



ROYAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY  
CIRENCESTER

# Undergraduate Offer guide 2015-2016



“Established in 1845, we are recognised nationally and internationally as a leader in the delivery of education, research and consultancy, in and relating to, agriculture and the rural environment”.



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## Welcome to the RAU

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Congratulations on receiving an offer from the Royal Agricultural University. We hope you find this guide helpful when making what is, undoubtedly, a life enhancing decision. Established in 1845, we are recognised nationally and internationally as a leader in the delivery of education, research and consultancy, in and relating to, agriculture and the rural environment.

Our undergraduate and postgraduate courses help our students to achieve their future dreams in the agricultural, land, business management, food, equine and property industries.

You will find all aspects of life at the RAU varied and exciting. We pride ourselves on being large enough that many facilities are on-site; yet small enough to create a friendly atmosphere. I do hope that you choose to come and join us at the Royal Agricultural University.

Nigel Warner  
Academic Registrar



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## Admissions



### Your UCAS offer

By now you should be able to see your offer via the UCAS Track facility. If you accept a conditional offer it will remain at this stage until all of the respective conditions have been met. Applicants with an unconditional offer will have met all conditions required for the course. Applicants wishing to defer their offer must have satisfied all conditions by the 28<sup>th</sup> August 2015 in order for a place to be reserved for you in September 2016.

### Contacting admissions

If you have questions about your offer please feel free to contact admissions at any time.

Tel: +44 (0) 1285 889912

Email: [admissions@rau.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@rau.ac.uk)



### “My RAU”

Once you receive an offer from the RAU you will be able to log into the university’s applicant portal. “My RAU” can be found [here](#), your username will be your eight digit student number which is printed at the top of your offer letter. Your password will be your date of birth in the format ddmmyyyy. You will be invited to change your password on your first visit.

### Term dates for 2015/16

5 <sup>th</sup> October 2015 – 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2015	10 weeks
11 <sup>th</sup> January 2016 – 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	10 weeks
18 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 – 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	10 weeks







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## Application checklist



Timing	Activity	Checklist	Tick
November 2014- March 2015	* Receive your offer from the Royal Agricultural University and any other choices	* Read through your offer guides	<input type="checkbox"/>
	* Attend a University Applicant day	* Book your place via email at <a href="mailto:applicantdays@rau.ac.uk">applicantdays@rau.ac.uk</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	* Research your accommodation options	* Once you've confirmed your offer book early to confirm your accommodation	<input type="checkbox"/>
	* Arrange student funding and any other additional support	* Apply online at <a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance">www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance</a> for tuition loan and living cost loan/grants. Check eligibility for scholarships/awards	<input type="checkbox"/>
May 2015	* Deadline to reply to your offer (for those that applied prior to January 2015)	* Enter firm and insurance choices via UCAS Track	<input type="checkbox"/>
July 2014	* Students not taking A-Levels, BTECs or IB will need to send us their exam results	* Send exams results to the Royal Agricultural University	<input type="checkbox"/>
August 2014	* Receive your exam results and confirm your place at the Royal Agricultural University		





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## Choosing your accommodation



### Student Accommodation at the RAU

At the RAU we have 320 student bedrooms that we offer to First Year Undergraduates, but we also offer a limited number of rooms to returning students and Post Graduates. We have a mixture of Catered and Self-Catered accommodation with the Dinner Bed and Breakfast option as standard, however you have the opportunity to upgrade to a fully catered package. We also offer “quiet bedrooms” for students who prefer the more tranquil environment. The bedrooms are a mixture of standard rooms with shared bathroom facilities, en-suite rooms and twins

### Accommodation Guide

If you'd like to read more about the Halls of Residence available for both Undergraduate and Postgraduate students, please download our [Accommodation Guide](#).

### FAQs

If you have a question, please visit our frequently asked questions section. If you still can't find what you're looking for, please contact the Accommodation Office:

E-mail [accommodation@rau.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@rau.ac.uk) or telephone 01285 889896.

### [FAQs](#)





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## Money matters

### Fees

The Home tuition fee for all undergraduate courses beginning in 2015–16 will be £9,000 per year. However, you won't have to pay this up front, as a tuition fee loan is available to all UK and EU students for any amount up to the full fee.



### Student finance

The main student finance package includes a:

- Tuition Fee Loan
- Maintenance Loan - full-time students only
- Maintenance Grant or Special Support Grant - full-time students only

Tuition fee loans pay for your course. Maintenance loans are also available for UK students to help towards your living costs. In addition, government maintenance grants are available on a sliding scale for students whose household income is up to £42,620, with those whose household income is below £25,000 being entitled to the full grant of £3,387. These grants are non-repayable. For full details about student finance including when to apply can be found on the government's [website](#).

### Scholarships, awards, bursaries and fee waivers

The Scholarship Scheme was established to provide worthy students with the support necessary to work towards achieving their full personal potential during their period of study at the University. To find out whether you're eligible for one of our scholarships please click [here](#).

### Extra Support

The government has a range of funds available for those in particular circumstances who may need additional financial help. These include the Childcare Grant and Parents' Learning Allowance for students with dependant children; the Disabled Students' Allowance which provides eligible students with both general allowance and specific help for equipment and non-medical helpers; and the Access to Learning Fund for students facing exceptional financial hardship. Find out more at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)



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## Visiting the university

### Applicant days

The best way to find out what the student experience is like at the Royal Agricultural University is to visit, explore, ask questions and meet current students and staff. As an offer holder you are invited to attend the University for an applicant day. It is important that you take the opportunity to attend one of these events, especially if you have not visited our campus before.

