



**OVERVIEW OF  
UNIVERSITY AND CAREERS  
OPTIONS AND OFFERS AVAILABLE  
TO LEIPZIG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
SENIOR STUDENTS**

Handout for Parents  
16<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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What does LIS offer students in the area of university admissions and careers support?

- Grade 10, 11 and 12 students are given detailed information on university admissions & careers by the university admissions and careers coordinator.
- Grade 12 students are given targeted careers advice by the university admissions and careers advisor as well as feedback from their teachers on their academic and other strengths.
- There is active and practical assistance to Grade 12 students with their university applications.
- Grade 11 parents are invited to a parent information evening where the university admissions and careers advisor explains the various country systems and answers any questions they might have.
- The school organizes access to the university & colleges and careers fairs as well as inviting universities and colleges to visit the school and present themselves (currently only virtually).
- The school provides predicted grades, writes references/letters of recommendation, prepares students for interviews, creates grade transcripts.
- The advisor can and will meet with students and parents as often as they need to help facilitate the student's next steps after school.
- Grade 10 are given a presentation by Frau Elsner from the Arbeitsagentur laying out their options at the end of Grades 10 and 12.
- The school provides regular information on university admissions and careers on its website
- The school provides students with a career and university admissions platform called Unifrog to help them with researching, recording and planning their next steps

## The United Kingdom

### **Why:**

- In English
- Some of the finest universities in the world
- Accepts the IBDP
- Student-focused education and excellent student support services
- Student visas allow for a two-year work permit after graduation

### **How:**

- Applications through central system called UCAS, personal statement (student), reference (one of the teachers), predicted grades (all of the teachers) required.
- 5 choices possible. 4 for medicine, dentistry & veterinary medicine
- Possible subject-specific admissions tests (eg. LNAT for law, UKCAT or BMAT for medicine) and admissions tests for Oxford & Cambridge and interviews
- Universities respond with conditional offer (based on exam results), unconditional offer (fully accepted) or rejection
- Students need to select firm choice and insurance choice from the offers.
- It is possible to apply via Extra and Clearing on UCAS as well

### **When:**

- By the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (Oxbridge or medicine) or 26th January 2021 (all other courses)
- Offers made after 26.01.23. Six weeks to make firm or insurance choice

### **Where:**

- [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) – The central university admissions system in the UK (also has a course search that allows you to see how many IB points you need for specific courses), also provides information for students and parents on a whole range of topics related to studying in the UK
- [https://www.internationalstudent.com/study\\_uk/](https://www.internationalstudent.com/study_uk/) - overview of student living costs in the UK
- <http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/> - official government site for apprenticeships and vocational training
- <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa> - UK government website on student visa requirements for international students with links to applying for a student visa
- <http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/> - UK Council for International Student Affairs: government body for helping foreign students study in the UK. Information about fees, visa requirements, scholarships & bursaries and coronavirus regulations

## The United States

### **Why:**

- In English
- Some of the finest universities in the world
- IBDP students could get in by taking SATs (on offer six times a year)
- Expensive, but funding and scholarships are available
- Some US colleges have European campuses and some European universities have partnerships with USA (cheaper route to a US college education)

### **How:**

- Usually individual applications to universities but over 600 colleges are using a central admissions programme called the Common Application or Coalition
- a personal statement/motivational letter (students), CommonApp prompt question, one or more references (a teacher and university admissions advisor)
- predicted grades and possibly SATs/ACTs, grade transcripts & high school diploma
- More universities are becoming test optional, meaning they do not require SATs/ACTs from students to apply

### **When:**

- each university has its own application deadline but internal deadline for US is December 2021.
- Early acceptance/early decision (EA/ED) applications are usually due by early to mid-November 2022.

### **Where:**

- [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) – the main website for SATs
- <https://www.act.org/> - the main website for ACTs
- [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) – The Common Application (used by over 600 colleges)
- <http://www.internationalstudent.com/school-search/usa/> - a good search tool for US universities
- [www.aaicu.org](http://www.aaicu.org) – the central website for American colleges overseas
- <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study/student-visa.html> - official US State Department site for student visas
- <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/> - US Department of Education college score and ranking platform
- <https://professionals.collegeboard.org/guidance/applications/early> - overview of the advantages/disadvantages of EA/ED

## Germany

### **Why:**

- Closer to home for many, cheaper
- No predicted grades (students apply with results),
- Option of applying in summer and winter (not all courses)
- Students with foreign qualifications can apply with the IB diploma via uni-assist

### **How:**

- IBDP results need to be converted to a Hochschulzugangsberechtigung
- School will assist with HZB application
- Apply directly to unis with HZB – if the Durchschnittsnote/NC is sufficient.
- Exception: applications for medicine and medical sciences (dentistry, veterinary science etc.) go centrally through [www.hochschulstart.de](http://www.hochschulstart.de)

