

Postgraduate Offerholder Webinar 2	Jun 19, 2025 10:57:51
Question	Answer
If I am currently a Girton master's student and will start my phd at Girton in October will I be on the priority list for accommodation?	You are prioritised. Full list of priority groups are available on our website.
Could you please talk about who is given priority during accommodation applications?	As said earlier, please see our website for further information: https://www.girton.cam.ac.uk/postgraduates/accommodation
Does 'prioritizing for accommodation' mean being prioritized for a preferred type of room, or does it simply mean being given priority to secure a room?	No, it just means priority for allocation not room type.
hi! i am a prospective MBA student. I have met all my offer conditions by now and applied for the accommodation. i would like to know approximately when i would receive an answer regarding the accommodation status	From the 15 July, we will start to contact applicants about accommodation.
Are there any college accommodations closer to city centre? And do postgraduates get priority for that?	Details of available College offerings are online https://www.girton.cam.ac.uk/postgraduates/accommodation . You can definitely rent privately but no, you wouldn't get priority as a postgrad.
I applied for housing before I was officially confirmed- does that mean I need to reapply?	No need to reapply!
Do you recommend applying for accommodation through the University Accommodation Service as well as Girton? And do you have an estimate of the percentage of accommodation applicants who are allocated Girton-owned accommodation (provided the application is submitted and offer conditions are met by July 15)?	You need to be fully confirmed before applying to the University Accommodation Service.
When would be a good date to come into campus as an international student?	as of the 23rd of September if you can manage that and ideally by 29 September
The university term starts on the 1st of October, but the first day of teaching is the 7th October. Will there be any issue if we arrive in Cambridge between the 1st and 7th of October?	Best to arrive by 29 September if you can to take part in induction events at College and in the department
question about chronic illness	Yes we need to be informed of any serious health conditions as soon as you know you are coming to Girton. This will help us make alternative provisions if needed and be in the best position to support you going forward. I also recommend getting in touch with the ADRC (University Based Disability Service) as soon as you have confirmed your place.
Hi I'm a current Cambridge student, are there any trunk rooms available for incoming postgrads?	No, there's no storage
Hello! Can we ship our belongings to Girton and have them arrive before we do & have them stored there?	No, we aren't able to store them until you arrive.

what would be your recommendation in terms of transport within cambridge, particularly between Girton and the various academic buildings?	Cycling, walking, local buses (the University Bus 'U Bus' runs from the college through the centre of Cambridge, rail station and Biomedical campus: https://www.whippetbus.co.uk/universal/). There are also electronic bicycles and scooters to hire from the main site and Swirles Court although e-bikes and scooters are not really allowed on College property.
Hello, thank you for hosting this! I wanted to clarify that we have until July 31st to upload our financial declaration form and have that confirmed, and that the CAS and visa confirmation is later?	Hi - you have until 31 July to meet all conditions - if your academic or ATAS condition will not be met by 31 July, then you can apply to PAO for an extension. You won't get your CAS for the visa until you've met ALL of your conditions with the University.
What recommendations would you make for someone with deferred exams in August (meaning that I would not know if I meet the offer conditions until August). Do you recommend to take any actions now? In terms of accomodation, collage onboarding process, etc...	No - let's see how it unfolds - apply for accommodation so we know you are interested. College "onboarding" will not really begin until the 3rd week of September so you should hopefully be confirmed by then. If you are later than 1 October, we will need to know.
Hi, I understand that one of outstanding conditions can be possible to submit later after July. Could you please let me know what the latest deadline is for meeting that condition?	Each department will have a deadline by which you need to have met all of your conditions - you should check with them.
Should I apply now for Girton accommodation if I have deferred exams in August, or is it recommended that I apply for private accommodation instead?	You may do both. Our accommodation office needs to know you're interested and quite often rooms do coe up late August and into September for many reasons.
Hi! I would like to ask if LLM students can apply for the time extension of the language condition?	Should be able to - all students can. I'm not sure how long the extension is for.
I can only meet my academic conditions in November. Should I request for an extension or deferment?	You likely wouldn't be able to defer if you were on a one-year course but if you're on a PhD some depts do allow you to defer to the next term start (i.e. January)
Is there free parking for students at Girton college residents?	There is free visitor parking only - if you want something more, then you need to apply for a College parking permit on arrival and they are very limited and usually only possible for those with a blue badge. You can drive and unload your belongings on arrival but it would be unlikely you could keep a car in Cambridge - some manage it - if you rented privately, you might have street parking and can use the College's carpark as guest parking only.
Are there bike renting services, or do you recommend purchasing a bike?	We recommend purchasing - lots of people are selling second hand bikes at the beginning of term.
How is the music environment like at the college and university? Are there orchestras? Is it possible to rent or access instruments such as a cello?	Girton has a great musical life - lots of good early music, chapel choir, concert series, both classical and jazz - we think you can rent instruments via the Faculty of Music
Does the accomodation offer come with bedding or students must bring their own.	You can bring or buy your own once you're here or you can order one from the College.

