University & Career Counseling

Parent Presentation
September 9, 2026
School Year 26/27



Today's Agenda:

1. Meet the Team
2. Class of 2026 Snapshot
3. Supporting the process
4. A bit about fit
5. Standardized testing
6. Upcoming events
7. Questions?

Meet Our Team



Matthew Akitani
Director of University and Career Counseling
Counselor for 11B and 12B



Diane Bidna
Associate Director of University and Career Counseling
Counselor for 11C and 12C



Martha Stern
University and Career Counselor
Examinations Officer
Counselor for 11D and 12D



Francisco Rocha
University Counselor
Student Futures Coordinator
Counselor for 11A and 12A

High School moves quickly. For parents, even faster.

Everyone will talk about the future. Even you.

Take a moment

Connect to the PRESENT

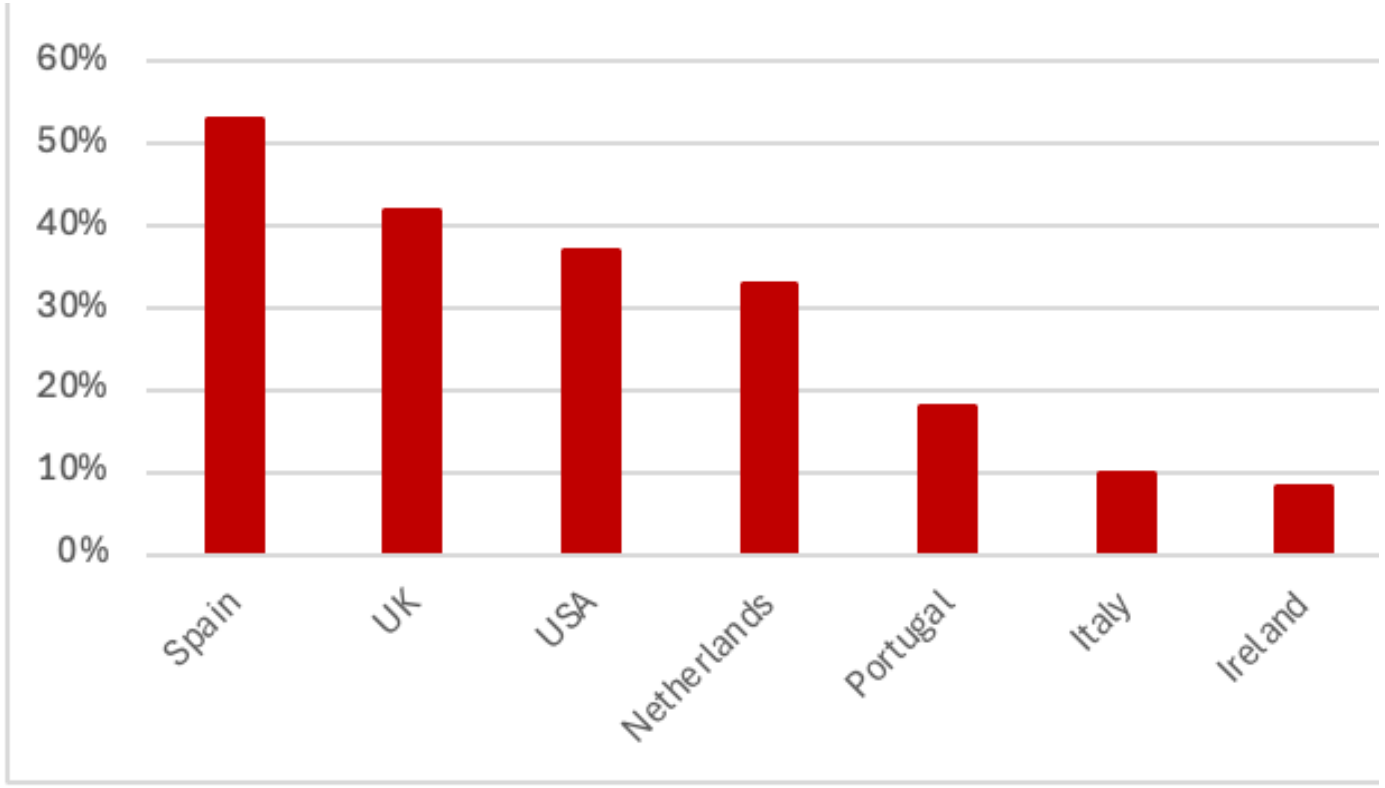
桜梅桃李

(oubaitouri)