### **When:**

- Paperwork prep for HZB in March 2023
- Applications for Wintersemester 2023 tend to open in April 2023
- Final paperwork after IB results come out. Deadline 15.07.2023 for NC courses, possibly later for non-selective courses
- Applications for apprenticeships (“Lehre/Ausbildung”) in February 2023 – IGCSEs that amount to Realabschluss are sufficient for many types of apprenticeship

### **Where:**

- [www.hochschulkompass.de](http://www.hochschulkompass.de) – a website on German universities
- [www.studienwahl.de](http://www.studienwahl.de) - a website on careers and studying produced by the Arbeitsagentur
- [www.hochschulstart.de](http://www.hochschulstart.de) – the central application site for studying medicine and other medical sciences in Germany
- [www.anabin.de](http://www.anabin.de) – the KMK website on studying in Germany with foreign qualifications
- [http://www.uni-assist.de/](http://www.uni-assist.de) - application forum for foreign students studying in Germany
- <http://www.studis-online.de/> - a comprehensive website on cost of studying and living in Germany with handy links and charts. Some pages are also in English
- <https://www.bafög.de/> - the official German government page for student finance
- [www.arbeitsagentur.de](http://www.arbeitsagentur.de) – the Arbeitsagentur’s central website
- <http://www.arbeitsagentur.de/web/content/DE/BuergerinnenUndBuerger/Ausbildung/index.htm> – the page on the Work Agency’s website devoted to apprenticeships.
- <http://www.ausbildung.net/> - more information about different types of apprenticeships
- <https://www.wegweiser-duales-studium.de/> - information about the Duales Studium (study & work)

## The Netherlands

### Why:

- All universities offer courses in nearly all subjects in English.
- All courses are accredited and standardized by the Dutch government
- Comparatively cheap (compared to UK or US), around €2,170 a year tuition fees for EU students. Fees for the first year are halved for EU students
- Comparatively close to home for many
- IBDP accepted for all universities, often with very comfortable admissions requirements
- Non-selective courses simply need a pass in the IBD

### How:

- Most applications go via a central application site called Studielink or directly to university. Registration on Studielink is the first step to becoming a potential student in the Netherlands
- The Netherlands has research universities, universities of applied science and university colleges (with liberal arts degrees) – different types of education but all award bachelors.
- Some courses have a *numerus fixus* – students have to fulfill certain criteria and are then ranked for selective courses.
- Other selective applications are university colleges, specialist institutes (such as hotel schools) or talent-based degrees (the arts).
- Personal statements and references sometimes required
- Sometimes additional admissions exams and/or interviews

### When:

- Dutch universities have various application deadlines for various courses but general application deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023
- *Numerus fixus* courses have a deadline of the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023
- Some university colleges have an admissions deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023

### Where:

- <https://www.studyinholland.nl/> – a website on applying to study in the Netherlands
- [www.studielink.nl](http://www.studielink.nl) – the main Dutch universities website
- <https://www.nuffic.nl/en> - a website that explains the recognition of foreign exams.
- <http://www.study-in-holland.com/> - another website with useful information about studying in Holland
- <http://www.studieren-in-holland.de/> - information on Dutch universities in German
- <https://duo.nl/particulieren/international-student/drawing-lots/apply.asp> - The list of courses that require a *numerus fixus*
- <https://www.duo.nl/particulier/international-visitor/index.jsp> – the Dutch government website on higher education

## Ireland

### **Why:**

- EU based education in English
- University education is free for Irish, British and EU students
- Some of the best internationally ranked universities
- Offers made based on grades and rankings
- Up to 10 academic and 10 vocational choices possible

### **How:**

- Applications are made centrally through the Central Admissions Office (home and EU students) and directly to the university (international students)
- Students can apply to up to 10 Level 8 and 10 Level 7 courses, as long as they meet the minimum requirements of the course
- Courses are ranked in order of preference (not in order of grades or ease)
- CAO converts grades into tariff points (IB score/45 x 600) and the application is ranked against all other applications for that course
- CAO makes offers to the top scoring applications depending on number of places

### **When:**

- November 5: CAO opens
- January 20: early bird deadline for applications
- February 1: regular deadline for applications
- May 1: deadline for late applications (restrictions apply)
- July 1: Change of Mind deadline (to add courses or change order of preference)
- August 5: first round of offers go out

### **Where:**

- <http://www.cao.ie/index.php> - Central Application Office. Application and information site for applying to higher education in Ireland
- <https://www.educationinireland.com/en/> - information website for studying in Ireland
- <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/inis/pages/study> - Irish government website on student visas
- <https://www.topuniversities.com/where-to-study/europe/ireland/guide> - overview of top universities in Ireland



## Gap Year, freies (soziales/wissenschaftliches) Jahr

### **Why:**

- A need to take a break from school, studying and learning
- Military or national service
- No clear idea of the next steps
- Student would like to see the world
- A wish to volunteer for a year
- Need to earn some money or save money before studying or training
- Need more work experience before applying to study a specific subject
- Need more qualifications before studying or training

### **How:**

- Applying for internships, volunteer programmes, jobs, work and travel schemes.
- Might need personal statements, references etc. Gap year activities look great on an application and could well increase a student's chances of acceptance
- Applying for "deferred entry" (UK) or "deferred enrolment" US – students take a year off with their place of study already in place (eg. apply now to study in September 2023)
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### **When:**

- Many programmes have their own deadlines but, essentially, now and all year long.

