



University of Birmingham  
University of Exeter  
Goldsmiths, University of London  
King's College London  
University of Leeds  
University of Leicester  
University of Liverpool  
University of Manchester  
Newcastle University  
University of Sheffield  
University of Sussex  
University College London  
University of Warwick  
University of York

**REALISING  
OPPORTUNITIES**  
Working Together | Supporting Talent

# RECOGNITION GUIDE 2018 ENTRY

[www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk](http://www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk)



# Realising Opportunities

We hope you enjoy taking part in Realising Opportunities (RO) and are able to make the most of the opportunities it provides for you to develop skills that will be beneficial during your current studies and at university.

For successfully completing the RO Programme you will also benefit by receiving additional consideration from the RO universities when you apply to them. This guide explains how each RO university will consider your application.

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# Recognition From RO Universities

RO universities recognise your successful completion of the RO Programme through their admissions processes.

For successfully completing the RO Programme, all RO universities will give your application additional consideration when you apply to them through UCAS. They may also give an alternative offer that may be lower than the standard offer they would normally give.

However, it is important to note that each university offers different recognition so you should carefully read each of the university statements on the following pages so you can understand what this means for you.

“

**I thought having lower grade boundaries would give me the confidence to put some of the top universities down as my university choices.**

Realising Opportunities Student



# University of Birmingham

## Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to the University of Birmingham through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria which can include subject-specific requirements such as interview performance, aptitude tests and GCSE grades.

## Alternative offers

If you are given an offer then you will receive a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a typical offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades or
- Up to 2 International Baccalaureate points in Higher Level subjects or
- 1 full BTEC National Diploma grade or
- A reduced number of distinctions required for an Access to HE course.

## Medicine

For Medicine the alternative offer will be 3 A level grades lower than the standard requirement (i.e. ABB), plus successful completion of the RO Programme. Students will also be required to sit the UKCAT aptitude test.

## Dentistry

For Dentistry the alternative offer will be 2 A level grades lower than the standard requirement (i.e. ABB), plus successful completion of the RO Programme. Students will also be required to sit the UKCAT aptitude test.

## Other recognition

For Medicine and Dentistry applicants the selection process also includes special consideration over GCSE achievement.

Medicine: GCSEs: a minimum of 7 GCSEs with at least 3 at grade A, including 2 As from Maths, English or Science, with a minimum of a grade B in these subjects.

Dentistry: GCSEs: minimum grades of AABB (Chemistry, Biology, English Language and Maths in any order).

## Course exemptions

Alternative RO offers will be made for all degree courses at the University of Birmingham where an offer is made. If you are considering applying for a Foundation Degree please contact Lucy Hall at the University of Birmingham (l.hall@bham.ac.uk).

## Other information

RO applicants for Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing and Physiotherapy will be invited to attend an interview workshop and an induction day with Access to Birmingham students.

## For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.birmingham.ac.uk](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk). Remember that it is important that you check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.



# University of Exeter

## Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to the University of Exeter through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria.

## Alternative offers

If you receive an offer from the University of Exeter it will be an RO dual offer which will consist of the following:

- A standard offer for the course to which you are applying.
- An RO alternative offer of up to 2 A level grades or equivalent below the standard entry offer, valid only upon successful completion of the RO Programme.

Offers will be made subject to applicants fulfilling any subject specific entry requirements and completing any required admissions tests or interviews.

## Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all degree courses at the University of Exeter where an offer is made.

## For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.exeter.ac.uk](http://www.exeter.ac.uk) or email Melissa Ruddock at [realisingopportunities@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:realisingopportunities@exeter.ac.uk). Remember that it is important that you check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.



## Goldsmiths, University of London

### Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to Goldsmiths, University of London through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria.

### Alternative offers

If you are given an offer then you will receive a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a typical offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades below the standard offer or equivalent.

### Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all degree courses at Goldsmiths, University of London where an offer is made.

### Other information

For courses that require an additional selection process, such as an interview or submission of a portfolio, RO applicants will still be required to take part in this before any offer is made. Many of Goldsmiths' programmes will also ask for supplementary evidence of your readiness to study at Goldsmiths. This may include portfolios of art or design based work, or examples of your written work or projects. For many practice based subjects including art, media, design, music and drama you may also be expected to attend an interview and talk about your work. You will need to successfully complete this process in order to be made an offer. Should you need to attend an interview, Goldsmiths will support you by contributing towards the cost of travel to our campus.

