Chapter 1

Getting to Know Nursing

In This Chapter
▶ Finding out what nursing is
▶ Understanding what a nurse does
▶ Looking at career opportunities
▶ Seeing how you can become a nurse

Welcome to nursing! In this chapter I familiarise you with the nursing profession, delve into a little history and explain the wide-ranging roles nurses carry out. I explain exactly how you train to become a nurse. I also introduce you to the Nursing and Midwifery Council, which crops up frequently throughout this book, the National Health Service and the Royal College of Nursing.

Read on too, to discover how you can travel the world with your valuable nursing skills . . .

Defining the Nursing Profession

What is nursing? Although this looks like a straightforward question, very few candidates can actually answer it well.

The admission tutors expect you to have formed some opinion of what nursing is and how it differs from other healthcare practices. Defining nursing can be difficult because one of its strengths is that it draws together knowledge from many other disciplines, such as the social and biological sciences. The essence of nursing practice is how it utilises a wide range of sources and a mixture of knowledge to create an entirely individual and distinct profession.
Here’s an illustration of what nursing is, based upon the Royal College of Nursing’s definition:

*Nursing is [...] the use of clinical judgement in the provision of care to enable people to improve, maintain, or recover health, to cope with health problems, and to achieve the best possible quality of life, whatever their disease or disability, until death.*

These are the characteristics that support this definition:

- **Purpose.** Nurses promote health and wellbeing, minimise suffering and encourage patient understanding. When death is inevitable, nurses offer best-quality care during the end of life.

- **Intervention.** Nurses encourage patient empowerment and independence by using a unique process to identify nursing needs and offer direct nursing care.

- **Domain.** Nurses understand how people respond to health and illness, both in the physical and psychological sense but also in social, cultural and spiritual terms too.

- **Focus.** Nurses focus on patients as a whole and care for all human responses rather than caring for particular conditions or illnesses.

- **Values.** Nursing is based upon a set of ethical values that respect dignity, autonomy, individuality and the nurse–patient relationship. Nurses accept professional accountability.

- **Partnership.** Nurses commit to working in partnership with patients, relatives, carers and the multidisciplinary team.

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**A brief history of nursing**

Nursing has been with us through the ages. It may not have been called nursing centuries ago, and it has been associated with wise old women, tribal leaders and even witchcraft at some points in history. However, there have always been individuals ready to come to the aid of others when they are unwell or in distress, and it was often, but not exclusively, women who took on this role of caring.

Nursing is seen as a social construct, responding to current events of the time. Sometimes nursing was the domain of the religious, while in other times it was delegated to the more lowly characters in society. Slowly, nursing became more organised, and although there was little formal education, it was influenced by religious, military and hierarchical structures – which is why nurses have titles such as ‘matron’, ‘sister’ and ‘staff’.

Prior to the 19th century the portrayal of nursing was one of lower-class women who undertook rather remedial roles in the support of the medical profession, often
Nursing is a profession, an occupation that requires prolonged training and a formal qualification in a specific subject or science. Professions:

✔ Develop specific theoretical knowledge relevant to each different field.
✔ Have their own culture.
✔ Introduce codes of ethical practice and have legal reinforcement of standards.
✔ Offer a service to society and receive public recognition.
✔ Receive formal training and have a system of qualification.
✔ Require personal autonomy and accountability for practice.

with little or no training. But modern nursing is, of course, very different (although some modern nurses do use maggots, but that’s a story for another time!). So why and how did nursing change?

Today’s nursing has its roots in the 19th century and the turbulent times of the Crimean War. Britain was at war with Russia, and as in all wars there was much injury, illness and death. The military had its own medical team made up of doctors and nurses; however, there was much disquiet about the high levels of death among the soldiers. Enter Florence Nightingale – ‘the lady with the lamp’.

A truly remarkable person for her times, Florence Nightingale (1820–1910) came from a wealthy family and was very highly educated. She rebelled against conforming to expectations of the well-bred, and instead studied medicine and became renowned for her knowledge of nursing.

