

CITIZENS OF A STATE OF MIND

It's your turn to take your place



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

le.ac.uk



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

Personal Statements





Thank you for joining me!

Who am I?

Anna

Where am I from?

Lincolnshire

What did I study?

BSc (Hons) Psychology
MSc Mental Health Research



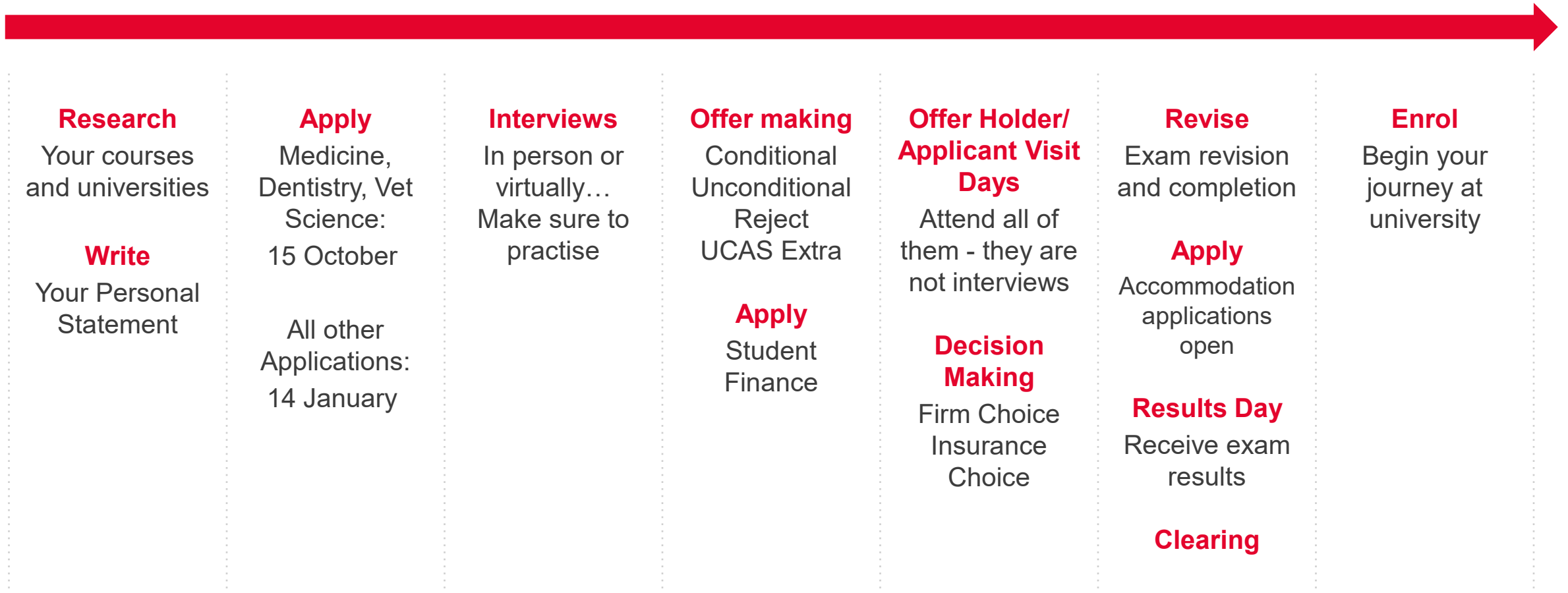
We will cover

- The Basics
- The Structure
- Getting Started
- Top Tips

In this session



The Application Timeline





The UCAS Hub

- Where you can organise everything in one place
- Search and narrow down your choices of what and where you want to study and pick your next step.
- Explore apprenticeships, college, and conservatoire options.
- Register and complete your application.
- Handy tools to write your personal statement

- You can start your application on the hub from May 12th 2025
 - Applications cannot be submitted until 2nd September 2025



Employment and Extra Activities

- Only enter paid work here (work experience/volunteering goes in your personal statement)
- Please add in any activities you have done to prepare for University (e.g. summer schools)
- You can use your personal statement to talk more about these activities, the skills you learned and how this prepared you for University



Top Tips

- Use a sensible and non-school related email
- Start early and don't miss internal and external deadlines
- You can apply to the same university multiple times for different courses
- There is a slightly different form to apply to conservatoires
- £28.50 application fee upon submission



The Basics



What is a personal statement?