Applicant days available for 2015.

**Wednesday 18th February 10am-4pm**  
**Wednesday 18th March 10am-4pm**  
**Wednesday 25th March 10am-4pm**  
**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 10am-4pm**

Provisional timetables by school

School of [Agriculture, Food and Environment](#)  
School of [Equine Management and Science](#)  
School of [Business and Entrepreneurship](#)  
School of [Real Estate and Land Management](#)  
[All foundation degrees](#)

We would advise confirming your attendance early as many of the dates do become fully booked. Please could you select a favoured date and a reserve date to ensure you don't miss out. To book your place please email [applicantdays@rau.ac.uk](mailto:applicantdays@rau.ac.uk)

### The Student Union

The Student Union (SU) team are always busy developing fantastic activities, clubs, societies and some of the country's finest event weeks and balls. You'll be able to meet the SU team at the applicant day and find out what they can offer you. You can also view the list of societies and clubs at the RAU [here](#).







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## Frequently asked questions

### **What happens if I experience difficulties at examination time?**

We understand that circumstances can arise which have a detrimental impact on exam performance. If you marginally miss the conditions of your offer at Confirmation, the School will consider severe extenuating circumstances in mid-August. Unfortunately, there is no guarantee that we will be able to confirm your offer.

### **I am not taking A levels. Will you get my results automatically?**

We receive results for BTECs and for most International Baccalaureate students automatically from UCAS. However, we are not sent results for many other qualifications, including English language tests and any GCSEs you might have been asked to take. If you are taking one of these qualifications it is your responsibility to ensure that your results reach us. You should send them to the admissions officer named in your offer letter as soon as you receive them; and by 31 August 2015 at the very latest.

### **I have changed my mind about the course I want to study. Can I change to another course?**

Please contact us to discuss this. It may be possible, but it will depend on whether places are still available, how competitive the new course is, and whether your subjects and grades are suitable. If the course you wish to study is in the same area or department as your original one, there is a good chance you will be able to change, but this cannot be guaranteed.

### **I have changed my postal and/or email address. What should I do?**

Please notify UCAS and the Undergraduate Admissions Office of your new address in writing as soon as possible.

### **What happens if I have applied for deferred entry?**

If your offer is for deferred entry (ie, you are intending to take a gap year), you must still satisfy all the conditions of your offer by 31 August 2015. If you are successful in meeting those conditions, or if your offer is already unconditional, a place will then be reserved for you to start in September 2016.

### **I no longer want to go to University, who do I tell?**

It's important to contact [UCAS](#) who will inform your chosen universities that you do not wish to proceed with your application to University.

### **Who do I need to contact if I would like to talk to someone about special support arrangements?**

The university Disability Officer Dr John Conway provides a range of services for students who have special needs, disabilities or medical conditions. If you would like to talk to John you can contact him at [john.conway@rau.ac.uk](mailto:john.conway@rau.ac.uk) or phone 01285652531 ext 2234

### **I have some questions about the scholarships you offer, who can I contact for further information?**

You can also contact our Admissions team on 01285 652531, or email [scholarships@rau.ac.uk](mailto:scholarships@rau.ac.uk).





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**Stroud Road A419**

**Tetbury Road A429**

**A419 (M4) Cirencester (Swindon/London)**

**A429 (M4) Cirencester (Swindon/London)**

**A46 (M4) Kemble (Bath/Bristol)**

Woodland Car Park

Stroud Road Car Park

Woodland

Administration Wing 24

Atrium Café 11

Bathurst Wing 20

Bledisloe Court 31

Boutflour Hall 17

Catering & Dining Rooms 21

Cedar Lodge 7

Chapel 27

Coad Court 32

Shop 12

Food Centre 19

Garden House 18

Gamer Lecture Block 16

George Wing 25

Gym 9

Kenneth Russell Room 22

Launderette 30

Library & Computer Resources 13

Library Foyer 14

New Halls of Residence 5

Outreach Centre 6

Parkinson Lecture Theatre 15

Postgraduate Centre 8

Science Laboratories 28

Sir Emrys Jones Centre 10

Squash Courts 29

Student Surgery 23

Tithe Barn, Union Club & Bar 26

Vic Hughes Hall 1

Woodland Lodge 1 2

Woodland Lodge 2 3

Woodland Lodge 3 / Jubilee 4

Main Entrance A

Stroud Road Entrance B

Woodland Entrance C

Porter's Lodge 27

Campus Security Centre 26

Reception 16

School of Agriculture, Food & Environment 16

School of Business & Entrepreneurship 16

School of Equine & Management Science 16

School of Real Estate & Land Management 7

School of International Affairs & Distance Learning 33

Woodland 31

Woodland 25

Woodland 24

Woodland 23

Woodland 22

Woodland 21

Woodland 20

Woodland 19

Woodland 18

Woodland 17

Woodland 16

Woodland 15

Woodland 14

Woodland 13

Woodland 12

Woodland 11

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Woodland 9

Woodland 8

Woodland 7

Woodland 6

Woodland 5

Woodland 4

Woodland 3

Woodland 2

Woodland 1