HOW TO APPLY TO THE CAMBRIDGE COLLEGES

Program: One Year Program at the Colleges at Cambridge University, England. Semester study is not an option.

Website: Please visit the University of Cambridge’s website at http://www.cam.ac.uk.

Deadline: Students may apply to Cambridge in three ways:

1) APPLY TO A NON-PARTNER COLLEGE. Because the Colleges fill up quickly, applications to non-partner colleges should be sent as early as possible in the fall preceding the year of study; there is usually a closing date of February 5th. This is a non-binding application. Deadlines for all colleges vary from October 15th to February 5th. Admission to a non-partner college is extremely competitive. Regrettably, no late applications can be accepted.

2) APPLY TO A PARTNER COLLEGE. Students must first go through an internal application process and be nominated by the Haverford Oxbridge Faculty Committee. The deadline for this internal application is December 4th. Haverford has partnerships with:
   - Fitzwilliam College.
   - Lucy Cavendish College. For women only. Students must be 21 years of age by the time they matriculate.

If recommended, students will then receive an application to the specific college. Because Haverford has agreements with partner colleges, if a student applies and is accepted, they are required to attend. Given this, the application itself is a binding contract. See handout: Procedures for Applying to Partner Oxford and Cambridge Colleges. Not 100% sure? Apply to any of the non-partner colleges that accept junior year abroad students.

Application Fee: No application fee is required for Haverford's internal selection process. However, upon nomination a $500.00 non-refundable deposit is required. If not accepted to the program, this will be refunded. If accepted, it will be credited towards tuition for the second semester.

Program Dates: Approximate Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michaelmas</td>
<td>2 October – 30 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lent</td>
<td>15 January – 15 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Term</td>
<td>23 April – 14 June</td>
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The academic year begins in October and is divided into three terms, Michaelmas, Lent and Easter, each lasting for about eight weeks. A six week break separates the terms.

Eligibility: Minimum 3.8 GPA in major; Minimum 3.8 GPA overall. Students must be in good academic and disciplinary standing. Students should have completed at least two years of study at Haverford.
Candidates from the United States of America should list their SAT/ATC and AP/IB scores. N.B.: This does NOT mean track down the original documents from College Board! Just list the scores on the application. Scores are available from their dean.

Candidates from India, Pakistan, Asia, Africa, the West Indies, or Central or South America, check the online sections of "University of Cambridge: Information for Overseas Students."

**Nota Bene:** Students who do not meet the matriculation requirements will not be permitted to study at Cambridge even if accepted by a college. Occasionally, one can petition the university for special dispensation. (See Rebecca Avery)

Nominations for the partner colleges **must** be made by the Haverford Faculty Oxbridge Committee and the deadline is December 4th. See “Procedures for Applying to Partner Oxford and Cambridge Colleges.” Please **do not** apply to partner colleges unless 100% committed to the program. If a student **applies**, and is accepted, they are **required** to attend. Not sure? Students are also free to apply to any of the other colleges that accept junior year abroad students.

**Application Procedures**

1. Attend the open **mandatory** information session on Oxford and Cambridge. Students who do not attend the information session will not be permitted to apply to partner colleges. Those who do not attend and wish to apply to non-partner colleges will have to wait until all the students who attended the meeting are seen.
2. Read all materials pertaining to Cambridge in the black binder in Stokes 118D, on the Haverford Study Abroad website, and on the Cambridge college specific website.
3. Discuss plans with Rebecca Avery **before** applying to any of these Colleges. Appointments can be scheduled on her Google Appointment page accessible through the “Contact Us” page on the Study Abroad website.
4. After meeting with Rebecca Avery, submit Haverford’s online Declaration of Intent to Study Abroad at [https://enterprise.haverford.edu/servlet/reality/hcadmin/abroadapp](https://enterprise.haverford.edu/servlet/reality/hcadmin/abroadapp).
5. Complete the internal, college-specific application by December 4th, which may be found online.
6. Obtain two faculty recommendations (must be in the subject of intended study). These should be forwarded via e-mail directly to Rebecca Avery by the faculty member no later than December 4th.