She arrived at the British military hospital in Scutari and took over the management of the nurses. She reorganised the care of the wounded and implemented infection control measures such as hand washing with such incredible success that death due to infection was virtually eradicated.

Florence returned to Britain as a national heroine and dedicated the rest of her life to the promotion of nursing. She is recognised as the pioneer of modern nursing and she made a career in nursing respectable for the upper classes. Florence is seen as one of the first nurse researchers and, most importantly for you, championed the formal training of nurses. In 1860 she set up her own nurse training programme at St Thomas’s Hospital in London, and much of the training, education and professionalism accepted as normal today is attributed to her vision of nursing.

Florence Nightingale is the most well-known nursing figure, but she is not the only one who has made an impact on nursing. Mary Seacole is well worth researching, as she too nursed during the Crimean War and has been recognised as a nursing pioneer. She was even voted the ‘Greatest Black Briton’ in 2003.
So a professional nurse:

✓ Has undertaken formal education and has achieved a recognised qualification.
✓ Upholds the professional, ethical and legal requirements expected of the profession, and is regulated to do so.
✓ Acts in the best interests of patients and accepts personal accountability for his or her own conduct and behaviour.

Understanding the Role of the Nursing and Midwifery Council

The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) was first set up in 1919 by Parliament (then named the General Nursing Council). The Council:

✓ Works to protect the public and consider their health and wellbeing in all it does.
✓ Sets the standards for education, training and conduct to ensure that nurses deliver high-quality care.
✓ Ensures that nurses continually update their skills and knowledge in order to uphold the professional standards.
✓ Investigates when nurses fall short of meeting the professional standards.

All qualified nurses must register with the NMC in order to practise, and the NMC also plays a role in the selection and education of student nurses. The NMC set the standards for pre-registration education that all universities must comply to. These standards are very lengthy and outline:

✓ Assessment methods to be used to test students.
✓ Different clinical specialities that students must experience.
✓ Guidance on professional expectations of how students should behave.
✓ Principles for the selection of student nurses.
✓ Rules for the length and time that students must be taught.
✓ Skills students much develop (these are grouped into Essential Skills Clusters).
You’re not expected to fully understand the role of the NMC, but it’s highly likely that the admission tutors will refer to them at some point during the selection process, so make sure you have a decent understanding of the organisation’s role.

The NMC has specific guidance on how student nurses should conduct themselves. Having some understanding of the professional expectations of students is a good way to impress the admission tutors. Here are some examples of how the NMC expects you to behave as a student nurse, which may be useful in preparing yourself to apply:

- Communicate well.
- Treat people as individuals and respect their dignity.
- Respect a person’s right to confidentiality.
- Treat all colleagues, team members and all those you work with fairly and without discrimination.
- Take responsibility for your own learning.

The NMC website (www.nmc-uk.org) has a section just for student nurses. Use this as a resource.

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**The Royal College of Nursing**

It is worth knowing a little about the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) as, like the NMC, it has a significant role in the support of nursing students. Founded in 1916 as a professional organisation for nurses, the RCN is now recognised as the main trade union for nursing.

The aim of trade unions is to look after the rights and wellbeing of workers, and so the aim of the RCN is to look after nurses, including student nurses. Much of this work is in relation to employment practices such as levels of pay; however the RCN also provides a wealth of other support such as guidelines for practice, a major library of nursing books and journals, financial advice, and, most importantly, support on professional development.

There are alternative trade unions that students can join, but the RCN has been recognised by successive governments (and monarchy, hence the ‘Royal’) as the ‘voice of nursing’.

The RCN website at www.rcn.org.uk is well worth a look. It contains a wealth of information about nursing that can be invaluable in convincing the admission tutors that you understand what being a nursing student means.
For more information on the behaviour expected of you as a student nurse, head to Chapter 5.

