



# CRGS Sixth Form: *A Brief Guide to Specialist Admissions Tests*

**CRGS *Futures* Series Presentation 7: Mrs Johnston**



“The future  
depends on  
what we do in  
the present.”

Mahatma  
Gandhi

# CRGS *Futures* Series

This is the seventh CRGS Sixth Form Futures presentation:



1. *An Introduction to CRGS Futures*
2. *A Brief Introduction to Applying to University*
3. *Getting Started on your Personal Statement*
4. *Completing your UCAS Form*
5. *A Brief Introduction to Applying for Higher and Degree Apprenticeships*
6. *A Brief Guide to Student Finance*
7. ***A Brief Guide to Specialist Admissions Tests***
8. *Replying to Offers*
9. *A Brief Guide to Results Day*



## What are university admissions tests?

- Some universities require you to sit an admissions test as part of the application process
- If you apply for a course that requires an admissions test, you will need to check the registration deadline for the test, when you will sit it, and what it includes, as well as the deadline for your UCAS application
- You can find this information on the UCAS course search and on the individual university's website
- You will be able to sit many of these tests at CRGS, but some of them have to be taken at specialist centres.



# When are university admissions tests?



- Many courses that require you to sit a test have a 15 October deadline, but your course may be different, so it's important you check key dates and deadlines. To see if your course requires you to sit an admissions test, check the course description in the search tool
- Most admissions tests happen between August and November the year before you are due to start your studies – some even earlier, before you've sent your UCAS application!
- Remember to check the date of your admissions test – some take place before the UCAS application deadline.







# Course-related tests

Some tests are related to specific courses:

## Law

Cambridge Law Test

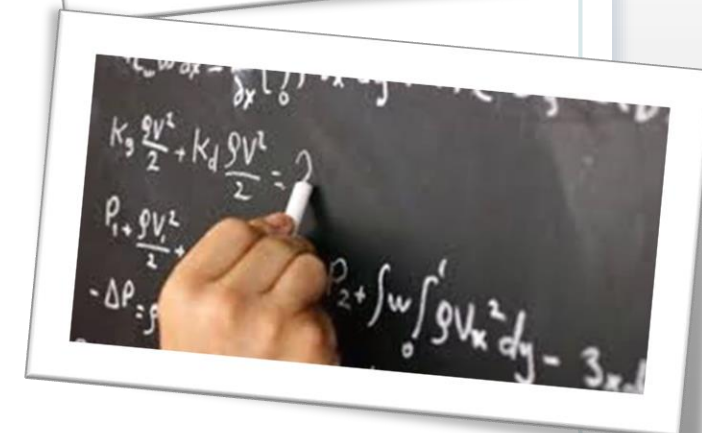
LNAT – National Admissions Test for Law

## Mathematics

Mathematics Admissions Test (MAT)

Sixth Term Examination Paper (STEP)

Test of Mathematics for University  
Admissions





# Course-related tests

## Medical courses

BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT)

Graduate Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT)

Health Professions Admission Test (HPAT Ulster)

University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT)

## Thinking Skills Assessment

Thinking Skills Assessment Cambridge (TSA Cambridge)

Thinking Skills Assessment Oxford (TSA Oxford)

Thinking Skills Assessment University College London (TSA UCL)





# Cambridge Admissions Tests



If you are applying for a course at the University of Cambridge, you may have to sit an admissions test. It may be that you have to sit an assessment before your interview, or at the interview stage of the application process.

[Cambridge Admissions Assessments](#)

[BioMedical Admissions Test \(BMAT\)](#)

[Sixth Term Examination Paper \(STEP\)](#)

[Thinking Skills Assessment Cambridge \(TSA Cambridge\)](#)

[Cambridge Law Test](#)

[Other course-specific admissions tests](#)

Full details of the tests you will need to sit as part of your application can be found in the course description in the UCAS [search tool](#) and [check the university's website](#).

# Oxford Admissions Tests

If you're thinking of applying to the University of Oxford, there's a very high chance you will need to sit an admissions test. The majority of courses require them, but check the course description using the UCAS [search tool](#) and [the university's website](#).

[BMAT September and November sessions.](#)

[LNAT – National Admissions Test for Law](#)

[Classics Admissions Test \(CAT\)](#)

[English Literature Test \(ELAT\)](#)

[History Aptitude Test \(HAT\)](#)

[Mathematics Admissions Test \(MAT\)](#)

[Modern Languages Admissions Test \(MLAT\)](#)

[Oriental Languages Admissions Test \(OLAT\)](#)

[Physics Aptitude Test \(PAT\)](#)

[Philosophy Test \(PHIL\)](#)

