Provider fees for the 2016 admissions cycle – FAQs

What is changing?

The UCAS Board has recently approved the following application and capitation fees for the UCAS undergraduate scheme for the 2016 cycle:

	Application Fee	Capitation Fee
UCAS		
Current fee	£12 / £23	£18
Increase	No change	£2
New fee for 2016	£12 / £23	£20

All fees are exclusive of VAT.

The minimum fee for all undergraduate providers will be £2,000.

Why are you increasing capitation fees?

The UCAS admissions service is running at an annual deficit of £2.8 million per annum. The main reason for this is that the cost of delivering the service has increased in line with inflation but capitation fees have decreased in real terms. If an annual inflationary rise had been applied since 1995, the capitation fee would have reached £28.50; representing approximately £5 million in capitation fee income through the UCAS undergraduate scheme alone.

When were capitation fees last increased?

The capitation fee for the undergraduate scheme has increased only once since 1995 – by £1 in 2012. Prior to that they have not been increased since 1995.

Why aren't application fees increasing too?

Over recent years, application fees have increased in line with inflation. We do not, therefore, feel it is appropriate to increase these again for the 2016 cycle.

Why has the minimum fee increased?

The minimum fee reflects the cost to us of servicing providers, including the cost of listing courses on the UCAS search tool (the UCAS search tool generated 9 million views in 2013/14, representing excellent value for money). This increase will affect approximately 56 providers who recruit less than 112 students through the UCAS undergraduate scheme.

You receive or have access to a wide range of UCAS services:

Services to support your admissions operation

- Data Collection Team to ensure consistent and quality assured data
- Course Collect (course listings on our online search tool)
- UCAS search tool delivering 9 million views in 2013/14
- A dedicated secure area for providers on the UCAS website
- Verification and fraud services
- Application management tools (link products)
- Admissions data test files
- Apply, our online admissions portal
- Track, to manage replies and responses
- Professional publications, including the Admissions Guide and Decision Processing Manual

Services to enhance your experience of UCAS

- Engagement and outreach to schools, teachers and advisers
- Qualification comparisons and tariff information resources
- Application deadline analysis and reporting
- Daily Clearing analysis
- Trend reports to inform recruitment strategy
- Support from our Higher Education Provider (HEP) Team
- Support from relationship managers and technical relationship managers
- Stakeholder relationships and partners
- International experts
- Professional Training and development
- On demand communications

Additional paid-for services from UCAS Media

- Around 50 Higher education conventions every year
- 20 conferences across the UK
- Opportunities to reach prospective applicants through our pre-applicant database
- Application and Decision Tracker reports
- Unplaced applicant marketing opportunities
- Additional analysis and insight services
- Support from UCAS Media Account Managers