**Outlining the Role of the Nurse**

Nursing is a healthcare profession that focuses on the health and wellbeing of patients, clients and families. But other healthcare professionals, like doctors, physiotherapists and paramedics, do all that too, so what makes nursing special?

What makes nursing a distinct profession with its own identity is that it absorbs elements of all the other healthcare professions and uses them in a unique role. When caring, nurses draw upon knowledge and skill from a wide variety of other disciplines to ensure the patient receives the best care. Nurses spend much more time with patients and clients than any other healthcare professional and they use a range of skills to deliver holistic care. For example, nurses need to know anatomy and physiology in the same way as doctors do, understand and manage medicines like a pharmacist, move and mobilise the patient with similar skills to a physiotherapist, and understand how the client lives in the community like a social worker.

Although nurses don’t specialise to the same depth of understanding as these other professions, they’re expected to have a thorough and broad understanding and appreciation of all the aspects of the patient’s condition. Here are other subjects that nurses need knowledge of to perform their roles:

- **Law and ethics**: Taking into account patients’ rights and beliefs.
- **Pathophysiology**: Understanding the abnormal function of the body.
- **Epidemiology**: Knowing the patterns and causes of illness and disease in society.
- **Politics**: Realising patient choices in a national context.
- **Psychology**: Appreciating the effects of illness on the patient.
- **Sociology**: Understanding how society impacts on patients’ health.

Nurses use their skills to help and encourage patients to live the life that is normal to them within their own limitations, and where necessary, to allow patients to pass away peacefully and with dignity. They also support families and communities, and work to promote good health and prevent illness in the first place.
Four fields exist in nursing – adult, child, mental health and learning disabilities – and I explore the roles of nurses in these fields in depth in Chapter 2. Depending on their specialty, nurses undertake a wide range of tasks. Here are some you’re likely to do as a student nurse:

- Apply nursing knowledge to the clinical situation.
- Assess patients using nursing models and frameworks.
- Deliver nursing care:
  - Administering medication
  - Bandaging
  - Basic life support
  - Giving injections
  - Recording vital signs such as blood pressure and pulse
  - Using technology
  - Wound dressing
- Give hands-on personal care:
  - Bathing and washing
  - Eating and drinking
  - Moving and walking
  - Toileting
- Implement care plans and evaluate outcomes.
- Offer health promotion.
- Plan care that’s individualised and appropriate for the patient.
- Work with other healthcare professionals.

Within each field the scope of the nurses role and the development of skills and practices are ever-increasing and no two roles are the same. Nurses now have the autonomy and responsibility to care for patients to the level that a few years ago only doctors could do. It is possible today for nurses to have roles that include having their own clinics, making diagnoses of illnesses, undertaking minor surgery and procedures, and prescribing medication.

How your nursing skills and roles develop is dependent on your own career aspirations, your motivation to continue your education and the service development of your field. Table 1-1 shows how a career in nursing can develop. It’s based on my own career, and you can see how academic and clinical development has led me to many different roles.
Part I: Getting Started with a Career in Nursing

Table 1-1  Example Nurse Career Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Qualification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Student</td>
<td>A-levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Junior Staff Nurse (Adult Field)</td>
<td>Registered General Nurse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Staff Nurse (Orthopaedics)</td>
<td>Certificate in Supervisory Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Charge Nurse (Medicine)</td>
<td>Diploma in Professional Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Specialist Nurse (Practice Development)</td>
<td>Certificate in Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Nurse Lecturer (Professional Development)</td>
<td>MSc Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The staff nurse post is most abundant and is an ideal role for many nurses because it gives an opportunity to develop skills while offering flexibility to manage other commitments.

Examining Who Goes into Nursing

Nursing attracts people of all ages, and it’s a career in which you can use your nursing skills right up to retirement (and beyond!). The figures in Table 1-2 show the ages of student nurses and demonstrate the wide range of age groups you’ll be working alongside.

Table 1-2  Student Nurse Ages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percentage of Student Nursing Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18–24</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25–30</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31–34</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35–40</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41–45</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46+</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Younger candidates tend to apply to child nursing, whereas in the other three fields of nursing a pretty even split exists between young and mature students.

