Structured Fast Track A levels and the early UCAS deadline.

A majority of NEC students are looking to go to university and we aim to do all we can to help facilitate that goal. Structured Fast Track A levels allow you to complete an A level within a year so it may be possible to get to university sooner than you think.
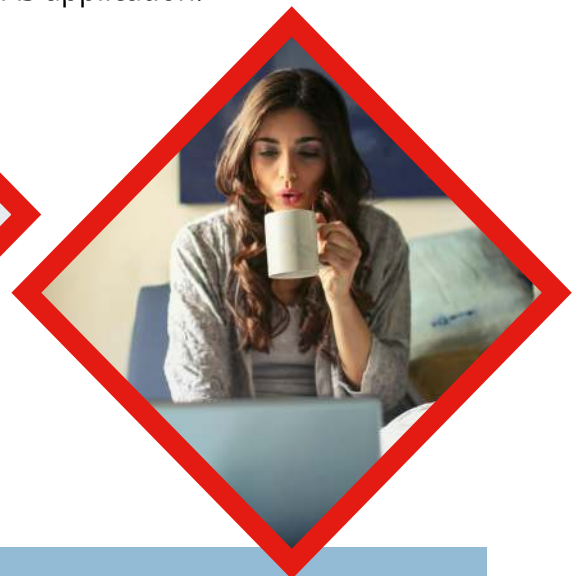
Courses such as medicine, dentistry and veterinary science have an early UCAS application deadline. For 2023 entry, this is 15th October 2022 at 6pm. The early deadline also applies to all courses at Oxford and Cambridge.

NEC requires students to have completed 50% of course assignments before providing a predicted grade or an academic reference to ensure that the tutor has seen sufficient work to be confident in their prediction.

If you are enrolled on a Structured Fast Track course you will not be able to complete 50% of the assignments until the end of December. Once you have reached this point, we can then provide a predicted grade directly to your universities, separate to your UCAS application.

Not sure when your UCAS deadline is for your chosen course?

Visit the UCAS website to find out more.

What do you need to do?

☐ **Step 1:** Contact your chosen universities to see if they are willing to accept a predicted grade from NEC at a later date.

☐ **Step 2:** Complete the NEC UCAS Reference Request Form as soon as possible to let us know you are working towards the early deadline.

☐ **Step 3:** Let us know the email addresses of your chosen university admissions departments and your UCAS personal ID so that we can send them the predicted grade later.

Once you have submitted the form, we can liaise with you further to get everything organised!

Following these steps now means that you can concentrate on your studies and get the best grades possible once your Structured Fast Track A level course begins.

What will NEC need to do?

If you are applying as an individual, we will provide you with referee details to enter into the reference section of your application. This needs to be a named individual, so you cannot use 'Student Support' and you should not enter your tutor's name, as references are coordinated by Student Support.

If NEC is providing all of your predicted grades and acting as your referee, you can choose to use NEC as your UCAS centre. We can provide you with a buzzword to link your application to us.

If you are using an external referee we will need their contact details so that we can send this information to them so that they can include it with their comments.

Is there anything else you can do to prepare?

Go to open days!:	Look into the interview process:	Prepare for admissions exams:
Universities have Open Days at various points throughout the year, whether virtually or in-person. It's a great way to get a feel for the local area, the university itself, allowing you to make the best decision before applying.	Not all universities require an interview but when a course or university is particularly competitive, it is good to have an idea of the types of questions asked and when the interviews will take place.	Some universities and courses will have additional testing or deadlines throughout the application process, which you can check on the university website or by contacting their Admissions Department.*

* Some of these admissions exams take place as early as November so we recommend applying as soon as you can.

Can NEC help you prepare for admissions exams?

We offer <u>Critical Thinking</u> and <u>Problem Solving</u> self-study courses specifically designed to help you prepare for the BMAT and TSA.

These flexible online courses will help you develop the key skills that you will need for university admissions exams and beyond. With the introductory price of £80 (down from £105) or £145 for both, these courses are the best way to supplement your studies and prepare you for your next step.

Have any questions or want to discuss your application?

Contact our Student Support Team on **0800 389 2839** or email **ucas@nec.ac.uk**.