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We hope you've had a relaxing summer break. It's that time of year again, and our **October 15** deadline is fast approaching. Read on for some reminders and key details about this year's admissions cycle, particularly how to prepare for and run our admissions tests.



Our next **Open Day** will take place [this Friday](#). Please encourage your students to attend for the chance to meet current students and staff and find out what it's like to study with us.

UCAS applications

At this time of year, many of your students will be working on their [UCAS](#) applications and writing their [personal statements](#).

If they want to apply to Oxford, then please remind them that our UCAS deadline is much earlier than other universities. We cannot accept late applications and everything, including the reference and predicted grades, needs to be completed and submitted by the deadline of **15 October**.

You can find comprehensive advice on how to submit [predicted grades](#), what we look for in the teacher's [reference](#) and how to let us know about [extenuating circumstances](#) on our website.



Please do encourage your applicants with disabilities or specific learning difficulties (SpLDs) such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or ADHD to declare these on their UCAS form. We are concerned that some students are anxious about doing this, so please reassure them that our admissions decisions are made on academic grounds alone and encourage them to [read our advice](#). We currently have over 3,500 students registered with our disability service and are committed to making sure that all our students can benefit from the great opportunities at Oxford. Importantly, telling us early will mean that we can provide appropriate arrangements during the admissions process, so for any test (see below) or interview. As you may be aware, applying for DSA (Disabled Students' Allowance) is a formal process administered by the student's funding body and can take more time than people think. In order for students to feel confident about going to university and to give them the best possible start, it is ideal if any agreed support or reasonable adjustments are in place from day one; students can start to make arrangements from the point of receiving an offer and should not wait until they have their results.

Admissions tests

Many of our courses require applicants to sit a test as part of the admissions process. We've listed all the subjects that require one on our [tests page](#). Candidates are not automatically registered for these tests, but will need to be registered either through their school or via an open centre.

If your school intends to administer the tests this year, we have included a step-by-step guide on how to prepare. You can also find a copy of the 2018 test timetable [here](#).

Important reminders:

- **Test date:** Most of our [tests](#) take place on **31 October** this year, which may fall in half-term for some schools. Please contact [CAAT](#) who administer the tests on our behalf for advice on how to manage this.
 - **LNAT:** The [LNAT](#) is administered separately, has different deadlines and is not usually organised by schools. Some candidates can apply for a bursary to cover the cost of the LNAT - you can find out more [here](#).
 - **BMAT:** All applicants for our 6-year Medicine course should be registered for the [October BMAT](#).
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Register to be a test centre

Deadline: 30 September 2018

If you aren't already, your school may be intending to register as a test centre to enable students to sit their admissions test with you. Although [registering is simple](#), it can take a while, so it's best to start the process as soon as you can.



Arrange special requirements

Deadline: 30 September/15 October

[Access arrangements](#) are available to candidates who have a disability or special requirement, and are entitled to support for other examinations. [CAAT](#) can also provide schools with modified papers from braille to large print.



Register candidates

Deadline: 15 October 2018

You can register your students via CAAT's online portal [Entries Extranet](#). This will generate a candidate number for each student and test. Candidates who are required to sit more than one test (i.e. the HAT and MLAT for the BA in History and Modern



Prepare your students

Test date: 31 October 2018

Encourage your students to have a go at some [past or sample papers](#), ideally under timed conditions. This will help them to plan their time appropriately, and boost their confidence by giving them a clearer idea of what to expect. We also have a [recorded webinar](#)

Languages) must be registered for each test separately and will be given two candidate numbers.

containing further helpful tips and guidance.

Written work

Some of our courses require applicants to send in a sample of their written work by **10 November 2018** as part of the application process. Your students can find out [here](#) whether they are required to send some.

Written work is usually marked school work and requires a [cover sheet](#) signed by a teacher. The college considering the student's application will get in touch after they have submitted their UCAS application to let them know how they would like to receive it, whether in the post or by email.



You can download a printable copy of our admissions timeline [here](#).

This newsletter is distributed five times throughout the academic year: in September, October, January, February and April.

Please feel free to circulate this newsletter to any colleagues who might be interested or they can sign up via our [online form](#). If you have any feedback or suggestions for future content, we'd love to hear from you, just send an email to study@ox.ac.uk.



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