

## Guidance Bulletin 72, 9th September 2019

**Year 13: Some statistics for Nations** Over the past ten years 15 places (61 applicants) have been gained at the Ivy League, a success rate of 24.5 per cent. The typical acceptance rate for the Ivy League varies between 6 and 15 per cent (<https://www.cappex.com/articles/match-fit/the-truth-about-the-ivy-league>). During the same period 19 students (95 applicants) have gained places at the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge, a success rate of 20 per cent. By way of comparison, the success rate for applicants from Switzerland to the University of Cambridge in 2018 was 10 per cent ([https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/sites/www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/files/publications/ug\\_admissions\\_statistics\\_2018\\_cycle.pdf](https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/sites/www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/files/publications/ug_admissions_statistics_2018_cycle.pdf)). Of the 371 applicants to UK universities in the Russell Group, 320 were offered a place, a success rate of 86 per cent. The acceptance rate from UK independent schools to the Russell Group is 71 per cent (<https://www.suttontrust.com/research-paper/access-to-advantage-university-admissions/>).

**Year 13: Practice interviews** Practice is given at Nations to students who are invited to interview at Oxford and Cambridge. For those who wish to have further practice, Mr and Mrs Macdonald are offering one free interview lasting forty-five minutes with two interviewers at their house at 120 Route de Villars-Dame, Versonnex 01210. Science interviews will be held on 23-Nov-19 and Humanities interviews on 24-Nov-19. Completing the form at <https://goo.gl/forms/hlgmgcWGutIBnLtE2> will furnish a link to the interview schedule that will be published one week in advance of the practice weekend. Anyone who is not called to interview can inform [macdonald.ain@gmail.com](mailto:macdonald.ain@gmail.com) of their change in circumstances.

**Year 13: Dutch universities** The initial application form for applying to Dutch universities can be found at <https://student.sl-cloud.nl/>. Up to four institutions can be listed. Depending on the entry requirements of these institutions, a separate application form on the website of each institution – for example <https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/education/study-programmes/bachelor/liberal-arts--sciences-global-challenges/admission-and-application/how-to-apply> – may need to be completed. Further details will be provided automatically after the initial application on the Studielink website. The degree course under consideration does not have to be the same at each institution. The deadlines vary between institution: Leiden University College has an early application date of 01-Dec-19 (for a decision by 31-Mar-20) and a regular application date of 01-Apr-20 (for a decision by 30-Jun-20); University College Roosevelt has an early application date of 01-Apr-20 (for students who require a residence permit) and a regular application date of 01-Jul-20; and University College Utrecht has an early application date of 01-Apr-20 (for non-EU citizens) and a regular application date of 01-May-20 (for EU citizens). The websites of the chosen universities should be consulted to ascertain the relevant application dates. In general, a University College will offer accommodation and English is demanded on campus.

**Year 13: US Applications** While it is not mandatory to complete a personal essay that is described on a university website as ‘optional’, it is definitely the most important part of the interaction with the admissions office. An ‘optional’ personal essay should be an easy, genuine and fun to write. If it proves otherwise, it is recommended that the application to that particular institution be abandoned. US institutions devote countless hours, human capital and funding into travelling the world to meet prospective students. Many institutions travel in groups, so check on the door of Room 424 to see if an institution of interest is visiting Nations. It seems natural to want to be remembered and make a personal connection with the admission representative. Conversely, admissions representatives like to meet students. But at a larger events in the autumn such as the CIS International University Fair (see Guidance Bulletin 68), admissions representatives meet hundreds of students. These brief interactions are therefore impossible to remember. If you have questions for an admissions representative, do wait in the queue at the CIS International University Fair. Otherwise, head home after the event and study for your next IB test. See <http://tuadmissionjeff.blogspot.com/2019/07/apps-101-demonstrated-interest.html>.

**Year 13: Social Innovation** The Watson Institute at Boulder in Colorado offers a Bachelor of Science in Social Entrepreneurship in association with Lynn University in Florida (see Guidance Bulletin 41 and 60). This degree designed for students to major in their mission, gain experience as interns with leading organisations in their field and develop the skills necessary to create careers. Through interactive

courses, intensive mentorship and a diverse community of peers, students and alumni lead lives that can have a real impact. For further details go to <https://watson.is>.

