



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Foundation pathways

Study abroad and shape your future
with a UK degree





Benefit from great facilities, including an award-winning library

University of Birmingham

The University of Birmingham is an exciting and enriching place to study. Join this highly ranked Russell Group university and begin your path to a successful future.

An inspiring international campus

Set in a beautiful 250-acre campus close to the city centre, the University of Birmingham has established a strong reputation for innovation and research thanks to its status as a member of the prestigious Russell Group. Its research projects have contributed to issues such as the global response to COVID-19, and various social and environmental causes from climate action to tackling gender inequality.

It's home to one of the largest communities of international students in the UK, with over 10,000 students from more than 150 countries. This diverse university will not only allow you to meet people from all over the world, but also prepare you for a bright future. Birmingham is ranked as the UK's most targeted university by graduate employers (High Fliers Research 2024), putting you in a very strong position for achieving your career goals after graduation.

Fantastic facilities and clubs

As an international student you'll have access to the University's incredible facilities, all based on its stunning campus. Among the classic architecture, including the iconic clock tower, you'll find cutting-edge facilities, from its state-of-the-art School of Engineering to one of the UK's largest academic libraries.

As for extra-curricular facilities on offer, the University has an impressive £55 million sport and fitness centre, which features a 50-metre swimming pool, squash courts and a two-floor gym. There are also over 500 clubs and societies to choose from, giving you countless ways to start a new hobby, perfect a skill, or make some new friends.



Find out more
kaplanpathways.com/universities/university-of-birmingham

Why choose Birmingham?



Member of the Russell Group
of elite universities



#1 most targeted UK university
By graduate employers
High Fliers Research 2024



Top 15
in the United Kingdom
Complete University Guide 2026



Top 100
in the world
QS World University Rankings 2026

The city of Birmingham

The second-largest city in the UK, Birmingham is a lively metropolitan destination with so much to see and do. You'll find beautiful parks and green spaces as well as the bustling city centre where there's always something going on. No wonder then that it was named one of the best places to live in the UK (Sunday Times Best Places to Live 2025)!



Visit historic sites and museums

Stroll along Birmingham's beautiful canals



Explore the city's classic-meets-modern architecture



What to explore in Birmingham

Birmingham is a great destination for international students. Not only is there history and fascinating museums to explore, but some great shopping, new sporting facilities and the largest library in Europe.

International cuisine

Birmingham is a foodie's paradise. As a highly multicultural city, you'll find restaurants and cuisine from all over the world – it is particularly well known for Indian curry. You'll also enjoy annual food festivals and events, and pop-up street food stands from some famous vendors.

Exploring nature

You won't have to go far to find some beautiful natural scenery to explore, as the University itself is set in 250-acres of parkland. You can also see rare flowers and plants in the botanical gardens, or head to the city centre to enjoy a stroll alongside the water – Birmingham is thought to have more miles of canals than Venice!

Cultural importance

Scattered between the modern buildings, you'll find historic architecture, such as the Jewellery Quarter. Birmingham is also the home of British chocolate, and is where you'll find the original Cadbury factory. If you prefer modern art, you can head to the Ikon Gallery, an internationally renowned contemporary art venue.

From the Industrial Revolution right up to the present day, Birmingham has contributed so much to British history and culture. There are many museums to explore, focusing on such diverse topics as jewellery, cars and even pens!



Discover more about Birmingham:
youtu.be/rxQqoWYEG0g

Foundation pathways

If you want to study a University of Birmingham undergraduate degree, but don't qualify for entry, a foundation pathway can help you reach the level needed, and you can easily apply through Kaplan.

What are Foundation pathways?

The University of Birmingham's foundation pathways are University-delivered courses, designed to fully prepare you for your undergraduate degree at the University of Birmingham. Your pathway course will help you to develop your subject knowledge, English language level and academic skills to meet the entry requirements for your chosen degree. If you pass at the required level, you're guaranteed entry to your University of Birmingham degree.



Learn and socialise at the Priorsfield building

Birmingham International Academy

The Birmingham International Academy (BIA) is integrated within the University of Birmingham campus, and offers fantastic study and social spaces for international students taking foundation pathways. By bringing all of Birmingham's pathways students together in one place, the BIA offers a sense of community, one full of diversity and support. International students will also attend classes in various other buildings across campus, meaning that as a foundation pathways student, you are able to feel like part of the University community before you even start your degree!

