ACCESS TO LEEDS
The University of Leeds’ widening access scheme.

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

COME AND FIND YOUR PLACE
What is Access to Leeds?

Access to Leeds is the University of Leeds’ widening access scheme, which guarantees special consideration for applicants whose personal circumstances have affected their ability to demonstrate talent and potential through grades alone.

HOW DOES THE SCHEME WORK?
If you are eligible for the scheme and receive a standard offer for your chosen course here at Leeds, you will also receive an Access to Leeds offer which is two A-levels or equivalent below the standard offer. This alternative offer is conditional upon successful completion of the Access to Leeds module and making the University of Leeds your firm choice.

AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?
To be eligible you must have the potential to succeed at the University of Leeds and meet two or more of the following criteria:

- Be in the first generation of your family to go to university
- Attend a school achieving below the national average at GCSE*
- Only option is to attend a local university
- Live in or grew up in public care
- Live in a geographical area with low progression to higher education
- Studies disrupted by circumstances in your personal, social or domestic lives
- From a household with an annual income of £25,000 or below OR in receipt of 16-19 Bursary Fund or Discretionary Learner Support with income threshold of £25,000, OR in receipt of free school meals during your GCSE studies

(* 5 A*- C passes including English and Maths at GCSE)
I came across the Access to Leeds scheme whilst searching on the University’s website. At the time I felt overwhelmed by the process of applying for university because I didn’t know anyone planning to study the same course as me. I am really pleased to have taken part in the scheme because it allowed me access to lots of support which helped me through the process – I felt like they were doing everything they could to help me.

Taking part in Access to Leeds ensured that I chose the best university for me. I am studying in an environment where I feel happy, comfortable and valued. The study skills module was great for giving me a taste of what it’s really like to study at university before I arrived. I was able to gain some experience of referencing and improving essays using feedback from a university tutor which is still valuable to me now.

Florence Mutlow – year 3, Medicine
The Access to Leeds programme

The Access to Leeds programme is designed to help your move to university life and to give you a head start, by providing access to our academics, IT facilities and resources before you start your studies. The online module consists of two components, study skills and subject skills, both set at an academic level equivalent to your year 13 studies.

STUDY SKILLS COMPONENT
The study skills component consists of a series of online workshops designed to prepare you for university study. Workshops include writing skills, referencing and critical reading.

SUBJECT SKILLS COMPONENT
The subject skills element is a short assignment, project or test which will be in the subject area that you have applied to.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE SCHEME?
You need to complete an Access to Leeds application form including a reference from your school or college. For an application pack and details of our deadlines see www.leeds.ac.uk/A2L.

WHEN DO I APPLY?
Your Access to Leeds application should be sent directly to the Access to Leeds Team around the same time that you submit your UCAS application – an overview of the application process with key dates is shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid Sept</td>
<td>Access to Leeds scheme opens.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Sept</td>
<td>UCAS application process opens.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Oct</td>
<td>UCAS application deadline for medicine and dentistry courses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Nov</td>
<td>Access to Leeds application deadline for medicine and dentistry courses.</td>
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<td>15 Jan</td>
<td>Main application deadline for completing UCAS applications.</td>
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<tr>
<td>End Feb</td>
<td>Access to Leeds application deadline for all courses (excluding medicine and dentistry).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid May</td>
<td>Applicants decide which offers to accept or reject.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid May</td>
<td>Deadline for Access to Leeds study skills module component.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Jul</td>
<td>Deadline for Access to Leeds subject skills module component.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Aug</td>
<td>A-levels and Advanced Diploma results are published.</td>
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Please check the Access to Leeds website for further
Neither of my parents went to university so I knew the Access to Leeds scheme was right for me because it would make me feel more confident about applying. I was aware that the transition between school and university could be a large one so I wanted to feel as prepared as I could before I arrived.

As part of the scheme I came to as many on-campus events as I could. I was keen to meet current students at the University to get first-hand answers to the questions I had. I also really enjoyed meeting other students from the Access to Leeds scheme as it meant that I would already know people from a similar background to me before I arrived at university. It made settling into university life much easier than I expected.

I would advise any student thinking of applying to Access to Leeds to go for it, embrace the assignments and attend as many events as possible. Being at Leeds has allowed me to develop as a person, as well as do incredible things that I could only have dreamed of before coming.

Joe Shakespeare – year 3, French
Financial Support

The University offers financial support to students from the UK (excluding Wales) with a household income of £42,600 or less, and studying on courses which are not funded by the NHS.

If you’re eligible you can choose how to receive this support, whether as a tuition fee discount, a discount in University accommodation, or as a cash sum. In addition, loans and grants are available from the government.

The University also has some means-tested scholarships available, designed to support eligible students from a range of different backgrounds. Access to Leeds students will receive extra consideration for many of these awards.

For further information about eligibility and funding options visit www.leeds.ac.uk/yourfinances. If you have any further questions regarding our financial support please contact the Scholarships Team at ugscholarships@leeds.ac.uk
Frequently asked questions

Is there an application form to complete?
Yes, you will need to complete an Access to Leeds application form as well as your UCAS application. Application forms, and instructions on how to complete them, can be found at www.leeds.ac.uk/A2L.

What happens once I have applied?
You will receive an e-mail confirming your eligibility within two weeks of receipt of the application. If you are eligible the e-mail will also confirm that your application has been sent to the relevant Admissions Tutor.

Will Access to Leeds affect my UCAS application?
Access to Leeds will ensure you receive additional admissions consideration for the University of Leeds’ courses you apply to via UCAS. If you receive an offer, you will also receive an Access to Leeds offer which is two A-level grades or equivalent below the standard offer.

When will I take the Access to Leeds module?
The module takes place between April and July, with a break at peak exam time. Deadlines for completing work are in mid-May and mid-July and all materials are accessed online via the University Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

When do I need to apply for extra funding?
Full details of University of Leeds scholarships and their deadlines can be found at www.leeds.ac.uk/scholarships

For more information:
e: accesstoleeds@leeds.ac.uk
t: 0113 343 8952
w: www.leeds.ac.uk/A2L
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