**Years 12 and 13: University visits** In addition to the university visits detailed in Guidance Bulletin 71, the following further visits have been confirmed. Northumbria University (GB), University of Illinois at Chicago (IL-USA), EU Business School (E, D and CH), ESCP Business School (F, GB, D and I), University of Padua (I), KEDGE Business School (F), Business School Lausanne (CH) and IFM University Geneva (CH) at 09:40 on 24-Sept-19 ■ University of St Andrews (GB) at 10:30 on 01-Oct-19 ■ Brandeis University (MA-USA), University of Rochester (NY-USA) and Tufts University (MA-USA) at 11:00 on 08-Oct-19 ■ Case Western Reserve University (OH-USA) at 11:00 on 09-Oct-19 ■ California Lutheran University (CA-USA), University of Vermont (VT-USA), Saint Michael's College (VT-USA) and University of Denver (CO-USA) at 11:00 on 13-Nov-19. All university visits take place in Room 424 unless otherwise indicated. Parents are welcome to attend these sessions, run either by admissions staff or, if marked with an asterisk, by an undergraduate student. They are announced in homerooms, displayed on the television screens in the school and advertised on the door of Room 424.

**Years 12 and 13: Romanian universities** Many undergraduate degrees at Romanian universities are taught in English. For more details go to <https://www.studyinromania.gov.ro/fp/index.php?>. Alexandru Ioan Cuza University (Iași) <http://www.uaic.ro/en/studies/degrees-on-offer-in-english-and-french/> American Studies, Business Administration, Computer Science, Economics, English Language and Literature, Mathematics ■ First December University (Alba Iulia) <http://en.uab.ro/page/study-programmes-in-english/> Business Administration, Computer Science, History ■ Babeş-Bolyai University (Cluj-Napoca) [https://www.ubbcluj.ro/en/programe\\_academice/licenta/](https://www.ubbcluj.ro/en/programe_academice/licenta/) Accounting, American Studies, Business Administration, Computer Science, Finance, International Relations, Mathematics, Political Sciences ■ University of Bucharest <https://en.unibuc.ro/academic-programmes/study-programmes/bachelors-programmes/> Business Administration, International Relations, Pedagogy, Physics, Political Science ■ Bucharest University of Economic Studies [https://www.ase.ro/index\\_en.asp?page=bachelor\\_foreign\\_languages](https://www.ase.ro/index_en.asp?page=bachelor_foreign_languages) Accounting, Business Administration, Economic Informatics, Finance, Management, Marketing ■ Carol Davila University (Bucharest) <https://umfcd.ro/en/> Dentistry, Medicine, Pharmacy ■ Technical University of Cluj-Napoca <https://ac.utcluj.ro/index.en.html> Mechatronics, Systems Engineering ■ Gheorghe Asachi Technical University (Iași) <https://www.tuiasi.ro/?lang=en> Civil Engineering, Industrial Engineering ■ Ion Ionescu de la Brad University (Iași) <http://www.uaiasi.ro/index.php?lang=en> Veterinary Medicine ■ Polytechnic University of Timișoara Civil Engineering, Computing, Electronic Engineering ■ Transilvania University (Brașov) <https://www.unitbv.ro/en/prospective-students/academic-programmes/academic-programmes-in-foreign-languages.html> American Studies, Automotive Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Industrial Design, Mechanical Engineering, Product Design Engineering, Wood Products Design ■ Vasile Goldis Western University (Arad) <https://www.uvvg.ro/site/en/> Computer Science, Economics, Medicine ■ West University of Timișoara <http://ri.uvt.ro/study-programmes-in-foreign-languages/?lang=en> Computer Science, Finance and Banking.

**Year 12: EPFL Information Day** EPFL is offering talks about its bachelor degrees, campus tours, interdisciplinary discussions, demonstrations by and interactions with current students, laboratory visits and practical workshops on 20 and 21-Nov-19 from 09:30 to 17:15. For more details and to register (deadline 10-Nov-19) go to [www.go.epfl.ch/journees-info](http://www.go.epfl.ch/journees-info).

**Years 11 and 12: PSAT** This test can be sat on 19-Oct-19 at La Grande Boissière. Details about how to register will be provided in the next Guidance Bulletin. For students holding US citizenship, PSAT provides access to competition in the National Merit Award: <https://www.nationalmerit.org>.

**Year 11: Maths** For a US perspective on which course to take in Years 12 and 13, look at the guidelines from the University of Pennsylvania <http://www.page217.org/ib-curricular-changes/>.

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