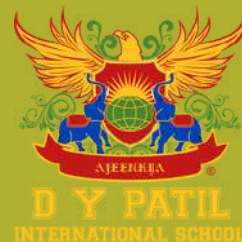


Career Counsellor's Newsletter



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DYPIS 2026 Annual University Fair



The DYPIS Worli Annual University Fair provided students and parents from Grades 8 to 12 with a valuable opportunity to engage directly with representatives from universities across seven countries. Ms Ish Patil, Vice President - Corporate Affairs, ADYP Group, attended the fair and interacted with the visiting delegates.

The fair served as an important platform for families to explore diverse academic opportunities, gain a deeper understanding of international admissions processes, and make informed decisions about potential higher-education pathways beyond high school. The interactions also enabled students to begin thinking strategically about their academic interests, future aspirations and university options.



IC3 Host School, University Fair and Expo Visit

As part of the 2026 IC3 Conference, D.Y. Patil International School, Worli, had the privilege of serving as a host school and welcoming representatives from more than 25 global universities to the campus. Ms Ish Patil, Vice President - Corporate Affairs, ADYP Group, attended the event and interacted with the visiting university representatives, contributing to meaningful conversations around global higher education opportunities and pathways for students.

Our high-school students also visited the IC3 Expo, where they engaged with representatives from more than 150 universities. The experience enabled students to explore diverse study destinations, discover a wide range of academic programmes, and gain valuable insights into potential higher-education pathways.



Teacher Recommendation Letter Workshop

The Career Counselling Department conducted a recommendation letter workshop for Grade 11 and 12 teachers, focusing on how to draft effective and meaningful letters for university applications. The session included a practical demonstration where teachers shared their inputs and explored how students' academic strengths, activities and personal qualities can be translated into stronger, more personalised recommendations.



Student Orientation Sessions

Students from Grades 8 to 12 participated in career counselling orientation sessions designed to introduce them to important milestones across their high-school journey. The sessions focused on how students can gradually build strong profiles through academics, activities, skill development and purposeful exploration, while making informed choices aligned with their future university and career goals.



FLAME University Application Session

The FLAME University team conducted an interactive session for Grade 12 students, introducing them to FLAME's educational philosophy, academic pathways and campus experience. Students also received practical guidance on the university's application process, along with useful tips and insights on preparing for the FLAME Entrance Aptitude Test.



University of Sydney Session

A three-member delegation from the University of Sydney visited the school to engage with Grade 11 and 12 students. Dr Sophie Chao led an insightful session on Anthropology as a Pathway for Understanding Culture and Difference in Times of Crisis, encouraging students to look at global challenges through a different academic lens. The delegation also introduced students to the university's programmes, learning opportunities and campus experience.



UCAS 2026 Personal statement changes



Find out what's changing for personal statements for 2026 entry, and how you can write the best personal statement to support your application.

If you're applying to university for a 2026 entry, you will need to know about the changes being made to the personal statement section in the UCAS application form. Below is a review of what's changing, why the changes are being made, and how you can incorporate these changes and write the best personal statement to support your application.

UCAS personal statement

The personal statement is part of your application form. It is your chance to talk about your experience, ambitions and skills, and why these make you a suitable applicant for a particular subject. The personal statement is probably the most important part of the application process. It can be crucial in deciding whether you get an interview and accepted onto your chosen course.

What's changing in 2026?

Now instead of writing one long piece, UCAS is changing the structure of its personal statement and splitting it into three separate sections. In each of these sections you will be asked to answer three scaffolded questions based on key information universities need to know to be able to assess your application.

This new structure will make it easier for you to express your thoughts coherently and consistently. Each section will have a minimum of 350 characters and there will be character counters provided on each of the text boxes to signal how many you have used. There will also be supportive information on the personal statement page to help guide you throughout the process.

Why is the personal statement changing?

Changes are being made to make it easier for students to write their personal statement and offer more support. By splitting the text into three labelled sections, students can focus on the key elements that universities are looking for. It will cut down the time it takes to research how to start a personal statement, and instead, means applicants can focus on what they want to say and how to articulate themselves clearly.