This creates a learning environment where you can really thrive, while also expanding your knowledge of other cultures to aid your personal development. The staff at the BIA are there to make your time as a pathway student as fulfilling as possible. You will benefit from world-class teaching from University of Birmingham academics, as well as the BIA's dedicated Wellbeing team who are there to ensure your wider university experience is the best it can be, and just as rewarding as your studies.



Study alongside fellow international students

Which subjects are available?

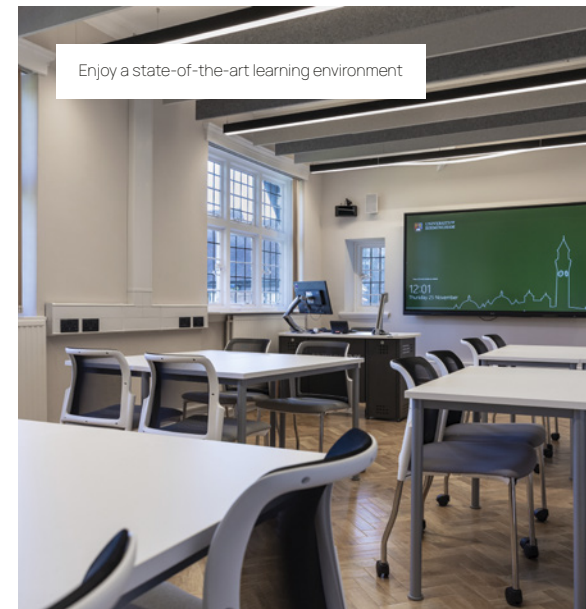
There are five tailored pathway options, with modules to suit your degree subject and English language level. Apply today!



See it for yourself:
[youtube.com/watch?v=keZcDMIUWaQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=keZcDMIUWaQ)



See detailed course information:
kaplanpathways.com/birmingham-course-info



Enjoy a state-of-the-art learning environment

Foundation subject area	Academic entry requirements
Arts, Social Sciences, Business and Law	
Engineering and Physical Sciences	Completion of high school with good grades*
Medical, Life and Geo Sciences	
Medicine and Physiotherapy	
Social Sciences, Business and Law	

* Exact academic entry requirements may vary depending on your chosen progression degree; contact us for more information



Learn more about foundation pathways:
kaplanpathways.com/where-to-study/university-of-birmingham-foundation-pathways

Teaching and support

During your studies at the Birmingham International Academy and the University of Birmingham, you will benefit from the highest standard of teaching and academic support.

Academic support

As a foundation pathways student, you'll be able to use Birmingham's full range of resources for academic support. This includes having access to a personal tutor, and receiving in-depth personal feedback on your assignments.

In addition, you are also free to use the Academic Skills Centre, which is there to help you enhance your writing and general study techniques through workshops, self-help tutorials and one-on-one meetings with specialist advisers.

The University of Birmingham is also home to the Higher Education Futures institute (HEFi), which was created to aid the University's mission in maintaining teaching excellence. The HEFi is there to ensure staff are given the tools to provide inclusive, research-intensive teaching for all students. This means you can be sure that you are receiving the most effective teaching possible through these powerful learning strategies.

The Wellbeing team

The Birmingham International Academy's Wellbeing team are also on hand to offer advice and support outside of your academic studies, offering a personal point of contact for students in need of guidance or a positive boost during their time at university.



Find out more:
kaplanpathways.com/birmingham-career-skills





Living in Birmingham

You are guaranteed university accommodation during your foundation pathway if you apply in time. All university accommodation is located close to campus, making it easy to get to your classes.

Types of accommodation

Birmingham offers a range of accommodation options, available to both international and UK students, so you'll have the chance to meet people from lots of different backgrounds. The housing on offer is designed to suit a variety of budgets and preferences, so you're sure to find a place to live that's perfect for you.

There are three main student villages: The Vale, Pritchatts Park and Selly Oak. All of these villages have the following options available:

- **Studio** — this is a private bedroom, bathroom and kitchen-diner all in one
- **En suite** — this is a private bedroom and bathroom, with shared kitchen
- **Shared** — this is a private bedroom, with shared bathroom and shared kitchen

You can also choose between living in catered or self-catered accommodation, with catered including a weekly allowance to spend at over 30 different restaurants and cafés across campus. Some key features of Birmingham's accommodation that students love include its free high-speed WiFi, modern interiors, 24-hour security and maintenance staff, and sustainable lighting and heating.



