R72: unconditional offers



Royal Holloway University of London's perspective on unconditional offers:

The Royal Holloway scheme targets our most academically gifted applicants.

To be considered, applicants must demonstrate a record of outstanding academic ability, demonstrated by having achieved outstanding GCSE grades. Eligible applicants receive a conditional offer, which becomes unconditional once firmly accepted.

Our approach is evidence-based and is reviewed annually in the light of applicant performance. Initially, this resulted (from 2016 entry) in a scheme based on A level predictions and GCSE performance. This was refined (for 2018 entry) to focus solely on the best 8 GCSEs, reflecting analysis of offer to acceptance conversion, percentage of firm accepters meeting published entry grades, and distribution of A level results by GCSE. For 2019 entry, we also considered first year average results. The most recent analysis showed a higher proportion of ABB achievement at A level amongst those with an A grade average across their best 8 GCSEs. It also showed that students admitted via the 2016 and 2017 entry schemes performed better in year one than their peers.

Definitions of offer types:

Unconditional offer

This is an offer made by a provider where they are satisfied that an individual has demonstrated sufficient attainment and potential to succeed on their chosen programme. Based on the offer status at the 30 June application deadline.

Conditional unconditional offer

An offer made by a provider which was originally conditional, but becomes unconditional if the applicant selects that offer as their firm (first) choice. By definition, conditional unconditional offers that are selected as a firm choice by the applicant become unconditional and are also included in the unconditional offers group (see above).

Offer with an unconditional component

All offers showing as having an element of unconditional offer-making, that is, unconditional offers plus conditional unconditional offers that have not been selected as firm (and hence remain conditional unconditional).

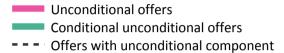
All offers

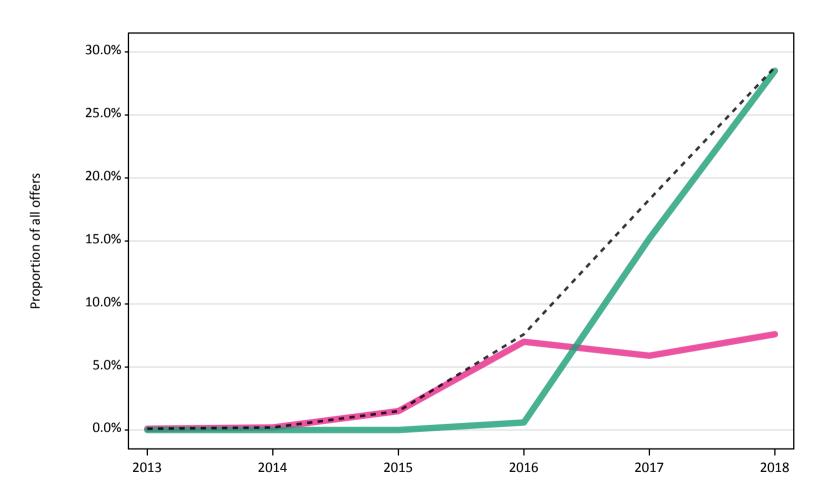
All offers made by the provider, subject to the coverage of this report. This includes conditional as well as unconditional offers to 18-year-old main scheme applicants domiciled in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Technical note:

The coverage of this report is limited to offers made by 30 June, to 18-year-old main scheme applicants domiciled in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales. This is because these applicants are least likely to apply already having achieved a full set of qualifications typically required for undergraduate higher education.

A.1 Proportion of all offers that are unconditional, by cycle year





A.2 Unconditional offers by cycle year

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Unconditional offers	5	15	115	485	385	535
Conditional unconditional offers	0	0	0	45	1,000	2,015
Offers with unconditional component	5	15	115	525	1,205	2,035
All offers (conditional and unconditional)	5,805	6,415	7,470	6,935	6,585	7,070

A.3 Proportion of all offers that are unconditional, by cycle year

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Unconditional offers	0.1%	0.2%	1.5%	7.0%	5.9%	7.6%
Conditional unconditional offers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	15.2%	28.5%
Offers with unconditional component	0.1%	0.2%	1.5%	7.6%	18.3%	28.8%

Note: Percentage values are not printed in the above table if the total rounded number of offers for that year is below 100.