What's staying the same?

Even though the personal statement is being separated into three different sections, it will still be 4,000 characters in total, including spaces.

The actual content of the text will stay the same. You are still writing about your aspirations for the future and reasons for choosing a particular subject area. You will still be drawing on the same experience and skills and explaining why you are right for the course – it will just be split into three sections, rather than one long text.



How to answer the new questions

Read more about the new questions below and what you should think about when answering them.

Q1: Why do you want to study this course or subject?

Here you can explain your reasons for choosing your course and how it fits in with your future plans. This will provide insight into who you are and reflect your ambitions and enthusiasm. You should:

Give examples of any related study or work which has motivated you to want to take the subject further.

- Show them who you are and what makes you stand out from the crowd.
- Talk about what excites you most about the course.
- Mention any particular areas that you are especially interested in and why.
- Use language that's clear and concise.
- Only include information which is relevant for the specific subject you wish to study.



Q2: How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?

For this question, you need to draw on your academic knowledge and show how it relates to the course you are applying to. You should:

- Explain why your previous studies have led you to want to specialise in this particular subject.
- Mention projects you have done, or qualifications you have taken.
- Summarise what you learned from your previous studies and explain how they have prepared you for your chosen course.

Q3: What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

In this last section, you have the chance to talk about any hobbies, extracurricular activities or clubs you may participate in, and explain why they are relevant to your application. You should:

- Demonstrate your experience by talking about specific activities and teams you may be a part of. You can describe how these activities have equipped you with certain skills and how this experience will help you at university.
- Try not to just write a long list of hobbies.
- Choose key activities and focus on what they require and why they are relevant.
- Remember the three sections will be reviewed as one piece of writing so you must make sure you don't repeat anything across the three parts. Each is answering a very separate question and must be unique.



Career Options Besides Medicine Post Grade 12



For many students who choose Physics, Chemistry and Biology in senior school, medicine can begin to feel synonymous with one degree. The conversation often revolves around MBBS, NEET scores and medical college admissions.

However, healthcare is supported by professionals with very different forms of expertise. Dentists, physiotherapists, nurses, pharmacists and practitioners of recognised Indian systems of medicine all contribute to patient care.

These degrees should not be viewed merely as alternatives for students who do not secure an MBBS seat. Each represents a distinct profession, with its own curriculum, responsibilities and career progression. The right choice depends on what a student wants to study and the kind of work they hope to do.

1) Bachelor of Pharmacy or BPharm:.



Image Link: <https://s3-ap-south-1.amazonaws.com/ricedigitals3bucket/AUPortalContent/2021/07/12114718/blog-banner.jpg>

Pharmacists play a crucial role in the healthcare system by ensuring safe and effective medication use. They are responsible for dispensing medications, providing drug information, and counseling patients on proper usage and potential side effects. If you are interested in the science of medications, including their development, mechanisms of action, and the impact they have on the human body then this course can be the best option for you. B Pharma is one of the best medicine courses for students who aspire to master the field of medicine.

Course Details:

The course duration is typically 4 years, during which students study subjects such as pharmaceutical Organic chemistry, Biochemistry, Pathophysiology, pharmacology, pharmaceutical analysis, Physical pharmaceutics, Pharmaceutical Microbiology, Medicinal Chemistry and pharmacy practice.

After completing a BPharm degree, you have the option to pursue higher studies such as MPharm (Master of Pharmacy) under various specialization in areas like clinical pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, pharmaceutical research, or pharmacology or PharmD (Doctor of Pharmacy) or MBA

Professional opportunities:

After successfully completing this course, you will work as a pharmacist in hospitals, retail pharmacies, pharmaceutical companies, research laboratories, and regulatory bodies. With additional qualifications and experience, opportunities for managerial positions and entrepreneurship in the pharmaceutical industry open up.