To showcase you as a person and prove you deserve to be made a university offer

- Submitted via **UCAS**
- **4000** Characters
- **1 statement** for all **5** applications
- UCAS detection service



The Structure





Personal Statement Questions

- Why do you want to study the course?
- How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?
- What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

A photograph of a modern, multi-story glass building at dusk. The building's interior lights are on, and the sky is a deep blue. In the foreground, there is an outdoor seating area with tables and chairs.

Questions



Section 1

Why do you want to study the course?

- Why do you want to study the course?
- Why are you excited?
- Think about that pivotal moment. What inspired you?
- Why should the university give you an offer?
- Avoid Clichés, quotes or gimmicks



Section 1

Why do you want to study this course?

- Your knowledge of this subject area and interests
 - A particular subject you've researched? A book or subject expert doing great things that have sparked your interest?
- Your future plans and why this is a good fit for you
 - If you don't have a career in mind, think about what's important to you and your future, and how the knowledge gained from your chosen course(s) will help you achieve this.



Sources of subject specific wider reading





This is your opportunity to showcase your passion and knowledge of your chosen subject area and to demonstrate to universities and colleges why it's a good fit for you and your future ambitions.

Section 1



In one sentence try to answer why do you want to study the course

Task one



Section 2

Your qualifications and studies

- How do your current studies relate to the course you want to study?
 - Important to focus on what's most recent and relevant to your course
- What relevant or transferable skills you have
 - There may be a few subjects that have helped you develop a core set of skills required for your chosen course(s)
- What activities have you got involved in?
 - Subject tasters or masterclasses, academic competitions or societies, MOOCs