**BY DECEMBER 4TH,** students should submit the following to Rebecca Avery **via e-mail** (all documents should be attached to a single e-mail):

   a. An essay of approximately 800 words, focusing on the academic reasons for attending Oxford or Cambridge.
   b. Haverford college transcript (does not have to be official)
   c. A sample of their best-written academic work in the area of intended study (not always necessary for mathematics and sciences).

**Students will not be nominated until grades from the fall semester are recorded.**

*Please see the “Procedures for Applying to Partner Oxford and Cambridge Colleges” handout for detailed application information.*
Non-Partner Applicants:
If you are applying to a non-partner college, please follow the procedures as indicated on the application for that particular college.

Cambridge recommends that students send all the information in one mailing. Place the completed application and all other material in an unsealed, stamped, manila envelope addressed to the Tutor for Admissions. Submit this application packet to Rebecca Avery two weeks before the deadline so that she can prepare her letter of endorsement. Faculty recommendations should also be sent Rebecca Avery. Do not have the faculty member mail it directly to the Tutor for Admissions. The application shall be sent via registered mail after Rebecca Avery has reviewed the material. The application process to non-partner colleges is the same except there is no letter of recommendation from the Faculty Oxbridge Committee.

It is important that the information given should be as complete as possible, so that the College can make its decision promptly and in the best interests of the applicant. In particular, the colleges need to have full details of the applicant’s academic career. It is also very helpful to know what area(s) within a subject the applicant would hope to study at Cambridge (for example, "19th or 20th-century English literature" rather than simply "English"). Tutors will naturally be pleased to give advice regarding such matters for those who are undecided.

Please note that the admissions process may take several months.

Academic Credits:
One full year at Cambridge = 8 credits at Haverford. Students who do not complete the year will not receive ANY credit. NO EXCEPTIONS. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CAN STUDENTS COMPRESS THEIR PRIMARY OR SECONDARY TUTORIAL TO LESS THAN 8 WEEKS OR 4 WEEKS, RESPECTIVELY!

Academic Program:
It is expected that most Visiting Students will spend the year studying a single subject, although in certain cases it may be possible to arrange tutelage in a combination of two subjects. Applicants wishing to study a ‘minor’ subject should make this clear at the time of application. Once a visiting student’s subjects to be studied are agreed upon (normally, at the time a place is offered), it is expected that changes will not be made unless there are exceptional circumstances. To clarify, if a student is accepted to study history, they cannot go and study philosophy unless philosophy is indicated as a minor subject prior to acceptance.

Tutorial:
The central feature of a course of instruction in Cambridge is the "supervision" - a weekly meeting of a student with his or her tutor at which written work is presented and discussed. The individualized nature of these supervisions makes it possible to arrange work appropriate to the particular background and interests of each student. Most students have between one to three supervisions a week, either singly or in small groups of two to four students. In addition, the University provides a large range of lectures each term, attended by students from any of the Cambridge colleges. For example, a student studying philosophy at one college may attend a lecture on chemistry at another.

Examinations:
If university finals are set, the student must take them or the equivalent, i.e. college tests or research papers. Students should bring copies of their papers home for review by their major advisor.
Libraries: Cambridge is supremely well endowed with libraries. Students will find that they come into contact with three libraries. Their Faculty will have a specialist library of books and periodicals relevant to their subject, and students may well find it the best place in which to work. In addition, the University Library, a copyright library entitled to receive a copy of every book and periodical published in the United Kingdom, contains some three million national and foreign publications covering most subjects taught at Cambridge. On a smaller scale, each College will have its own library, supplementing the University and Faculty libraries by stocking more copies of the most important books needed.

Payment of Fees:

Tuition: Students pay tuition to Haverford College, which will then be responsible for paying the program directly.

Room & Board: In most cases, students are responsible for room and board fees.

