

UK University Student Checklist

Before You Arrive

Administrative Tasks

- Complete university registration and enrollment
- Pay tuition fees or confirm Student Finance England/Wales/Scotland/NI loan
- Set up student bank account (with interest-free overdraft)
- Register with a local GP (health center)
- Purchase contents insurance
- Apply for student discount cards (TOTUM, UNiDAYS, etc.)
- Register for council tax exemption
- Organize travel arrangements to university
- Apply for student Oyster card (if in London)
- Set up International Student Identity Card (if applicable)

Technology

- Laptop or computer
- Laptop charger and extension lead with UK plugs
- Universal plug adapters (for international students)
- Wireless mouse and keyboard (optional)
- Headphones (noise-cancelling recommended)
- External hard drive for backups
- USB memory sticks
- HDMI cable
- Smartphone and charger
- Portable power bank
- Ethernet cable (check if needed in accommodation)

Study Supplies

- Notebooks or notepads
- Pens, pencils, highlighters
- Academic planner/diary
- Folders and ring binders
- Sticky notes and page markers
- Stapler, hole punch, paper clips
- Calculator (check course requirements)
- Desk lamp
- Backpack or laptop bag

- Reusable water bottle

Bedroom Essentials

- Bedding (sheets, duvet, pillows, duvet covers, pillowcases)
- Mattress protector
- Alarm clock
- Laundry basket
- Clothes hangers
- Under-bed storage boxes
- Ear plugs and eye mask
- Desk organizers
- Bedside lamp
- Mirror
- Hot water bottle
- Electric fan (for warmer months)

Bathroom Essentials

- Bath towels (at least 2)
- Hand towels
- Toiletry bag
- Shower caddy (for shared bathrooms)
- Toilet paper
- Shower gel, shampoo, conditioner
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss
- Soap and hand sanitizer
- First aid kit
- Washing supplies (detergent, fabric softener)
- Flip-flops/shower shoes (for shared facilities)
- Paracetamol and cold medicine

Kitchen Items

- Plates, bowls, mugs
- Cutlery set
- Sharp knife, chopping board
- Pots and pans
- Cooking utensils
- Food storage containers
- Tea towels
- Can opener, bottle opener
- Reusable shopping bags

- Basic cleaning supplies
- Electric kettle
- Tupperware
- Baking tray

After Arrival

First Week Tasks

- Attend university freshers' week/welcome week
- Register with university courses and collect timetable
- Tour the campus and locate key buildings
- Join student societies and clubs
- Locate nearest supermarkets (Tesco, Sainsbury's, Aldi, etc.)
- Learn about campus security and emergency procedures
- Set up internet connection in accommodation
- Meet flatmates and neighbors
- Locate laundry facilities
- Find study spaces (libraries, quiet areas)
- Register for uni gym/sports facilities (if interested)
- Attend course induction meetings

Academic Preparation

- Purchase or borrow required textbooks
- Access online learning platforms (Canvas, Blackboard, Moodle)
- Set up university email and IT accounts
- Download necessary software (often available through university)
- Check assignment deadlines and exam dates
- Create study schedule
- Locate office hours for lecturers and personal tutors
- Join course-specific study groups
- Find out about library borrowing regulations
- Understand the academic referencing style required (Harvard, APA, etc.)

Monthly Maintenance

Budgeting Checklist

- Track monthly expenses
- Plan meals and grocery shopping
- Set aside money for bills and rent
- Budget for course materials and books
- Allocate funds for social activities

- Review student discount opportunities
- Check for scholarship and funding opportunities
- Set up direct debits for regular bills
- Plan for travel expenses (bus/train cards)
- Use cashback and student discount apps

Wellbeing Checklist

- Schedule regular exercise
- Plan balanced meals
- Establish sleep routine
- Connect with friends and family
- Explore university support services
- Join social activities and clubs
- Find quiet time for yourself
- Know how to contact university mental health services
- Register with university wellbeing services
- Learn about Nightline services at your university

End of Term

End of Term Tasks

- Back up all academic work
- Return library books
- Clean accommodation
- Arrange transportation home
- Complete any end-of-term surveys
- Schedule accommodation inspection
- Plan for next term
- Update CV with new skills and experiences
- Check summer storage options (for international students)
- Return keys if leaving halls of residence

UK-Specific Resources

Important Contacts

- Student Finance England/Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland
- University Student Services
- University Accommodation Office
- International Student Support
- University Careers Service

- Students' Union Advice Centre

Useful Apps

- Cite This For Me (for referencing)
- Student Beans (for discounts)
- Too Good To Go (for reduced price food)
- UniDays (for student discounts)
- Splitwise (for shared bills)
- National Rail/Trainline (for train tickets)
- City Mapper (for public transport in cities)

Important Documents

- Student ID/University Card
- Passport/ID
- National Insurance Number (if working)
- Student Finance documents
- Accommodation contract
- Bank details
- Insurance documents
- NHS number and medical information
- BRP card (for international students)