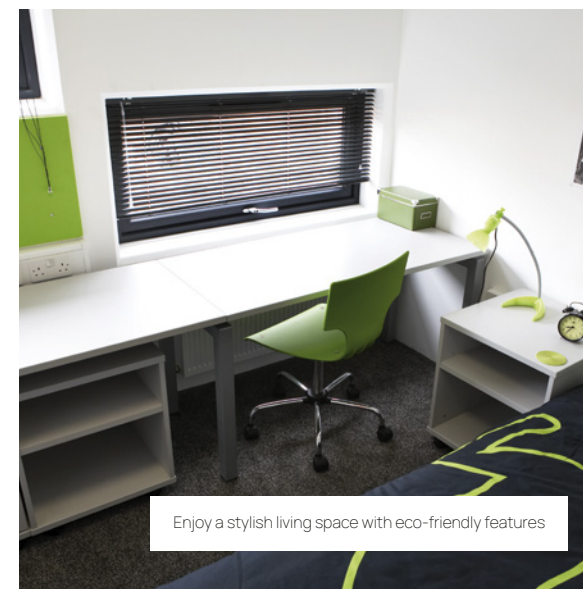
Find out more:
kaplanpathways.com/birmingham-accommodation



Stay in catered or self-catered accommodation



Live conveniently close to campus



Enjoy a stylish living space with eco-friendly features

Prepare for your future

The University of Birmingham doesn't just guide students through their higher education journey, but prepares them for life after graduation with the help of its fantastic careers service.

Careers network

At the University of Birmingham, you will have the opportunity to take on work experience, internships and volunteering roles to learn more about your chosen sector and improve your employability in the process.

Through these interactive programmes, you have the chance to apply your knowledge to real-world scenarios and participate in extra-curricular activities. This will make your CV stand out, giving you an overall advantage when entering the competitive graduate job market. Programmes like these are just one of the reasons why Birmingham ranks top 15 in the UK for graduate prospects according to the Complete University Guide 2026.

The dedicated Careers team are there to advise you through every step of securing your dream job. This includes interview preparation, guidance on perfecting your LinkedIn profile and how to start your own business, as well as tips on writing your CV and cover letters.

You will also benefit from access to hundreds of employers through the University's Careers Fairs. This will give you the chance to find out what they are looking for in a successful candidate. You can also explore your career options if you're unsure which path to take as you near the end of your university journey.



Learn more:
kaplanpathways.com/birmingham/career-skills



Application process

Applying with Kaplan is simple. Choose a course that's right for you, and then simply follow the steps below.

1. Submit your application form

We'll guide you through the entire application process, including what documents you'll need to send with or after your application.



Just get in touch, or apply online:
kaplanpathways.com/birmingham-apply

2. Receive offer and book accommodation

Once your complete application has been reviewed, you'll receive either an unconditional or conditional offer, or we can explore other options with you. We'll send a decision within one working day. You can then book your accommodation.

3. Accept your offer

You'll do this by paying your deposit to study and admin fee, or sending your financial guarantee.

4. Obtain your student visa

To study a foundation pathway in the UK, you'll typically need to obtain a student visa. You can speak to your education agent or contact the University of Birmingham for guidance with this.

5. Book your flight and begin your studies

The most important step: arrive in the UK and begin your life-changing adventure as an international student!

Where is Birmingham?



Find out more

kaplanpathways.com/birmingham

Explore more study options

Kaplan offers international students a wide range of education options in English-speaking countries. Learn more: kaplanpathways.com

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Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publishing, but some changes (for example to university rankings, accommodation and course options, course delivery, etc) are likely to occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of the course. It is therefore very important to check the website or contact us for any updates before you apply. Once you have applied, any change which impacts the terms and conditions of your offer or a significant part of your programme will be communicated to you.

Kaplan International Pathways works in partnership with the University of Birmingham to provide application counselling and admissions support to international students. Kaplan International Pathways is a trading name of Kaplan International Colleges UK Limited, company no. 05268303. Registered in England. Registered address: Palace House, 3 Cathedral Street, London SE1 9DE, United Kingdom.

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