



SOLENT
UNIVERSITY
SOUTHAMPTON



**A guide for parents,
carers and supporters**

www.solent.ac.uk

Why Solent?

Everything we do at Solent is focused on our students – their learning, their lives, their careers.

We offer all the skills, knowledge and practical experience they need – all the things employers are looking for. And we're there to support them every step of the way.



 **£123m invested in our campus estate and facilities in the last 5 years**

Expert tuition

Our course teams are made up of highly experienced industry professionals who bring their knowledge and experience into their teaching. This gives students the opportunity to discover, explore and expand their knowledge in their chosen field by applying their learning to real-world scenarios.

Industry experience

All our courses are designed with our students future in mind, and include practical workplace experience, placement opportunities or real-world briefs, helping them to become exactly what employers are looking for, highly skilled, highly motivated graduates who are ready to jump straight in.



Contextual offers

We consider every application very carefully, and review applicants' unique personal circumstances – adjusting our entry requirements through contextual offers – to take account of the challenges they may have faced during their studies. Find out more at www.solent.ac.uk/contextual



The latest tools

TV studios, 3D-printing labs, a professional newsroom, sport science labs, fashion studios and design spaces, a UK-leading Dolby Atmos sound studio and a law moot room – whatever the course, students can sharpen their skills in outstanding facilities.

Lasting support

Life at university can sometimes come as a bit of a shock. That's why we do everything we can to help our students settle in gently, from accommodation and health to finance, and offer a range of support services throughout (and after) their time with us. Whatever they need, whatever might be troubling them, we're here to help.

A great student experience

There's more to university than learning – from discovering new hobbies to making friends for life, it's a chance for students to grow and explore. Solent offers a huge range of societies and sports teams – enough for anyone to discover their new favourite thing – while Southampton is a diverse and lively city, packed with things to do.

Industry-focused degrees

Our aim is to deliver innovative, inclusive and intellectually stimulating teaching in order to develop self-confident and highly employable graduates.

Employers expect more from modern graduates than ever. It's not enough to know your subject – to kickstart a good career, young people need connections, experience and opportunities.

Those things can be hard to get. But at Solent we've made it our job to ensure that students have every chance – that they get the hands-on skills, professional connections and workplace confidence they'll need to succeed.

Because employability sits at the heart of everything we do, our courses – created in collaboration with industry employers and regularly updated to include the latest developments – ensure that our students have the relevant skills and knowledge to excel in the interview room and the workplace.

But it's our teaching staff who make Solent really special – blending passion and first-hand experience to bring the industry to life, and using their professional connections to open up new paths and opportunities for our students.



How our students learn

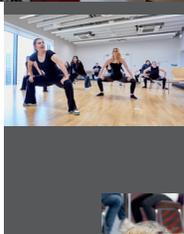
Our teaching is designed to get our students thinking – and to spark a lifelong passion for learning, even after they graduate. We're always adapting and updating to make sure they're getting the very best learning experience, and developing the skills they'll need for future success.

Collaborative learning

The keystone of our approach, collaborative learning is both active and interactive, providing opportunities for our students to put their learning into practice and share knowledge with their peers.

Directed learning

Directed learning takes place primarily in Solent Online Learning (SOL), our virtual learning environment. Focused on underpinning concepts and theories, it is active, interactive and on-demand, leading students on a learning journey that shows how everything fits together.



Guided learning

Guided learning builds students' real-world employability and effectiveness. It develops their academic and career skills, provides inspiring optional material and qualifications, offers guest lectures and industry expert workshops, and a wide range of other development activities to guarantee their personal and professional growth.



Money and support

Undergraduate students have two main types of expenses – tuition fees and living costs. We have a dedicated team who is always on hand to offer advice and guidance on everything from student loan to the grants, bursaries and scholarships Solent offers to those who need some extra help.