2)Bachelor of Physiotherapy [BPT]:



Image Link: <https://www.nmcpondy.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/1699355707815479704654alc3b58c95.jpg>

Physiotherapists are healthcare professionals who specialize in restoring and maintaining the physical function, mobility, and well-being of individuals. They use various techniques, exercises, and therapies to help patients recover from injuries, manage chronic conditions, and improve overall physical fitness.

Course Details:

Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT) is a 4.5 years course including internship (period of internship differs from institute to institute), which includes both theoretical and practical training. Your subjects majorly include anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, bio mechanics, kinesiology, pathology, microbiology, pharmacology, general medicine and general surgery, Neurology, therapeutic techniques and more..

Also, the curriculum focuses on developing clinical skills, patient assessment, treatment planning, and rehabilitation strategies. After completing a BPT degree, students can opt for specialization through post-graduation (MPT) in areas like orthopedics, neurology, sports physiotherapy, cardiovascular and respiratory physiotherapy, or pediatric physiotherapy.

Professional Opportunities:

Physiotherapists work at different locations from a hospital ward to private clinics, and even with mental health patients in psychiatric settings. Their job is to rehabilitate ill and injured patients, who may be children, elderly, stroke patients, and people with sports injuries.

3) Bachelor of Science in Nursing_(BSc Nursing):



Image Link : <https://www.kzu.ac.in/storage/blogs/178840758510097940119.webp>

Nursing is a noble profession focused on providing compassionate care to individuals, families, and communities. Nurses play a crucial role in the healthcare system by promoting health, preventing illness, and assisting in patient recovery.

Course Details:

The duration of the course is 4 years and students acquire knowledge in subjects such as anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, nutrition, medical-surgical nursing, pediatric nursing, psychiatric nursing, community health nursing, and research methodology. The curriculum combines classroom learning with clinical training to develop essential nursing skills.

Professional opportunities:

Upon completing BSc Nursing, graduates can work as registered nurses in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, community health centers, and nursing homes. They can provide direct patient care, administer medications, assist in surgeries, educate patients and their families, and contribute to healthcare management. Nurses also have opportunities for specialization in areas such as critical care nursing, pediatric nursing, psychiatric nursing, or nurse education.

4) Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [BOT]:



Photo Link: <https://lifecarecounselling.in/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Occupational-Therapy-lifecare-counselling-centre-kottayam.jpg>

Occupational therapy is a rehabilitation profession, and therapists work with people of all ages who require assistance to lead an independent and productive life. The patients usually are affected by physical, developmental, social, or emotional problems. BOT is also known as the best paramedical course with tons of career opportunities across the world.

Course Details:

A bachelor's degree in occupational therapy (BOT) is a minimum requirement to start your career. During the degree, you will learn about the various techniques of recovery, and you will get hands-on experience through various internships and training programs. Masters in occupational therapy is recommended if you want to specialize in a particular area of OT.

Professional Opportunities:

Your work could include teaching an older patient recovering from a stroke to dress or motivating a person suffering from depression to take up a hobby or activity which they loved earlier, etc. Social service departments, hospitals, special schools, etc. are some of the places where you can work.

5)Bachelor in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology [BASLP]:



Photo Link: https://sgtuniversity.ac.in/assets/images/faculty/allied-health-science/programme/bachelor/bsc_AudiologySpeech-1.JPG