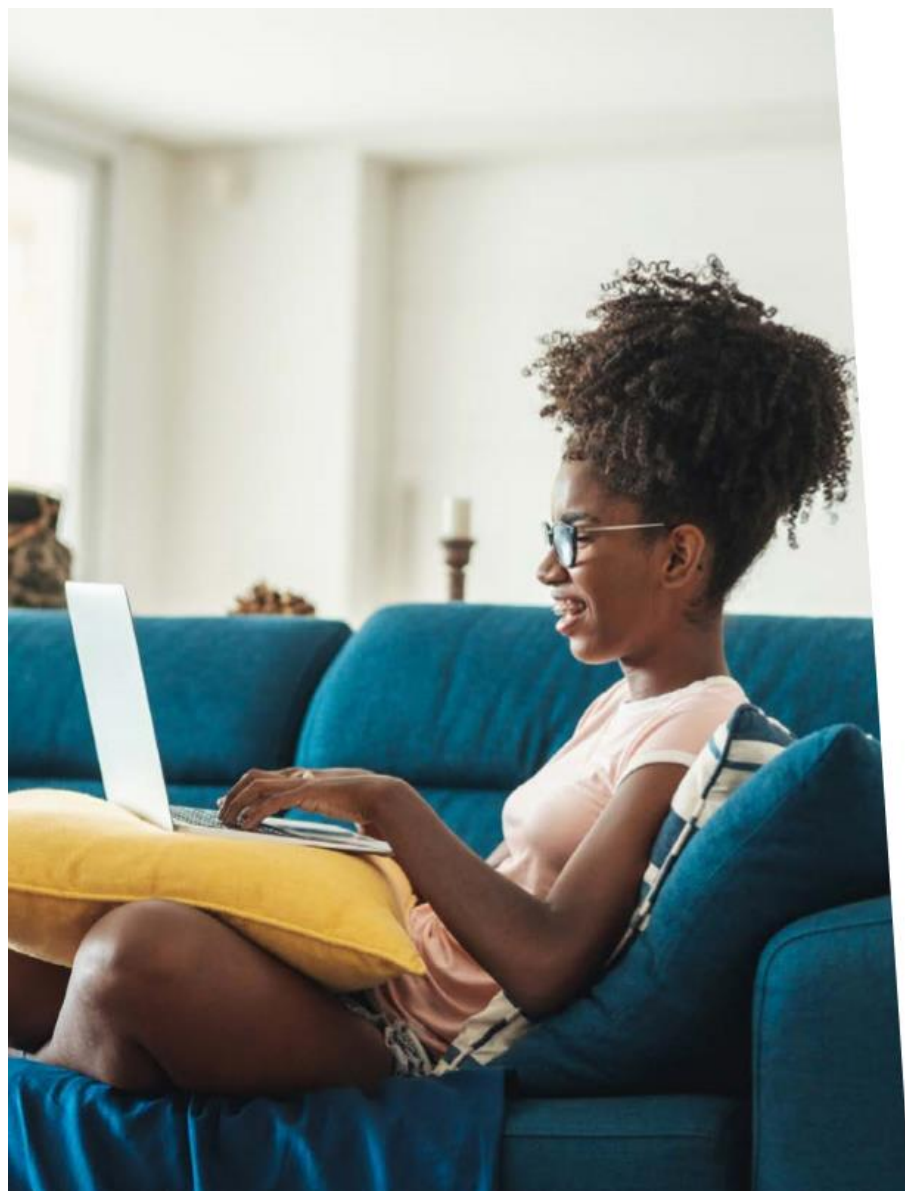
[Thinking Skills Assessment Oxford \(TSA Oxford\)](#)







# Journey of an application



## Apply online

Explore subjects in the UCAS Hub and find courses in the search tool. Check entry requirements and application deadlines:

**15 October at 18:00** (UK time) – all courses at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and most courses in medicine, veterinary science/medicine, and dentistry.

**15 January at 18:00** (UK time) – the majority of undergraduate courses.

## Wait to hear back

Universities or colleges will decide whether to make you an offer. It'll be:

- > unconditional if you've already met the entry requirements
- > conditional if the offer's based on your exam results

If you're not accepted by your choices, or you decline any offers you receive, you can use Extra to apply for more choices, one at a time.

## Reply to your offers

Once all the decisions are in, you have to reply to your offers by a specific deadline.

- > Select a firm choice – this is your first choice.
- > If your firm choice is conditional, select an insurance choice too, if you want – this is a back-up.
- > Decline any other offers.

## Find out if you've got a place

You'll see in Track if your place is confirmed.

- > If your firm choice is unconditional, the place is yours!
- > If your place is conditional, the university or college will update your status when they have your exam results, or other evidence you've met the conditions.
- > You may be unsuccessful if you don't meet the conditions – in this case, you can use Clearing to apply for more courses.

If you do better than you expected, and meet and exceed the conditions of your firm choice, you can look for an alternative course using Adjustment, if you want to.



# Preparing for admissions tests



- The key thing is to do your research early and thoroughly
- You will be able to find out exactly what you are required to do and find advice on how to prepare
- You should practise past papers so that you are familiar with the format and types of question
- Dr Clarke (MedDenVet), Mr Draper (Oxbridge) and Mr Gregory (Law/Thinking Skills Assessment) will be available to provide additional help and advice
- Mrs Dickinson (Careers & HE Co-ordinator) can also provide guidance and support.



# Useful resources:

[UCAS Guide to University Admissions Tests](#)

[Oxford Admissions Tests](#)

[Cambridge Admissions Tests](#)

[Cambridge Assessment](#)

[Admissions Testing](#)

[The Uni Guide Admissions Tests](#)

[BMAT](#)

[UCAT](#)

[LNAT](#)

[Thinking Skills Assessment](#)