Tuition fees

UK students don't need to pay tuition fees up front – instead they can apply for a tuition fee loan from government student finance. For students from England, this loan doesn't depend on their household income and is paid direct to the University on their behalf. They only need to start paying it back once they've left university and are earning more than £25,000.

Living costs

Full-time students from England can also apply for a maintenance loan to help with their living costs while they're studying. This is paid into their bank account in three installments at the beginning of each term.

The amount available depends on:

1. Where the student lives while studying.
2. Whether the beneficiary is a dependent or independent student.
3. The household income of the student's parents/spouse.

Not from England?

Students from Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland who want to study in England will need to find out from their own government's website what support is available to cover tuition fees and living costs. Channel Islands and Isle of Man students aren't eligible for funding from the UK government.

There are also different rules for EU and international students, and you can find out more at www.solent.ac.uk/fees.

Additional funding

If students need more help while they're studying with us, Solent has a range of grants, bursaries and scholarships which don't need to be repaid.

These include sport or academic merit scholarships and support grants – visit www.solent.ac.uk/grants for a complete list.

Cost of living

If your child is starting university in 2023, you might be thinking about planning finances – to give you an idea of what their day-to-day spending might look like, we've had a go at estimating some living costs for Southampton, based on a single student living in Solent residences over a 40-week academic year.

We can help

Money problems can be stressful, so we want to do everything we can to make sure financial matters aren't impacting the studies or wellbeing of our students. Our funding teams can help students manage their finances, offering essential advice and access to hardship grants and emergency loans.

Some top tips to students... ...for managing their money:

- Apply for your student loan as soon as possible – you don't have to have a place on a course to apply for a loan.
- Take a look at the bursaries, grants and other additional funding available, both from the uni and other sources.
- Work part-time while you study. Solent offers plenty of jobs on campus, but our Solent Creatives agency can also help you get paid work that's relevant to your course.
- Research student bank accounts to see which one works best for you.
- Budget – keep track of your money and your spending, so you can see when you need to cut back.
- Make the most of student discounts.
- Put a bit of money aside for emergencies – ideally in a separate bank account.

 <p>Solent University student residence £108.50 – £154 per week £4,464 – £6,336 (over 41 weeks) (2021/22 figs, incl. utility bills: heating, electricity, water)</p>	 <p>Food £30 – £40 per week £1,200 – £1,600 per academic year</p>	 <p>Toiletries, laundry, etc £12 per week £480 per academic year</p>	 <p>Books and other material £10 per week £400 per academic year</p>	
 <p>Leisure/social £30 per week £1,200 per academic year</p>	 <p>Mobile phone £10 per week £400 per academic year</p>	 <p>Internet £6 per week £240 per academic year</p>	 <p>Contents insurance £2 – £3 per week £80 – £120 per academic year</p>	 <p>TV licence £3.98 per week £159 per academic year</p>

Student support

Going to university is a great experience, but we recognise that sometimes students require a bit more support to get through their studies.

Everyone experiences challenging times, especially in a new and unfamiliar environment: the things that make uni life exciting can also sometimes make it challenging and we understand that.

Whatever the challenge, big or small, our teams are here to help. They're trained to offer practical support, self-help resources and referrals to specialist services – with warmth, understanding and absolutely no judgement.

Therapy and mental health

Our wellbeing team offers a range of support and advice, including counselling, Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) and hypnotherapy.

Disability support

Our Access Solent team offers advice on accessing the Disabled Students' Allowance, screening and assessment for various conditions, short-term equipment loans, alternate exam arrangements, dyslexia support, assistive technology support and more.

Spiritual support

Our spirituality and reflection service offers confidential, non-judgmental support, including



advisers from multiple faiths, help finding a place of worship, and on-campus quiet and prayer rooms.

Careers support

Our employability service offers impartial information, advice and guidance to help students develop employability skills and achieve their ambitions. Solent is an industry-focused University, and our academic teams maintain excellent links with industry professionals.