Please contact Jonathan Bridges for further information ([j.bridges@gold.ac.uk](mailto:j.bridges@gold.ac.uk)).

### For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.gold.ac.uk/ug](http://www.gold.ac.uk/ug). Remember that it is important for you to check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.



## King's College London

### Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to King's College London through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria.

### Alternative offers

If you are given an offer then you will receive a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a typical offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades (or equivalent) below the standard offer.

### Course exemptions

Alternative RO offers will not be made for Medicine (A100) or Dentistry (A205)\*.

### Other information

Extended Medical Degree Programme - EMDP (A101) admits up to 50 students a year from eligible non-selective state schools in Greater London, but will offer up to 5 of these places each year to RO candidates from any RO school or college in the UK, who meet the selection criteria and are successful at interview.

Extended Support Dentistry Programme - ESDP (A206)\* admits up to 10 students a year from eligible non-selective state schools in Greater London, but will offer up to 2 of these places each year to RO candidates from any RO school or college in the UK, who meet the selection criteria and are successful at interview.

\* The College reserves the right to move students between A205 and A206 to ensure that applications are considered in the most appropriate context. There is therefore no advantage gained by students applying to both courses in either of these pairings.

### For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.kcl.ac.uk](http://www.kcl.ac.uk). Remember that it is important for you to check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.



# University of Leeds

## Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to the University of Leeds through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria.

## Alternative offers

If you are given an offer then you will receive a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a standard offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades or equivalent below the standard offer.

## Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all degree courses at the University of Leeds where an offer is made.

## Other Information

RO students who study at the University of Leeds are eligible for additional on-course support through The Plus Programme. This support includes skills development, academic workshops and social activity.

## For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.leeds.ac.uk). Remember that it is important that you check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.





## University of Leicester

### Additional consideration

If you successfully complete the RO Programme your application will receive additional consideration when you apply to the University of Leicester through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria such as GCSE requirements, subject-specific requirements or a successful interview where applicable.

### Alternative offers

If you receive an offer from the University of Leicester it will be a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive our standard offer for the course you are applying to as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades or equivalent below our standard offer or
- Up to 4 International Baccalaureate points below our standard offer (subject to a 28 point minimum) or
- 1 full BTEC National Diploma grade below our standard offer.

### Other recognition

If you are applying for our A100 Medicine course and are predicted AAB or above (with an A in chemistry), you will be given additional academic credit by selectors at the point of shortlisting for interview. If successful at the interview stage you will be made a dual offer which will recognise your successful completion of RO.

For a full overview of our Medicine course admissions criteria and selection procedure, please visit our website at [www2.le.ac.uk/departments/medicine](http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/medicine)

### Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all degree courses at the University of Leicester where an offer is made.

### For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and our typical entry requirements please visit [www.le.ac.uk/study](http://www.le.ac.uk/study). Remember that it is important that you check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.



# University of Liverpool

## Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply through UCAS to the University of Liverpool. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria (for example, interview performance, subject-specific requirements and GCSE grades).

## Alternative offers

If you are given an offer then you will receive an alternative offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a typical offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades.
- For students taking the International Baccalaureate (IB) – up to 2 IB points. Students must also successfully pass the IB Diploma as a whole.
- For students taking a BTEC Extended Diploma – up to 1 grade, for example, where the standard offer is DDD the student must achieve DDM overall in the BTEC Extended Diploma with 100 out of 180 credits at Distinction.

## Other recognition

RO students applying to Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science at the University of Liverpool may not be required to meet the strict GCSE entry requirements outlined in the University's guidelines. Applicants should check the GCSE requirements with the relevant department.

## Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all degree courses at the University of Liverpool.

## For further information

For more information on the range of courses available, typical entry requirements and funding opportunities, please visit [www.liverpool.ac.uk](http://www.liverpool.ac.uk). Remember that it is important that you check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.



# University of Manchester

## Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to The University of Manchester through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria such as GCSE requirements, predicted grades, subject-specific requirements and where required, work experience and criteria assessed through admissions tests and interviews.

## Alternative offers

If you receive an offer from The University of Manchester it will be an RO dual offer which will consist of the following:

- a standard offer for the course to which you are applying
- an RO alternative offer of up to 2 A level grades or equivalent below the standard entry offer, valid only upon successful completion of the RO Programme.

## Other information

You may be required to meet the subject-specific requirements. How the RO alternative offer is applied is at the discretion of the admissions selectors.