Age isn’t an issue when applying to nursing – I’ve offered places to candidates from all of these age ranges. The importance is suitability to nursing and the potential to succeed academically.

What about the male–female ratio? The gender balance in nursing has remained fairly constant for many years, with a greater number of women than men in the profession. Only 11 per cent of nurses are men. In both mental health nursing and learning disabilities nursing you find a higher percentage of men than in adult fields, and the child field has the lowest number of men of all fields.

If you’re a man reading this book, don’t be fooled into believing you can’t nurse in all fields. The stereotyping that led men to favour one field over the other is very much redundant now, and you’ll be fully accepted – indeed encouraged – to follow your heart and apply for the field that best suits you and your skills.

Seeing Where Nurses Work

Each government of the four UK countries sets its own health agenda, and this shapes how many nurses are needed based on population, illness and changing health provision. The good news is that nurses are in demand and significant numbers are needed to support the healthcare system. Table 1-3 shows the number of nurses registered with the NMC for 2011. You can see that as well as many thousands of nurses working throughout the UK, 26,000 UK nurses work abroad.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of Nurses</th>
<th>Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>531,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>34,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>23,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMC registered nurses working outside the UK</td>
<td>26,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Just because England has the greatest number of nurses doesn’t mean that this is where you’ll find the greatest number of opportunities. All countries have equal needs from nursing based on their population size and health requirements, so don’t feel that you must move to new areas to secure the best roles.

When working within the UK, you have a choice of several settings, as I outline in the following sections.

**The National Health Service**

The NHS is by far the largest organisation with the greatest number and variety of roles for nurses of all fields. It’s the largest single employer in the UK with over 1.7 million people looking after a population of nearly 62 million people – the NHS is kept very busy! The main provider of healthcare for the general population, the NHS undoubtedly has a role or speciality to suit your interest.

If you need to have a job closer to home, but with good opportunity to develop your skills and expertise, then the NHS has much to offer.

Here are the more usual clinical areas in which NHS nurses work:

- **Hospitals.** These may be large specialist centres that look after patients with a range of conditions, offering palliative care, medicine and surgery, and catering to elderly, mentally ill and other types of patient. Or they may be small community hospitals with just a few buildings that look after patients for respite or rehabilitative care. Nurses work in day centres, wards and departments such as X-ray or endoscopy. Most of the larger hospitals have the full range of services available, so patients can undertake tests, investigations and operations all on the same site.

- **In the community.** Nurses provide care within the healthcare system or alongside other public services. Examples include working in GP practices or medical centres, working with children in schools and with offenders within the justice system, and working alongside social care services. Some also nurse patients in their own homes.

To get a feel for what the NHS can do for your career, take a look at their career planner on the NHS careers website: [http://nursingcareers.nhsemployers.org](http://nursingcareers.nhsemployers.org).
Chapter 1: Getting to Know Nursing

The independent sector

The independent sector is expanding very rapidly, and it has become an important partner to the NHS. Whereas traditionally it was seen as caring for old age or cosmetic surgery, it now offers services that complement NHS ones. Often patients from the NHS are cared for by nurses in the independent sector, and so many of the skills nurses develop are transferrable between the different employers.

Nurses in the independent sector work in a range of settings:

- **Private hospitals** tend to specialise in surgical procedures, and while cosmetic surgery is an important aspect of their healthcare, private hospitals carry out many other kinds of surgery. These hospitals have state-of-the-art equipment and technology and so can offer a lot of care surrounding health assessments. Many of these hospitals provide care for NHS patients as well as private ones. If, for example, NHS waiting lists are too long for a particular specialty, the care provision is purchased from the local private hospital.

