

# Fast facts about the new UCAS Tariff

The current Tariff has been around for over 10 years. In that time, the qualifications landscape has changed significantly and the UCAS Tariff had to keep up with these changes. The new Tariff provides a fair and more transparent process of allocating Tariff points across a wider range of qualifications and supports widening participation.



The primary purpose of the UCAS Tariff is to support universities and colleges with information management and data returns. Some universities and colleges will continue to use the Tariff as a tool to set their entry requirements and make offers.

## University and college entry requirements



Those universities and colleges that use UCAS Tariff points to describe their entry requirements will simply set their requirements using the new number system.

Currently one third of courses on the UCAS search tool have a Tariff entry requirement. Students should always check individual course requirements.

Learners may notice that universities and colleges start referring to the new UCAS Tariff points from now on, because they know that younger learners start their higher education course research early.

## Timings for the new UCAS Tariff

The new UCAS Tariff will be used for courses starting from September 2017.

It is based on a new approach, using a qualification's size and grades to calculate total Tariff points. The numbers are much lower, for example an A\* gets 56 points under the new Tariff, in comparison with 140 under the current Tariff.

The new UCAS Tariff points apply to learners who are currently in Year 11 or S4 in Scotland, in the 2014/2015 academic year and younger, who are looking to apply in 2016, and start university or college from September 2017.

Students will still need to achieve the same grades to meet higher education course entry requirements.



It is important to note that sometimes universities and colleges who refer to UCAS Tariff points will also state that certain qualifications cannot count towards the total number of points. Just because a qualification has UCAS Tariff points does not mean it is considered suitable for entry into higher education courses by all universities and colleges.

2017 courses will be advertised on our search tool from May 2016 and will refer to the new UCAS Tariff points only.

## AS qualification change

One key change under the new UCAS Tariff is to the points allocated to the AS qualification. The AS has been repositioned to 40% of the full A level.

This change is in line with previous statements made by the UK qualification regulators. The AS in Northern Ireland and Wales, which continues to be coupled with the A level, has also been repositioned to 40%.

Universities and colleges will not generally count the Tariff points from an AS qualification if the learner has progressed to the full A level. Learners should review a university or college's entry requirements for any AS requirements.



## Support for students

The new UCAS Tariff points should not have any impact on students' decisions about qualification choices at school or college, or their preparation for application to a higher education course.

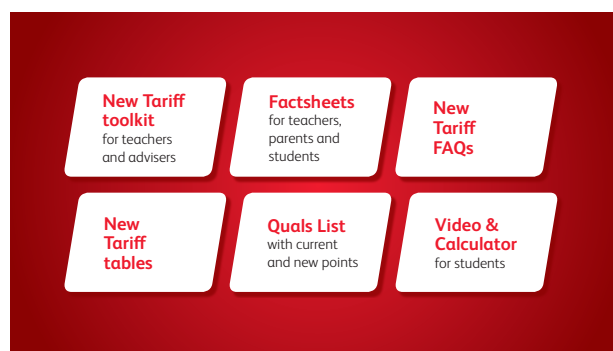
Learners should look out for a short video soon to be available on [ucas.com](http://ucas.com) explaining key facts about the new Tariff and how the points work.

Our new Tariff points calculator on [ucas.com](http://ucas.com) provides an indicative guide of how many points each qualification is awarded. Students should always check individual course requirements.



## Support for teachers and schools

There are a number of helpful documents on [ucas.com](http://ucas.com) providing you with information about the new Tariff.



We encourage you to familiarise yourself with these documents.

**A new Tariff toolkit** – this PowerPoint presentation will help you share information about the new Tariff with staff members or even parents.

**Helpful factsheets** – use our tailored factsheets to share information with your colleagues, students and their parents.

**FAQs** – we've compiled this list to answer the most commonly asked questions about the new UCAS Tariff.

**New Tariff tables** – reference tables summarising the new Tariff points.

**A qualifications list** – this is a technical document showing the size x grade calculation of the new Tariff points, against each of the relevant qualifications.

We would like to continue to support you in understanding and using the new Tariff.

- The UCAS Correspondent at your school or college will be able to provide more information on the new Tariff.
- Regular updates on the new Tariff will be provided in the monthly advisers' newsletter.
- Regional training is currently available on the new Tariff for schools, colleges and higher education providers. For further information, please contact the Professional Development Team on **01242 545 712** or email [p.dev@ucas.ac.uk](mailto:p.dev@ucas.ac.uk)

We're here for you. If you have any questions or would like to give us your feedback about the new Tariff, please email us at [newtariff-feedback@ucas.ac.uk](mailto:newtariff-feedback@ucas.ac.uk)

For more information about the UCAS Tariff visit [www.ucas.com/advisers/tariff-2017](http://www.ucas.com/advisers/tariff-2017)