BTEC National Diploma and IB applicants are advised to contact the RO Team at Manchester directly as the recognition may vary for specific programmes at the University.

## Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all degree courses at The University of Manchester where an offer is made.

## For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/courses](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/courses). Remember that it is important that you check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.



# Newcastle University

## Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to Newcastle University through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria.

## Alternative offers

If you are given an offer then you will receive a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a typical offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades (or equivalent) below the standard offer for all courses at Newcastle University.

## Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all degree programmes at Newcastle University where an offer is made, including all courses at Newcastle University London.

## Other information

For courses that require an additional selection process, such as an interview or submission of a portfolio, RO applicants will still be required to take part in this before any offer is made.

## For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.ncl.ac.uk](http://www.ncl.ac.uk). Remember that it is important for you to check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.



# University of Sheffield

## Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to the University of Sheffield through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria.

## Alternative offers

If you are given an offer then you will receive a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a typical offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades below the standard offer or
- Up to 3 International Baccalaureate points (subject to a 29 point minimum) below the standard offer or
- 1 full BTEC National Diploma grade below the standard offer.

## Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all courses at the University of Sheffield, where an offer is made.

## Other Information

For courses that require an additional selection process, such as an interview or submission of a portfolio, RO applicants will still be required to take part in this before any offer is made.

## For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.sheffield.ac.uk](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk). Remember that it is important that you check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.

For further information about the University of Sheffield's contribution to the Realising Opportunities Programme, please contact [ROSheffield@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:ROSheffield@sheffield.ac.uk).



# University of Sussex

## Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to the University of Sussex through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria.

## Alternative offers

If you receive an offer from the University of Sussex, it will be a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a typical offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades lower than the standard A level offer (subject to successful completion of the RO Programme).

## Course exemptions

Alternative RO offers will not be made for the degree in Medicine at the Brighton and Sussex Medical School.

Applications for courses with a Research Placement element will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.sussex.ac.uk](http://www.sussex.ac.uk). Remember that it is important that you check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.



## University College London (UCL)

### Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to UCL through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other selection criteria.

### Alternative offers

If you are given an offer then you will receive a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a typical offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades below the standard offer

### Course exemptions

Alternative offers will not be made for:

- Medicine MBBS
- BA Education Studies

For the following programmes, only a one-grade reduction will be offered:

- BSc Project Management for Construction
- BSc Urban Planning, Design and Management
- BSc Urban Studies
- BA Hebrew and Jewish Studies
- BA Scandinavian Studies
- BA Icelandic
- BA Viking and Old Norse Studies
- BA Dutch
- BA Jewish History
- BA History (Central and East European) and Jewish Studies
- BA Fine Art
- BA Jewish Studies

### Other information

Some programmes ask for specific grade requirements for A level subjects. These must be met at the level required in our standard offer.

For programmes that require an additional selection process, such as an interview or submission of a portfolio, RO applicants will still be required to take part in this before any offer is made.

### For further information

For more information on the range of degree programmes available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.ucl.ac.uk/study](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/study). Remember that it is important for you to check the individual requirements for the programme you are interested in and what this means for you.



## University of Warwick

### Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to the University of Warwick through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria.

### Alternative offers

If your application is favourably considered then you will receive an alternative offer recognising your successful completion of RO. This means that, in addition to the standard offer (which will be in accordance with our published entry criteria) you will also receive an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A Level grades (or equivalent for other qualifications) lower than the standard offer for entry to that programme.

### Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all degree courses at the University of Warwick where an offer is made.

### Other information

Whilst it is important that you meet the admissions criteria for your chosen course (these are available via the University's prospectus or online), Warwick pays particular attention to an applicant's personal statement in the admissions process. It is therefore advisable that your statement draws upon your experience on the RO Programme, what you have learnt on the programme and how this applies to your chosen course.

### For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.warwick.ac.uk/study](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/study). Remember that it is important for you to check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.





# University of York

## Additional consideration

Your application as an RO student will receive additional consideration when you apply to the University of York through UCAS. This is dependent on you meeting all other admissions criteria.

## Alternative offers

If you are given an offer then you will receive a dual offer recognising your successful completion of RO. You will receive a typical offer as well as an alternative RO offer of:

- Up to 2 A level grades below the standard offer (or equivalent)

## Other information

For courses that require an additional selection process, such as an interview or submission of a portfolio, RO applicants will still be required to take part in this before any offer is made.