Finance support

Our student funding team helps with student funding entitlement and application processes, assistance if funding is delayed, liaison with Student Finance England, and any other financial or funding issues.

For more on support at Solent, visit www.solent.ac.uk/student-support

Accommodation

We offer a range of accommodation options depending on people's circumstances, including five student residences, private renting options, lodging or sharing a house/flat with friends.

We also have a dedicated housing team to offer advice and support, whatever option students decide to go for.

Guaranteed accommodation
For those starting a full-time undergraduate degree at Solent in September 2023, we are offering guaranteed accommodation. This includes a limited number of rooms in our halls of residence with en-suite and shared facilities, and places are offered on a first-come, first-served basis.
For full terms and conditions, visit www.solent.ac.uk/accommodation



Support

We have purpose-built rooms on the ground floor of our residences for those requiring accessible accommodation. For those with unseen disabilities, rooms can be reserved with fridges for medical purposes, and visible or audible alarms can be fitted. We can also offer larger rooms for students who may need extra space for essential equipment.

Security

All our halls of residence have a dedicated management team, available 24 hours a day, to make sure students have the help and support they need. Each residence, study-bedroom and kitchen is designed to ensure that only residents can gain access.

For further information on our student residences, visit www.solent.ac.uk/accommodation

What's included in our student rent?

- Up to 100 Mb WiFi access in each study-bedroom.
- Personal contents insurance
- Social rooms with table tennis and pool tables.
- All utility bills
- Cleaning of communal areas
- Repairs and maintenance
- Residence management team available 24 hours a day
- Adapted and accessible rooms for students with disabilities

Virtual tour

To take a closer look at our student residences, visit www.solent.ac.uk/virtual-tour

1	WEEK 2 17 October 17 52 weeks, let's Choose a career: let's talk tonight	WEEK 3 18 October 18 A university night for you?	WEEK 4 19 October 19 What are the different types of degree?	WEEK 5 20 October 20 Make a statement with your personal statement	WEEK 6 21 October 21 Beginning with UCAS What are the different types of degree?	WEEK 7 22 October 22 11 ways to get the most out of an open day	WEEK 8 23 October 23 Week 8: Choosing the right course	WEEK 9 24 October 24 Professional accreditation	WEEK 10 25 October 25 How will you pay for it?	WEEK 11 26 October 26 No stress do stress How to manage stress	WEEK 12 27 October 27 Personal statements part two	WEEK 13 28 October 28 UCAS Hub	
2	WEEK 14 29 October 29 UCAS Hub	WEEK 15 30 October 30 UCAS Hub	WEEK 16 31 October 31 UCAS Hub	WEEK 17 1 November 17 UCAS Hub	WEEK 18 2 November 18 UCAS Hub	WEEK 19 3 November 19 UCAS Hub	WEEK 20 4 November 20 UCAS Hub	WEEK 21 5 November 21 UCAS Hub	WEEK 22 6 November 22 UCAS Hub	WEEK 23 7 November 23 UCAS Hub	WEEK 24 8 November 24 UCAS Hub	WEEK 25 9 November 25 UCAS Hub	WEEK 26 10 November 26 UCAS Hub

52 THINGS TO DO

Is your child still looking at their study options or has questions about the university application process? Our easy-to-follow '52 Things To Do' guide is designed to help every step of the way.