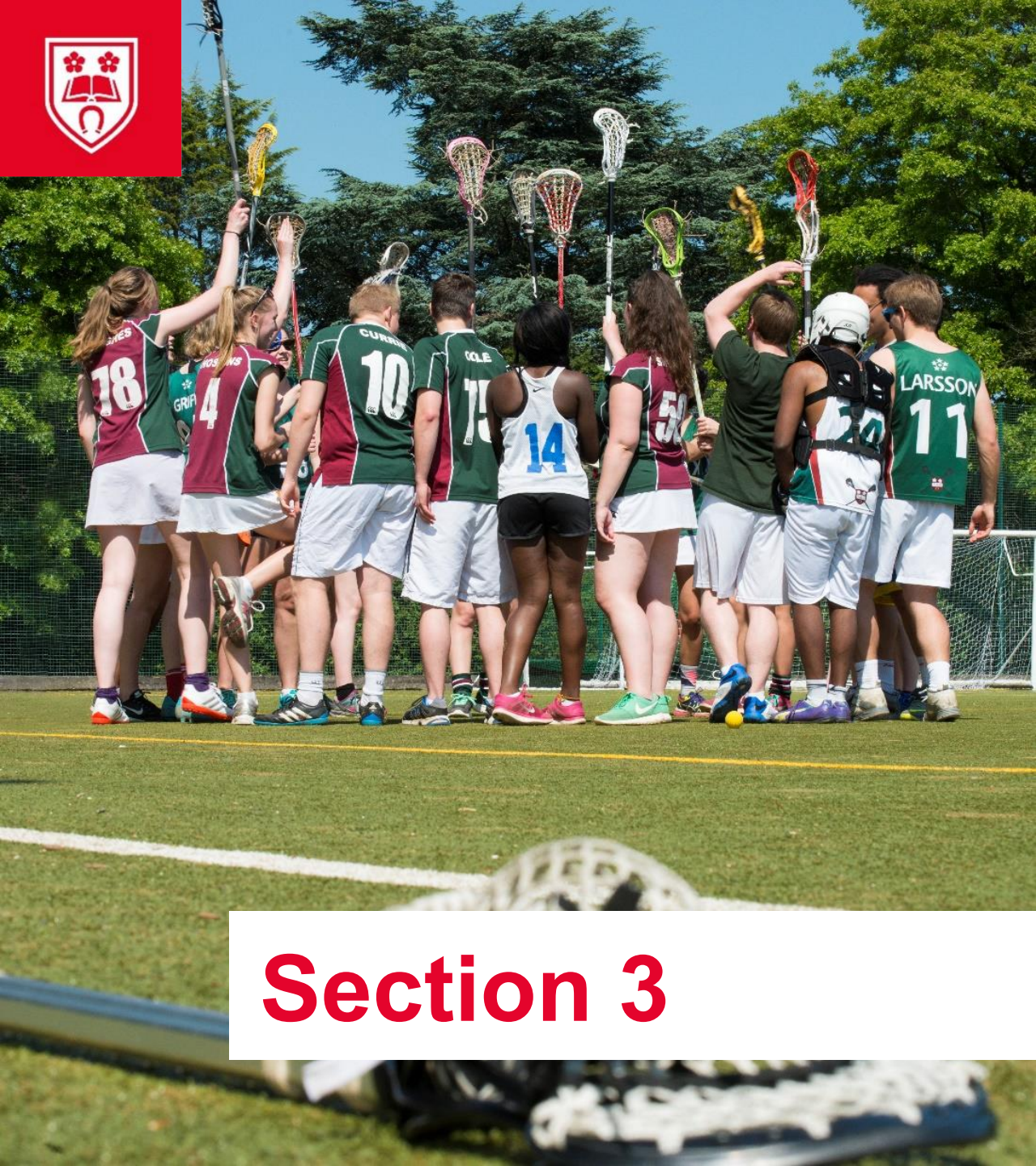
Section 2

This is your chance to shout about the relevant or transferable skills you've gained from your formal education and highlight your understanding of how they will help you succeed in this subject area.



In 5 minutes, write a list of all the academic related activities, skills or wider reading you could include in your personal statement

Task two



Section 3

Outside of education

- What are your hobbies/extracurricular or outreach activities?
 - Think sports, reading, charity work, summer schools, music etc.
- What are your greatest achievements?
 - Duke of Edinburgh, Music or sports awards, academic awards
- What work experience have you gained?
 - Part time job, volunteering, shadowing, mentor, school council member



Section 3

Outside of education

- Personal life experiences or responsibilities
 - Are there responsibilities such as caring for a family member that has helped you develop essential qualities for the course like resilience?
- What skills have you gained from those experiences?
 - Confidence, Communication, Leadership, Organisation, Teamwork, Problem Solving



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

Career Hub

A space for students
led by students
supported by career experts

Work Experience

- Have you had a job, placement, work experience or voluntary work?
- What skills have you gained from your work experience?
 - Team working, critical thinking, organisation, subject specific skills
- Check the course website/s beforehand to see if work experience is essential.
 - If it is, does this have to be subject specific?



Section 3

This is your chance to talk about any other activities you have undertaken outside of your formal education or personal experiences which further demonstrate your suitability for the course. This section is likely to be highly personal to you and anything you do include should reflect on why you're including it.



In 5 minutes, write a list of all the work experience, extra-curricular activities and achievements you have gained. What transferable skills have you evidenced?

Section 3



Getting Started

How to get started

1. Write a list of all your activities, experiences, interests and skills
2. Highlight the most important points and begin linking them together
3. Use the ABC method to start writing



Top tips

Top-Tips from Admissions Tutors

- Reduce: Be concise, don't repeat yourself
- Proofread: Grammatical and spelling errors are such easy mistakes
- Redraft: Write multiple drafts and ask friends, family and teachers to read through it
- Be yourself: Showcase your USP's as a potential student
- Be on time: Do not miss your internal deadlines



Want to hear more from the University of Leicester? Scan our QR code for general and course email updates





UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

Thank you

Any questions?