- **Residential and nursing homes** are for people who need care on a 24-hours-a-day basis, but not in a hospital. Residential homes can be for adults, children or people with learning disabilities, and they often have nurses with the relevant

**NHS pay scales**

NHS pay scales are arranged nationally for the public sector, and there are yearly negotiations between the government, employers and unions to decide on any future increases or changes to working arrangements. While nursing won’t make you rich, the levels of pay are consistent with other public sector roles.

Choosing a particular field of nursing doesn’t offer pay advantages; all fields are banded the same against their roles. Selecting the right field and progressing your career does more for increasing your pay than attempting to predict now which field will result in better financial rewards.

If you want to know how much you’ll be paid as a nurse, check out the NHS jobs website at [www.jobs.nhs.uk](http://www.jobs.nhs.uk). This site is great for indicating the types of jobs on offer and rates of pay.
experience, but the patients don’t always require nursing care. Nursing homes are for those people who require 24-hour nursing care.

- **Charities** can employ nurses to help within their organisations; for example, cancer charities offer nursing care to the public, especially in the palliative stages of the illness. Nurses are employed for their specialised knowledge and offer very individualised care, either at care centres or the patient’s own home.

- **Businesses** employ occupational health nurses who have specific knowledge and skills in workplace practice and health and safety issues. One of their primary roles is to ensure employees are fit and healthy to undertake or return to their jobs.

**The armed forces**

Opportunities exist to spend some of your nursing career within the armed forces. But the fields of nursing are limited, with many more opportunities for adult nurses than, say, learning disability nurses, and depending on which of the forces you choose, the clinical environment and nursing skills can be quite different – from field hospitals in battle zones abroad to hospitals in the UK.

Check out the websites for each of the three armed forces at:

- **RAF**: [www.raf.mod.uk/careers/jobs/nursing officer.cfm](http://www.raf.mod.uk/careers/jobs/nursing officer.cfm)
- **Army**: [www.army.mod.uk/army-medical-services/9869.aspx](http://www.army.mod.uk/army-medical-services/9869.aspx)
- **Navy**: [www.qarnns.co.uk](http://www.qarnns.co.uk)

These websites provide information on career progression and opportunities for qualified and student nurses.

**Voluntary services**

You may want to use your skills to help people in a voluntary capacity. Many organisations need nurses to support their projects in the poorer regions of the world. These organisations usually require physical nursing skills and some experience in tropical medicine, but there are opportunities for many children’s and adult nurses.
The following organisations’ websites have some very useful information about volunteering as a nurse:

- **Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO):** [www.vso.org.uk/](http://www.vso.org.uk/)
- **Medecins Sans Frontieres:** [www.msf.org.uk/](http://www.msf.org.uk/)
- **Projects Abroad:** [www.projects-abroad.co.uk/](http://www.projects-abroad.co.uk/)

**Nursing overseas**

If you want to spread your wings, consider the many opportunities to use your nursing skills abroad. The figure of 26,000 nurses working outside the UK demonstrates that NMC-registered nurses are appreciated throughout the world.

It’s quite possible to spend a good period of your career gaining short-term employment on (usually) two-year contracts with nursing organisations in other countries. The ability to move from country to country, using your skills and seeing new cultures while being paid handsomely is very attractive to some nurses.

If you want to nurse abroad, consider that once you’ve completed your nurse education you need a few years’ experience before many countries will offer you jobs. Some countries also require you to sit a state exam.

Many websites advertise jobs abroad. However, each country has its own rules and regulations, so use a licensed agency when making plans for overseas employment.

**Training to Become a Nurse**

So how do you become a nurse? Well, you do a three-year degree in nursing at a university, in which you spend half your time on academic learning and the rest in clinical practice.

Each subsequent chapter in this book leads you through the process, but to start you off, here’s an overview.

1. **Achieve the necessary academic qualifications.**
   
   Nursing students need a good foundation from compulsory education and higher academic qualifications for universities to seriously consider their application. Chapter 3 reviews the qualifications that support your application.
2. Be fit to practise.

Nursing demands only the best from its nursing students, and in your application you must meet professional requirements in areas like health and criminal record. Chapter 4 takes you through each of the different professional aspects and helps you understand how fitness to practise applies to you.

