

Offer Holders: Frequently Asked Questions

What are the key timelines and deadlines?

Check this timeline for expected actions: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/after-you-apply/decision-timeline>.

Transcripts

Can I send an electronic copy of my transcript to meet my department condition?

We cannot verify an electronic transcript that you (the offer holder) have sent us directly. We are required to independently verify your transcript to guard against fraudulent applications. **Therefore, we must receive your final transcript directly from your previous educational institution. It is your responsibility to contact your institution to arrange for them to send us your transcript electronically.** The majority of institutions will expect this. Please ask your institution to send the transcript to offerholders@politics.ox.ac.uk.

If your institution does not provide this electronic verification service, you will need to send your **original final transcript** in the post for us to verify physically. Please contact offerholders@politic.ox.ac.uk if that is the case.

College offers

When should I expect to hear from my college regarding their decision?

After you've got an offer from your academic department, it will usually take 8 to 10 weeks to find out which college will offer you a place, although it can sometimes take longer. If you chose a college when you applied and that college did not offer you a place, you will usually find out 4 to 6 weeks after the department makes you an offer.

Fees and Funding

How much does it cost to study at Oxford?

Please see the information under 'Fees and other charges' and 'Living costs' at [Fees and funding | University of Oxford](#). The fees for the DPIR's programmes can also be found on the relevant page at [Politics and International Relations | Graduate courses | University of Oxford](#).

How will I fund my studies?

UK higher education is not free and it is important to be aware that fees are payable and there are fewer scholarships than there are places. The best place to begin your search for funding is [Fees and funding | University of Oxford](#), but you should also think creatively and investigate funding opportunities that might be available to you beyond the University, such as schemes offered by your national governments and also by local governments, businesses, charities and other community groups.

All our offer holders will be considered for a large number of schemes and decisions on those are made between March and June.

Does the DPIR offer funding?

The DPIR allocates over £1 million to studentships each year. There is no separate application. If you are eligible, the DPIR and, where relevant, its partners will automatically consider your candidacy.

When will funding be announced?

Scholarships are usually awarded between early March and June. If you're awarded a scholarship, you may be notified at the same time as your department (or college) offer or later on, depending on the source of the funding.

What advice do you have about financing the course?

- Consider how you will fund all the years of your course - don't wait until you start to sort out the funding for future years
- Don't assume you can earn your way through your studies – the courses are rigorous and the terms are short and intensive
- Remember, it is your responsibility to look for funding outside Oxford.

My fee status is listed as 'incomplete' - when can I expect a decision?

Your college will inform you regarding your fee status. If you have further queries please contact the Fees and funding team at student.fees@admin.ox.ac.uk.

I believe my fee status is incorrect – what can I do about this?

If you believe that your fee status may be incorrect, please review the information on the [fees and funding webpage](#).

Why is my fee status listed as 'query'?

Query is the default fee status for all students until your fee status has been confirmed.

Can you let me know if my application is being considered for funding?

We will if we can but this might not always be possible, or permitted by the funder.

I'm struggling to confirm the funding before the deadline to accept the offer – is this a problem?

Accepting an offer doesn't commit you to anything, so if you feel there's a realistic chance of you taking up the place, you should accept it. It's possible to withdraw at a later point. The only caveat would be that when it comes to making payments to your college (once allocated) you might want to check with them first regarding refunds if you still feel funding is a concern at that point.

Visa Applications

When can I apply for my Visa?

Once your conditional offer becomes an unconditional place (i.e. you meet your college and department conditions) we can create your CAS form for you to check and confirm. Once you have

submitted the CAS form to us, we will provide you with your CAS number, which you need in order to apply for your visa. This process can happen up to six months before the start of your course.

Where do I get my CAS number from and when?

DPIR will issue your CAS number once you have met your college and department conditions.

When can I arrive to start the course?

Students on a Visa can come to the UK one month before the start of your studies, if you request this in your visa application. We ask that all students arrive in time to attend Induction events in Week 0, Michaelmas Term (w/c 6 October 2024).

Questions about the organisation of your course

How is my supervisor allocated?

Your Course Director will allocate your academic supervisor where possible taking into consideration your area of interest and any preferences indicated in your application form. Please do not contact your preferred supervisor in advance.

When will I find out my academic supervisor?

Your academic supervisor will be allocated within the first few weeks of Michaelmas Term.

When will I receive information about induction?

We will send information about induction a few weeks before the start of term. You can expect to attend in-person department induction from Week 0, Michaelmas Term. Induction events cover lots of key course information to set you up for the start of term and enable you to meet your cohort and other DPIR graduate students.

Can I receive information about the course in advance?

Induction week (w/c 6 October) is a key period where we will share further information about your course. The reading list for your course will be made available during induction week, if not before.

When does term start as opposed to induction?

Induction takes place during Week 0 of Michaelmas term, starting 7th October 2024. Term starts in Week 1 Michaelmas Term, starting 14th October 2024. Please be ready to attend in-person induction events for the start of Week 0. You will also attend a separate college induction which your college will be in touch about separately.

Do I need to register for induction events?

If you have accepted your offer and met the conditions of your offer you are registered for induction automatically.

Am I required to attend induction?

All students are expected to attend induction events.

When will I receive the course handbook?

This will be shared during induction week, or before if available on Canvas (our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)).

Deferral

Can I defer my place on the course?

You can find information about deferral here: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/after-you-apply/your-offer-and-contract>.