## Course exemptions

There are no course exemptions. Alternative RO offers will be made for all courses at the University of York where an offer is made.

## For further information

For more information on the range of courses available and typical entry requirements please visit [www.york.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/](http://www.york.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/). Remember that it is important for you to check the individual requirements for the course you are interested in and what this means for you.

# Making Sure You Get The Recognition

## *Important information - Your UCAS application*

In order to receive recognition for successful completion of the Programme from RO universities you should apply through UCAS using the online Apply system in the normal way. The online Apply system allows you to identify yourself as an RO student. Guidance on how to identify yourself as an RO student on your UCAS application form will be emailed to you in advance of the 2018 entry cycle opening. Please look out for this communication and if you have any questions when you come to submit your application then please contact [info@realisingopportunities.ac.uk](mailto:info@realisingopportunities.ac.uk)

RO offers will be subject to students having the correct fee status at the time of application to University.

## *Passing the RO Programme*

If you receive an alternative offer from an RO university it will be dependent on your successful completion of the RO Programme. In order to pass the RO Programme you must:

- Attend at least 2 events or activities at RO universities (this can include the Local Launch and National Student Conference).
- Work with your ementor and pass the skills4uni online test.
- Pass the RO Academic Assignment OR the EPQ.

The RO Central Team will communicate your successful completion of the RO Programme to the RO universities. Make sure you check the conditions of any offers you receive carefully. If you have any questions about passing the RO Programme please contact [info@realisingopportunities.ac.uk](mailto:info@realisingopportunities.ac.uk)

## *Taking A Gap Year*

As an RO student you are entitled to extra consideration when you apply through UCAS. This extra consideration is applicable for up to one year after completing your studies. Therefore, if you wish to take a gap year and apply for 2019 entry, your application will still be given extra consideration by the RO universities. If you have any queries about this then please contact [info@realisingopportunities.ac.uk](mailto:info@realisingopportunities.ac.uk)

# Key Contacts

The Realising Opportunities Central Team, based at Newcastle University, lead the Programme on behalf of the RO universities.

## *Our contact details are:*

The Realising Opportunities Central Team,  
c/o Marketing and Student Recruitment,  
Newcastle University,  
King's Gate,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
NE1 7RU

0191 208 8923  
info@realisingopportunities.ac.uk  
www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk

## *Contact List*

Each of the RO Universities has a key contact for RO and you may wish to get in touch with them if you have a question about recognition or admissions through UCAS.

University	Contact Name	Phone Number	Email Address
University of Birmingham	Lucy Hall	0121 414 8729	l.hall@bham.ac.uk
University of Exeter	Melissa Ruddock Jenny Rusk	01392 726 181	realisingopportunities@exeter.ac.uk
Goldsmiths, University of London	Jonathan Bridges	020 7717 2596	j.bridges@gold.ac.uk
King's College London	Anne-Marie Henderson	020 7848 3948	anne-marie.henderson@kcl.ac.uk
University of Leeds	Ashleigh Hope	0113 343 7501	rops@leeds.ac.uk
University of Leicester	Andy Johnson	0116 223 1872	rop@le.ac.uk
University of Liverpool	Michael Mohebbi	0151 794 5122	m.mohebbi@liverpool.ac.uk
University of Manchester	Francesca Guratsky	0161 275 8572	realisingopportunities@manchester.ac.uk
Newcastle University	Hilary Wilkinson	0191 208 6094	realising.opportunities@ncl.ac.uk
University of Sheffield	Denise Brooks	0114 222 1027	rosheffield@sheffield.ac.uk
University of Sussex	Zoe Dawson	01273 877 642	z.dawson@sussex.ac.uk
University College London	Khashim Hussain	020 3108 7763	srs.realisingopportunities@ucl.ac.uk
University of Warwick	Marie Diebolt	024 7615 1428	rowarwick@warwick.ac.uk
University of York	Angela Purdham	01904 324 635	realising-opportunities@york.ac.uk



## **REALISING OPPORTUNITIES**

Working Together | Supporting Talent

University of Birmingham  
University of Exeter  
Goldsmiths, University of London  
King's College London  
University of Leeds  
University of Leicester  
University of Liverpool  
University of Manchester  
Newcastle University  
University of Sheffield  
University of Sussex  
University College London  
University of Warwick  
University of York


## **Contact**

The RO Central Team co-ordinates the Programme on behalf of the RO Partner universities.

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[www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk](http://www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk)

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