

Hong Kong



Application deadline: 30 Nov of Yr13/Terninale (FIS deadline; official deadlines vary – see “Application Advice/HK” document or check individual websites.

Three of Hong Kong's universities, **HKU** (The University of Hong Kong), **HKUST** (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) and **CUHK** (The Chinese University of HK), are regularly ranked amongst the World top 50 universities and therefore tend to attract the most applications from FIS students.

Other HK universities, however, (for example, **City University (City U)** **Polytechnic University (Poly U)** and **Baptist University (Baptist U)**), may also offer courses that are either unique to that university or of a particularly high standing: for example, the Hong Kong Polytechnic Faculty of Construction & Environment, Faculty of Design and School of Hotel & Tourism Management may well be the best places in HK to study these particular specialisms.

Students therefore need to check the full range of courses available at HK universities to decide what would be the most appropriate course and not simply rely upon overall rankings.

Admission to HKU, CUHK and HKUST is extremely competitive. For some popular degrees (e.g. Law, Medicine, Engineering, Business), admission is as difficult as at the elite UK universities.

Hong Kong is particularly attractive to HKID holders because they are treated as local applicants and will therefore have the same fee status (which is

extremely attractive compared to the high fees in the UK, USA and Canada). FIS students apply as **Non-JUPAS** applicants (because they are not taking the local school HKDSE curriculum).

Hong Kong universities have worked hard to raise their international image. The default teaching language is English, and apart from for Medicine and (obviously!) Chinese degrees, knowledge of Chinese is not a requirement.



Each university requires a separate application: there is no centralised application system. Students complete an online application form and provide a personal statement, and in some cases the school will need to send a transcript and reference letter (HKU, CUHK, HKUST). Reference letters are not required by all universities. Students who have applied to the UK can adapt the details of their UK application to meet HK requirements.

HKUST + CUHK offer an early application (deadline mid-Nov) – apply early and get an earlier decision. This is only recommended for students who are 100% focused on that university, as if you are successful you will need to pay a deposit and accept the place before you have a decision from

other universities around the world. It is essential to research the deadlines for individual universities, as they vary. **Do not leave it until the Christmas holidays to request references and transcripts, as the Guidance Dept will not be able to process these out of school.**

All HK universities now operate a 4-year degree programme that includes a common core curriculum, which typically makes up one quarter of total credits required. This is very much along the lines of what is offered by Singapore universities. HKU and HKUST also offer an excellent range of summer programmes, which are much cheaper than their equivalents in the UK/USA.

All HK universities have strong international links allowing study abroad options.

As they are so close to us, it is easy to visit the universities to get a feel for campus life. It would be unwise to apply without having made the effort to visit.