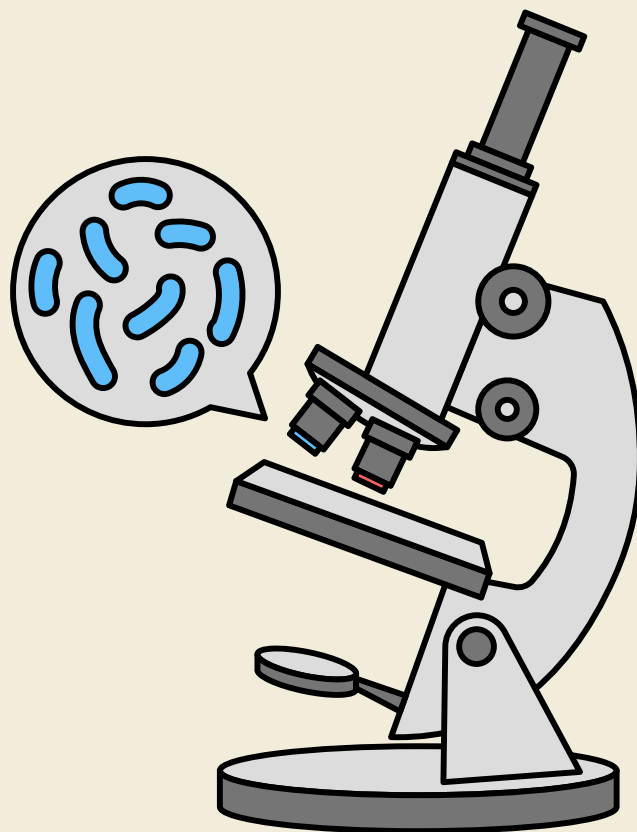
Bachelor in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (BASLP) is an undergraduate program that focuses on the diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of communication disorders related to hearing, speech, and language. Professionals in this field work with individuals of all ages to improve their communication skills and enhance their quality of life.

Course Details:

Bachelor in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (BASLP) degree is for 4 years, which includes both theoretical and practical training. Your field of study involves anatomy and physiology of the ear, audiology, speech-language pathology, rehabilitation techniques, communication disorders, and research methodologies.

Professional opportunities:

After completing BASLP, graduates can work as audiologists, speech-language pathologists, or speech therapists in hospitals, clinics, rehabilitation centers, schools, and private practice. They assess and diagnose communication disorders, provide therapy and intervention, fit hearing aids, conduct hearing tests, and collaborate with other healthcare professionals.



Insights and Impact: The Role of Data in Shaping University Selection

Article Link: <https://www.cialfo.co/blog/insights-and-impact-the-role-of-data-in-shaping-university-selection>



Explore how data-driven strategies are crucial in tailoring university outreach and enhancing student recruitment, ensuring institutions stand out in the global education landscape.

Beyond academic reputation and course offerings, it is crucial for universities to understand the multifaceted factors that influence the decision-making process of prospective students. By gaining insights into these determinants, universities can tailor their outreach strategies, alleviate concerns, and position themselves as compelling choices. This article explores data-driven insights and strategies for universities to attract and retain students effectively.

Key factors influencing university selection

Country perception:

Factors such as the level of internationalisation and cultural openness act as powerful 'pull' factors, while perceptions of cultural insularity or limited global engagement can 'push' students away. For instance, a UCAS study found that 53% of students were attracted by the UK's diversity and welcoming multicultural environment. This interplay between push and pull factors significantly shapes how students perceive the value and appeal of studying in a particular country.

Political climate:

Today's learners seek environments conducive to academic growth, personal safety, and ideological alignment. By choosing destinations with favorable political climates, students not only safeguard their well-being but also cultivate an enriching educational journey characterized by intellectual freedom and cross-cultural exchange.

Cost of living:

The QS International Student Survey (ISS) 2023 reveals that 69% of students cite cost of living as their primary concern when studying abroad. Notably, universities with lower tuition fees and more affordable living expenses are more attractive to international students, highlighting the critical need to ensure financial accessibility for prospective students.

Livability:

Cities that excel in livability factors such as safety, healthcare, and infrastructure, like Vienna (ranked #1) and Zurich (ranked #2), consistently attract higher numbers of international student enrolments and expatriation, as evidenced by the Mercer Quality of Living Survey. A vibrant and welcoming environment directly impacts student satisfaction and retention, underscoring the importance of a holistic campus experience.

Employability:

The QS Graduate Employability Rankings illustrate a direct correlation between a university's employability score and its attractiveness to prospective students, with institutions ranking highly experiencing a surge in applicant volumes. Students place significant emphasis on post-graduation employment prospects, seeking universities with robust industry connections and proven track records of career success.

