



UCAS Clearing 2027: a one-page guide

For students, parents, teachers and careers advisers. Free to print, copy and share.

Clearing matches students who do not hold a university place with courses that still have vacancies. For 2027 entry it opens on **2 July 2027**, is busiest on **A level results day, 12 August 2027**, and closes for new choices on **18 October 2027**.

Key dates for 2027 entry

30 June, 18:00	Last time to apply with five choices. Later applications go straight into Clearing.
Fri 2 July	Clearing opens. Holders of an unconditional firm place can release themselves.
22 July	No reply swaps (firm/insurance changes) after this date.
Week before results	Results embargo: about a week before each results day, no Clearing decisions are made.
Tue 10 August	Scottish results (Qualifications Scotland, formerly SQA).
Thu 12 August	A level results, and many Level 3 vocational results such as BTEC Nationals.
Early September	Universities usually need final results by now.
23 Sept, 18:00	Final date for 2027 entry applications.
Mon 18 October	Last date to add a Clearing choice.

Who can use Clearing

- Anyone applying after 30 June 2027, including first-time and mature applicants.
- Students with no offers, or who declined them.
- Students who missed their conditions and were not accepted by their firm or insurance choice.
- Students who release themselves with **Decline my place**, for example after better results.
- **International and EU students**, in the same way as UK students (UCAS). They need a CAS and a Student visa (usually about 3 weeks from outside the UK), so universities may set earlier deadlines.
- **Scottish students**: places at Scottish universities at the Scottish fee rate are capped, so there may be few; places elsewhere in the UK carry that university's fees.

Missed your grades?

- Check your UCAS Hub first: firm or insurance may still accept you.
- Phone your firm choice, and look in Clearing at the same time.
- A **changed course offer** must be answered within 5 days.
- Think a mark is wrong? Ask your school or college about a **priority review** (A levels) or **priority appeal** (Scotland, free) that day.

How to apply through Clearing

1. **Check your UCAS Hub.** It says "You are in Clearing" or "Clearing has started".
2. **Find your Clearing number** (under "Application status") and your Personal ID.
3. **Find vacancies:** the UCAS search tool, university Clearing pages and your Clearing matches (Clearing Plus) in the Hub.
4. **Contact universities yourself** by phone, live chat or online form.
5. **Get the offer in writing**, with the course code and a deadline.
6. **Add it as your Clearing choice** in the Hub, only with the university's permission. In 2026 this opened at 13:00 on A level day and 10:00 on Scottish day.
7. **Wait for the university to confirm** your place in the Hub.

Have ready for every call

- Clearing number, Personal ID, grades and UCAS points (including GCSE English and maths).
- Two or three sentences on **why this subject** and **why this university**.
- Questions: entry requirements, deadline, course code, accommodation, accreditation, first-year content, bursaries; for international students, CAS and arrival dates.

Rules that catch people out

- You can add **one Clearing choice at a time**. Adding it counts as accepting.
- **Decline my place** cancels your firm *and* insurance places and cannot be undone. Secure the new offer first.
- Firm and insurance **cannot be swapped** after results.
- Universities want to speak to **the student**, not a parent.
- **Student finance is not linked to UCAS**: update it after moving university or course.

Free help at Be University Wise

- Am I in Clearing? checker, call planner and call tracker (nothing is sent to us).
- Rankings and university profiles from official data, and cost of living by city.
- Guides on missed offers, Decline my place, international students and Scotland.

77,110

placed through Clearing in 2025 (UCAS)

47,370

used Decline my place by 10 Sept 2026

26,000+

courses in Clearing on results day 2026



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