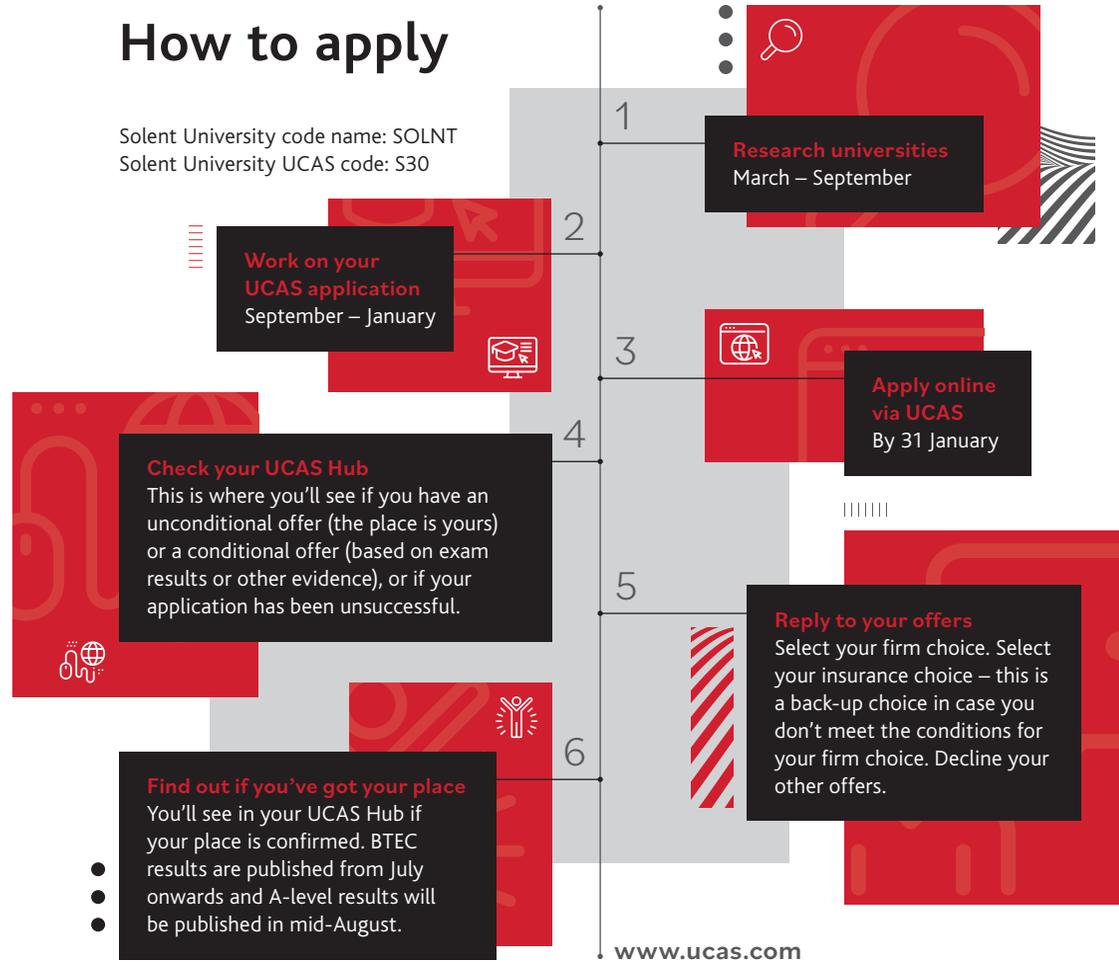
From thinking about the right degree to choose, to writing a personal statement, we've got it all covered – with handy advice and tasks designed to take no more than an hour each week.

Visit www.solent.ac.uk/52-things

27	WEEK 27 13 November 27 UCAS Hub	WEEK 28 14 November 28 UCAS Hub	WEEK 29 15 November 29 UCAS Hub	WEEK 30 16 November 30 UCAS Hub	WEEK 31 17 November 17 UCAS Hub	WEEK 32 18 November 18 UCAS Hub	WEEK 33 19 November 19 UCAS Hub	WEEK 34 20 November 20 UCAS Hub	WEEK 35 21 November 21 UCAS Hub	WEEK 36 22 November 22 UCAS Hub	WEEK 37 23 November 23 UCAS Hub	WEEK 38 24 November 24 UCAS Hub	WEEK 39 25 November 25 UCAS Hub
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How to apply

Solent University code name: SOLNT
Solent University UCAS code: S30



www.ucas.com

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