Mentorship from a current University of Cambridge student



Academic tutoring support for eligible offer holders from January-March 2021



Who can apply?

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Be a student at a state school or college in the UK
- Be intending to make an application to Cambridge in October 2020
- Be studying for qualifications at your school/ college that meet the entry requirements for your chosen course at Cambridge AND be on track to achieve the minimum grades required for entry (A*A*A for most sciences courses and A*AA for arts courses) (See [here for Cambridge](#)).
- Be committed to the undertaking the necessary work attached to participation in the programme, places on the programme are competitive and we expect students chosen to be engaged with *all aspects* of the programme

It may not be possible to offer every applicant a place on the programme but we would encourage **ALL** students meeting the eligibility criteria outlined above to apply. Where spaces are limited, students who meet one or more of the following criteria will be prioritised:

- Students who are care experienced
- Students who are eligible for the 16-19 Bursary/ Pupil Premium and/or those who have been in receipt of Free School Meals at any point in the last six years
- Students who come from an under-represented ethnic group

Black African and Black Caribbean

Pakistani and Bangladeshi

Gypsy, Roma and Traveller

White Students from Lower Socio-Economic Backgrounds (ever6 FSM)

- Students who have experienced disruption to their education such as for the following reasons:

Medical/health issues (including mental health), particularly those that have resulted in long or extended periods of absence (over eight weeks) from school in the last six years

Bereavement of a close family member (e.g. parent/carer) in the last six years

Being a young carer, defined as being the primary carer for a parent or sibling

Becoming a parent

Being an asylum seeker or refugee

Becoming estranged from both primary carers (e.g. parents/carers)

Moving schools more than once in the last six years (includes military children)

Other disruption (to be specified)

- Students from schools with historic low progression to Oxbridge
- Students who live in POLAR4 Quintiles 1&2 or IMD Quintiles 1&2 target wards

How can you apply?

If you would like to be considered, then you need to complete the short application form by **Friday 17th July 2020**: [Cambridge Applicant Support Programme Application Form](#)

Along with some basic personal details, the form asks you to provide an idea of the course you are considering applying for and your past and predicted grades. It may be helpful to have this information to hand when completing the form. You will also need to provide an email address for a teacher at your school/college so please ensure you have verified their details and consult them where necessary (particularly in regard to predicted grades).

We will email a copy of your application to your school to ask your teacher to verify that the information you have provided is correct and so please ensure all the information is accurate upon submission.

What is the application timeline?

Monday 22nd June 2020	• Applications Open
Friday 17th July 2020	• Applications Close
Monday 3rd August 2020	• Selection decisions communicated

Please note: Participation or non-participation with this programme is *completely separate* from the admissions process and will not be taken in to account in any university application.

August – September Programme

Pre-Launch Support

During w/b 10th,17th & 24th August participants can book 1-2-1 calls with a member of our team

Pre Launch Prep Work

Tuesday 11th August - "Applying to Cambridge" webinar with prep work

Tuesday 18th August - "Personal Statements" webinar with prep work

Launch Week

Tuesday 1st September - "Admissions Tests and how to prepare" webinar with prep work

Thursday 3rd September - Official programme launch including meet your peers and meet your mentor

Week 1

Tuesday 8th September - "Interviews and how to prepare" webinar with prep work

Thursday 10th September - "Spotlight on...Personal Statement"

Week 2

Thursday 17th September - "Spotlight on...Admissions Tests"

Week 3

Thursday 24th September - "Spotlight on...Interviews"

Week 4

Thursday 1st October - "Spotlight on...Life at Cambridge"

September – December Programme

Assuming a participant's application results in them being invited to interview, participants are able to continue to interact with their mentor until the start of the interview period.

Topics you might cover with your mentor include:

- Choosing your Cambridge course
- Choosing your Cambridge college
- Catch-up on UCAS application progress
- Personal Statement advice
- Admissions Test advice
- Interview advice
- Life at Cambridge advice
- Responding to offers advice
- Revision & study skills advice

January – March Programme

Any participants who are made an offer to study at Cambridge might then be eligible to gain access to a 10-week programme of online tutoring. The tuition is designed to support students academically to secure the grades they require to meet the terms of their offer.

Offer-holders also retain the opportunity to continue their relationships with their mentors should they choose to do so.

Further Questions

If you have any questions or if you would like to discuss anything further before submitting an application then please email the team on HEPlus@admin.cam.ac.uk and write "CASP" in the subject line of the email.