### **Where:**

- <https://www.bundesfreiwilligendienst.de/> - the organisation that replaced the national service office in Germany. Great volunteer programmes.
- <https://www.praktikum.info/> - if you are looking for work experiences
- <https://www.asf-ev.de/freiwilligendienst/> - an incredible organisation that offers volunteer posts in 13 different countries
- <http://www.gap-year.com/> - more info on gap years themselves (I'll also buy the book ☺)
- <http://www.vso.org.uk/> - a well-established UK volunteer organisation.
- <http://www.wwoof.net/> - why not get your hands dirty (literally)
- <http://www.peacecorps.gov/> - US volunteer organisation founded by Kennedy
- <http://ec.europa.eu/stages/> - internships with the EU
- <https://careers.un.org/lbw/home.aspx?viewtype=ip> – internships at the UN
- <http://www.gapforce.org> – UK gap year provider

## Introduction to costs

### Costs in the UK

- UK students and foreign students with settled or pre-settled status will be charged home fees (various with each of the British nations)
- International students (including EU students) pay international fees, which can vary greatly
- Several UK universities are offering bursaries for EU students that in some cases reduces their fees to home student rates (varies from year to year) **but** students cannot access UK government financial support the way they used to
- UK student visas allow for work (limited per week)
- There are also subject-specific and merit-based scholarships (see below for useful links)

#### Links

- [https://www.internationalstudent.com/study\\_uk/financial\\_aid/living\\_expenses/](https://www.internationalstudent.com/study_uk/financial_aid/living_expenses/)
- [www.saas.gov.uk](http://www.saas.gov.uk)
- <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>
- <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships>
- <http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/>
- <https://www.scholarshipportal.com/bachelor/scholarships/united-kingdom>

### Costs in the US

- Higher education is expensive in the US. Added to that is accommodation, travel, healthcare, immigration costs etc.
- Roughly speaking Ivy League universities (Harvard, Yale etc.) are the most expensive and state universities for in-state students are the cheapest
- Scholarships are offered for need, for merit and for talent (sports, music etc) and are offered by the universities (which all have finance and funding pages)
- Not all scholarships cover the entire tuition
- Some state universities are starting to offer free undergraduate tuition

#### Links

- <https://www.topuniversities.com/student-info/student-finance/how-much-does-it-cost-study-us>
- <https://www.studyinternational.com/help-and-advice/cost-of-living-in-the-usa>
- <https://worldscholarshipforum.com/10-tuition-free-universities-usa-international-students/>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
- <https://fafsa.ed.gov>

### Costs in the Netherlands

- Tuition is €2,168 a year for EU students and up to €15,000 for international students.
- Tuition is halved in the first year for EU students
- There is also Dutch government assistance for housing, and EU students can work
- Cost of living varies in the Netherlands with the cost higher in the major coastal cities than in the north or close to the German border.

#### Links

- [https://www.studyinholland.co.uk/cost\\_of\\_living.html](https://www.studyinholland.co.uk/cost_of_living.html)
- <https://www.studyinholland.nl/finances/tuition-fees>
- <https://ind.nl/en/study/Pages/study-at-university.aspx>

### Costs in Germany

- Tuition is free at all German state universities
- Private universities can and do charge fees, which vary greatly
- BafÖG is valid for the whole of the EU. If you qualify for Germany the money can also go to studying abroad.
- Cost of living can vary greatly from city to city.

#### Links

- <https://www.bafoeg-rechner.de/>
- <https://www.studis-online.de/studienkosten/>
- <https://www.bafög.de/>

### Costs in Ireland

- Tuition is free for home and EU students (€3,000 student contribution required for student services, **not** tuition)
- Fees vary for international students dependent on course (medicine being the most expensive)
- Scholarships are available (see below).
- Student visas allow for 20 hours of work per week
- Cost of living is generally high in Ireland with Dublin being as expensive as London, Paris and similar cities.

#### Links

- [https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/travel\\_and\\_recreation/travel\\_to\\_ireland/student\\_visas.html](https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/travel_and_recreation/travel_to_ireland/student_visas.html)
- <https://www.educationinireland.com/en/How-Do-I-Apply-/Tuition-Costs-Scholarships/Scholarships>
- <https://www.scholarshipportal.com/bachelor/scholarships/ireland>

## Useful Contacts

### Leipzig International School

**Justin Sands (college counsellor), Nicola Edger (careers counsellor)**

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Internet: <https://www.lis.school/en/enrichment-programme/lis-careers.html>

### Zeugnisanerkennungsstelle des Freistaats Sachsen

**Herr Maschek (contact person)**

Zeugnisanerkennungsstelle

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