3. Ensure you demonstrate the necessary personal attributes.

Personal development is as important as academic qualifications, and in Chapter 5 I explain the different characteristics of a good nursing student. Having the right attitude and displaying the correct behaviours makes a significant difference to the quality of care that patients receive.


Universities are interested in how you demonstrate that care and compassion are focal to the way you behave and also want to know that you have good communication and teamwork skills. Nurses do not work alone, and they require good interpersonal skills to ensure that patients receive the right care, not only from the nurses themselves but from the rest of the healthcare team. Developing these skills takes time, and you need to consider whether gaining care experience is useful to help demonstrate your abilities. Chapter 6 tells you all you need to know about care experience.

5. Research universities and courses.

You may already have in mind a university you want to go to, perhaps the one local to home or another with a good reputation. On the other hand you may not yet have thought about universities and their role in you becoming a nurse. Researching universities and finding the right course for you takes some effort. Chapters 7 and 8 go into detail on how to weigh up different unis and their courses, and Chapter 9 helps you make the best of visits to unis.

You can choose up to five different courses or universities. In fact, I encourage you to consider more than one option. As I talk you through the different aspects of selecting your choices you see that finding out about each university isn’t as simple as reading a prospectus. Be prepared for a bit of travelling and a little detective work!

6. Check you have finance in place.

In Chapter 10 I take you through money matters. Too often candidates begin the application process and then
discover, down the road, that they can’t afford to study. Check out Chapter 10 to ensure you’ve thought of all the financial aspects.

7. **Submit your application form.**

You apply for a university place through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS), and I explain the UCAS process in Chapter 11. The application comprises your personal statement (Chapter 12) and references (Chapter 13).

Submitting the best application possible is essential in getting yourself noticed by the admissions tutors. They are the people who make decisions about your application and who offer you a place or decide that on this occasion you have been successful. The goal at this point is to present yourself (on paper) in such a way that the admissions tutors want to see you and invite you to interview.

8. **Attend selection days.**

Many universities use a series of interviews and/or tests to assess your suitability for nursing, and you need to spend some time preparing for these. Chapter 14 helps you understand the selection process, and Chapters 15 and 16 prepare you for assessments and interviews, respectively. Testing is used to make sure that you have the correct abilities and behaviours to begin a nursing programme; having the right attitude regarding people, being able to calculate numbers and having good communication skills are all essential.

The NMC like all nursing students to have been seen by the admissions team before an offer is made. The fact that you have been invited to meet the team is good news as it now allows you to show off your abilities in person. This stage of the application process is undoubtedly the most stressful, and chapter 14 helps explain what happens on these days.

9. **Deal with the results.**

Getting onto a nursing course is a competitive process. I hope that after reading this book and making solid preparations you have some positive offers from your choices of university. Chapter 17 explains how offers are made, what the terminology means and how to proceed when you receive offers or rejections.

If you’re a little confused by all the whens and what fors of putting your application together, Table 1-4 gives a summary:
### Part I: Getting Started with a Career in Nursing

#### Table 1-4 Summary of Nursing Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th></th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th></th>
<th>Year 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Think about your A-level or course choices. University might be 2 years away but you have to take advice to enroll now on the right subjects.</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>If you’re considering a one-year course such as ACCESS start making enquiries about enrolment for September.</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Start your two-year course. Think also about gaining some nursing experience.</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>Do your research on universities and their open days.</td>
<td>February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Open day events normally start now and you want to make your visits before applying.</td>
<td>March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>September</td>
<td>Continue with the second year of your course or start your one-year course.</td>
<td>April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>October</td>
<td>Begin to work on your application form.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Have your application form ready so your referee can complete their section.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Getting to university is a long, hard process that may be a few years in the planning. But knowing that when you step onto campus you’re starting the journey into a profession that leads to meeting wonderful people and making lifelong friends is a wonderful feeling.