Is there formal Girton dinner? If so when?	Yes, there is a weekly one during the undergraduate terms.
Which accommodation is better? Girton Campus, or Swirles Court? In which one do we get meals and food at subsidised rates	Subsidised rates are offered in the eateries at the Main Site of College - there is no cafeteria at Swirles Court.
Hello, may i ask if there are any trolleys at Swires?	No.
Will the academic department message us relating course-induction events, or will Girton?	Department events will come via your department and College ones will come from us.
I need some clarification regarding the finance aspect. We just need to submit the financial declaration form right now and the finances are to paid as per the deadline? Do we need to show availability of funds right now?	No need to show availability of funds now if you are self-funding. If you are sponsored, we do ask you to send us your sponsor letter. You have a copy of the bill payment schedule and it is on our website. You will be sent your first bill fairly soon after the leases begin - no need to pay anything until you get that bill.
Does it get harder to traverse campus in the winters? Any tips to survive a Cambridge/UK winter?	We typically do not get weather that causes things to shut down around Cambridge - in the rest of the country, it can, and can particularly affect the trains but here in Cambridge you're fine. Warm clothes and boots are available to buy at charity shops throughout Cambridge.
could you please talk about wellbeing facilities? do all students have access to such places?	Yes, we have three nurses and a Head of Well-being at College. We have excellent sports provision including a pool, and have the Girton Skills Programme that runs an academic and well-being strand of sessions/courses during the undergraduate terms.
I have a digital piano. Am I allowed to move this into my room at Swirles court? I promise not to be a noisy neighbour =D	You can bring it but must use it with headphones.
I am wondering if there is any way to connect with incoming Girton students who are also in my program. Thanks!	If you email postgraduate.office@girton.cam.ac.uk , we can put you in touch with someone from the MCR.
How do we pay our fees ot the college?Can we use direct debit?	No, we can't accept direct debit but any other method of payment is acceptable including platforms such as Wise.
Can the students comment on cooking/eating at Girton? How is organizing a cooking schedule in the shared kitchen?	You can go to College eateries for lunch and dinner and there's a cafe on site that serves quick items (breakfast items, pizza, sandwiches etc.). Cooking schedules are not prescribed and would depend on who you were sharing with, but we suggest that you can cook in your kitchen, and once you get to know your housemates, you'll soon be able to work out if there's high demand for kitchen use!
Are our residence and meal fees included in the maintenance fees, or are those separate? Thank you!	This webpage gives a good description of all things that are considered "maintenance". https://www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/finance/maintenance

Does the rate for ensuite accommodation include accommodation only, or overall living maintenance costs including accommodation, food, etc?	The rent charge is for accommodation only. Food and any other maintenance costs are in addition. Food eaten at College eateries is very subsidized - you can get a good hot meal for under £5 at lunchtime. Any meals you eat at College are billed to your account and you will then pay for them termly along with other College charges.
Is it recommended to get a British bank account upon our arrival of are bank transfers possible from overseas accounts?	Yes, it is recommended, however you can pay your fees via bank transfer if you like.
Hello. I am an international student, and I am wondering if you have any advice/resources in terms of setting up a bank account and phone sim for my time in the Cambridge / the UK.	All of this can be done easily once you arrive and talk to your peers. The UK has many phone providers that offer free SIMs and then very low monthly rates for lots of data - one example is GiffGaff - you could also look into an e-sim. You'll need a letter from the Postgrad Office to set up a UK bank account after you arrive. You don't need a letter for online banks.
When can we pay our university and college fees in full? Can we do this before September 1?	We discourage you from paying fees before you arrive. Email in if you have a specific reason for wanting to pay early.
Can I apply for an installment plan to pay my UCF	This can be negotiated after arrival.
Sorry if this is obvious but if our condition is a grade do we just upload the transcript to the CamSIS portal as soon as they are released?	Yes if it's a non-Cambridge transcript. For students already at Cambridge, transcripts will automatically be uploaded to your account.
I am an international student, do I need to receive my visa by the July 31st deadline?	No as long as you have it by the time you wish to arrive in the country. You won't get your CAS until you've met your conditions.
When should we get access to the CAS which I believe is necessary for a UK student Visa?	It will be issued by PAO as soon as you have met all of your conditions.
We are asked to bring some original documents to present to the college and their translation if we are overseas	The University may do a spot check after you've all arrived and ask for original documents used for admissions. It's rare but we do want to let you know this ahead of time so you're prepared. Don't worry if they are mostly digital as PAO will know that.
from your experience, what would be the timing for scholarships to deliver an answer for success/insuccess of the application?	It is very likely at this stage that if you have not heard from a funder or department, you probably won't. We can't say that categorically but it's very likely
is a helmet mandatory for cycling in the UK just as in Germany?	It's not legally mandatory but we strongly suggest you do - as well as having good bicycle lights and locks