Please note: In addition to providing financial aid for Tuition, Haverford will also provide aid for Room and Board for those eligible. Only qualified students receiving Haverford grant funds will receive an airfare allowance if their family income is less than $100,000. Students studying either for a semester or for a full academic year (if approved by the International Academic Programs Faculty Advisory Board) will receive only one airfare allowance credit. The amount will be credited towards the student’s Haverford tuition bill.

Students may not apply for off-campus independent housing and may not opt to live in apartments with other American students.

Refunds: Because Haverford will have to pay the entire tuition fees in advance, should a student withdraw from the program, the college will not be able to refund tuition. Haverford must adhere to the tuition policies of each institution. Even in medical emergencies, if there is no refund forthcoming from the individual college, Haverford cannot issue a refund. Students might want to consider tuition insurance, which is available through the Haverford Business Office. A fee will be levied for students who withdraw. Again, for partner colleges, students are expected to go if accepted. This is because the college does not maintain a wait list and accepts a student’s word of honor that they will attend. If a student were to be accepted and refused to attend, such actions would result in a lost slot for another Haverford student and loss of revenue for the Cambridge College. Therefore, please note that the application itself is a binding contract. A $500.00 non-refundable deposit, payable to Haverford College, is required of all applicants. The fee will be credited to the tuition of those who are accepted. Refunds are made only to those students not accepted for study.

International Student Identification Card Haverford recommends that students obtain either an International Student Identification Card and international health insurance through iNext before leaving the United States. It serves as an acceptable form of identification in most cases, eliminating the necessity of carrying a passport. iNext provides basic accident, medical, and repatriation insurance for travel outside of the U.S., as well as 24-hour world wide access to medical, legal, and travel assistance. It also includes a discount on airline tickets, a free global calling card, and a free international cell phone and SIM card. These iNext cards have 3 levels of comprehensive insurance, and cost approximately $36-$215.

The iNext Travel insurance Card can be purchased online at http://www.inext.com/plans/index.aspx.
Passport: All international travel requires a passport, which must be valid for 6 months after a student's intended date of return. The process may take several weeks, so apply early!

Visa: Any student from the U.S. studying in the U.K. for 6 months or longer MUST get a U.K. Visa before departure. Haverford students studying abroad in the UK must qualify for a Tier 4 General Student Visa under a Points Based System (PBS). Visas must be obtained through the nearest British diplomatic post (Embassy, High Commission, or Consulate-General). Haverford recommends using the New York Consulate-General, located at 845 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022 (Tel: (212) 745-0200, Fax: (212) 754-3062).

*Visa procedures and requirements are constantly changing.* The visa is a stamp placed in the passport. The visa application process is complicated and can take up to three months. Students will be required to send their passport to the British consulate, so US citizens should not plan to leave the country during the summer following their sophomore year. International students may have to return to their home country to obtain a U.K. Tier 4 Visa. All students should read the application procedures very carefully at https://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa.

International students and non-US citizens should consult the prospectus, the nearest British consulate, and Denise Allison (Director of International Student Services at Haverford).

**Arrival in England:** For immigration purposes students will also need:

a) A passport valid at least six months after their anticipated date of return
b) A Tier 4 General Student Visa
c) Proof of acceptance for a recognized course of study, meaning bring their letter of acceptance with them
d) Proof that the costs of stay may be met (a statement from a bank should do).

**As of October 12, 2017 the current costs for the Tier 4 visa are as follows:**

- Cost of Visa: £335 ($445)

- Health surcharge: ~£150 ($200)

  **Note:** This rate changes per applicant. Check how much you will owe here: [https://www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type](https://www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type)

- Students must prove they have a certain amount of money in their bank account every month to pay their course fees and for additional living costs each month
  
  o From 12 November 2015, the amount you must show for living costs and the areas in which you must demonstrate the London rate for living costs will change. From this date you must show that you have:
    ▪ £1,265 ($1,678) per month for living costs if you are studying in London for the majority of your study (more than 50% of your study time);
    ▪ £1,015 ($1,347) per month for living costs if you are studying outside London or anywhere else in the UK, for the majority of your study (more than 50% of your study time).