Reputation and courses:

Rankings showcase an institution's faculty expertise, advanced research, and relevant curricula. A QS study found that 64% of students view employment prospects as a critical factor in choosing where to study, closely followed by the university's reputation, which is often reflected in these rankings.



Strategies for universities to enhance perceptions and positioning

Employ data-driven marketing:

Leverage data analytics and market research to gain insights into the specific concerns and preferences of right-fit student populations, enabling tailored messaging and outreach efforts. Such insights not only aid in crafting targeted communications but also help in developing programs and services that resonate well with incoming classes.

Forge strategic partnerships:

Work with industry leaders, government agencies, and alumni networks to create opportunities for internships, research collaborations, and job placements.

Invest in student experience:

Allocate resources to enhance campus infrastructure, student support services, inclusive policies, and extracurricular activities to make the campus more appealing to a broader demographic.

Focus on academic excellence and innovation:

Continuously updating curriculum and pedagogical approaches, focusing on research opportunities, and highlighting faculty expertise can enhance the academic appeal.

Commit to transparent and frequent communication:

Address concerns head-on through clear and open communication about tuition costs, financial aid options, safety protocols, and support services for international students. Doing this frequently also ensures that you remain at the top of students' minds.



In a world where prospective students have a multitude of options for higher education, universities must transcend traditional boundaries and proactively address the diverse and evolving needs of their global student body. By integrating data-driven insights into their strategic planning, universities can craft tailored, compelling narratives that resonate deeply with prospective students and solidify their reputation as forward-thinking, student-centered institutions.

As universities continue to adapt to the dynamic landscape of global education, those that prioritize a responsive, data-informed approach will be best positioned to attract a vibrant and diverse student body, ready to face the challenges of tomorrow.

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Three Important Tips for International Students Who Need and Want U.S. Financial Aid



1) Do your best in high school (the best way to prepare for any financial aid)



Regardless if the total cost of attendance for college is 500 USD/year or 70,000 USD/year, your eligibility for financial support to college overseas will dramatically improve if you have made the most of your time in high school. Merit aid is defined by each university and often based on outstanding academic achievement, and engagement within an academic context: are you making the most of your classes? Exams available to you? Clubs? Relationships with your teachers?

Engagement in the major you are interested in? Other scholarships rely on your involvement and interest in charity or school activities, contributing to positive community engagement. There are also scholarships that factor in a limited ability to pay for college with a cut-off above-average grade/grade point average (GPA) to be eligible; so, make your total qualification count.

2. Identify how much you can actually afford



Before you search for colleges, discuss openly with your family what you can afford, and also what is comfortable/ideal for them to pay (sometimes, these are two different answers).

Financial aid comes in several forms: this wonderfully detailed podcast—Financial Aid Tips for International Students (and their Counselors)—will help you understand more about the process.

Learn about common mistakes and what you need to know about receiving financial support in the U.S. in particular. We highly recommend you take the 40 minutes to listen to this podcast before you dive into the rest of the tips listed in this article.

It is also wise to learn how colleges evaluate your financial situation. Colleges normally want you to submit a letter from your bank, including your account balance as part of the International Student Certification of Finances (here's an example), tax returns (here's another example) and/or a Financial Aid Application (yet another example). In the U.S., some colleges will ask you for the College Scholarship Service (CSS)/Financial Aid PROFILE form.

3. Be realistic: look at universities outside of the U.S.



Financial aid is extremely limited and competitive for non-U.S. students applying to U.S. schools. In addition, tuition, room and board in the U.S. for four-year colleges averages at about 40,000 USD/year, so finding full or partial scholarships to reduce the total cost of attendance can be very challenging.

If you open up your options to studying outside of the U.S., you will be pleasantly surprised. You can find bachelor's (and even graduate) degrees in English in countries such as Estonia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Italy, and Poland (among others) starting at a total of 10,000 (USD) or less per year—that includes tuition and living expenses.

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Three Important Tips for International Students Who Need and Want U.S. Financial Aid

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