Class of 2026 Highlights

- **49 students** submitted over 300 applications
- Students applied to an average of 6.1 universities. Most applied to at least 2 countries
- Students received over 1.5 million euros in scholarship offers

% of students who applied to each country



Spain, UK, and USA were the top destinations — over half of students applied to at least one Spanish university, followed closely by the UK and USA.

UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES FOR THE TASIS PORTUGAL CLASS OF 2026

AU Australia

Monash University
University of Melbourne
University of New South Wales

CA Canada

McGill University

EU Europe

Amsterdam University College
CEU San Pablo University
Charles University – First Faculty of Medicine
Charles University – Second Faculty of Medicine
Charles University – Third Faculty of Medicine
CUNEF Universidad
Erasmus University Rotterdam
Erasmus University College
EADA Business School
ESADE Business School
Glion Institute of Higher Education
HU University of Applied Sciences
Humanitas University
IE University
LUISS University
Maastricht University
Palacký University – Medicine
Sciences Po
Tilburg University
Trinity College Dublin
Toulouse Business School (TBS)
Universidad Europea
Universidade Católica Portuguesa
Università Bocconi
University College Utrecht
University of Amsterdam
University of Geneva
University of Groningen
University of Navarra – School of Medicine
University of Twente
Utrecht University
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

GB United Kingdom

Birkbeck, University of London
Cardiff University
City St George's, University of London
Durham University
Goldsmiths, University of London
Heriot-Watt University
Hult International Business School
King's College London
Kingston University
Lancaster University
Leicester College
London Metropolitan University
London School of Economics and Political Science
Loughborough University
Northeastern University London
Nottingham Trent University
Oxford Brookes University
Queen Mary University of London
Royal Holloway, University of London
St. Mary's University Twickenham
The University of Edinburgh
University College London (UCL)
University for the Creative Arts
University of Bath
University of Bristol
University of Exeter
University of Gibraltar (UK territory)
University of Manchester
University of Nottingham
University of Sheffield
University of St. Andrews
University of Surrey
University of Sussex
University of the Arts London (UAL)
University of Warwick
University of Westminster
UWE Bristol

US United States

Boston University
Brown University
California Lutheran University
Carroll University
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University
Columbia College Chicago
DePaul University
Drexel University
Elon University
Emerson College
George Washington University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Ithaca College
Lehigh University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Lynn University
Michigan State University
New York University
Northeastern University
Nova Southeastern University
Occidental College
Pepperdine University
Rutgers University
Savannah College of Art and Design
San Diego State University
Stella Adler Studio of Acting
Stony Brook University
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of Washington
Wake Forest University
Western Washington University

Boldface type indicates schools where graduates will matriculate.

Department Features and Objectives

- Assist students in discovering their academic, personal, and career goals
  - TASIS Future Pathways Program:
    - We will cover a wide range of topics from career development to application processes and more!
  - Individual meetings with parents and students to support them on their unique path
  - Presentations & Fairs including university admissions fairs, discussing gap years, and more!
  - University visits to Portuguese universities and universities abroad.
- Encourage open communication with students and caregivers
  - Highlights & Insights Newsletter from our department – on the weekly TASIS newsletter
  - Information Sessions for high school families
  - Open door: Students and caregivers are always welcome to schedule a meeting with their counselor(s)
  - Resources: University and Career Counseling hub, brochures/books in our office, Unifrog

UNIVERSITY AND CAREER COUNSELING ROAD MAP

Awareness & Involvement

- Be involved
- Explore new areas of interest
- Focus on doing well in your classes
- Attend university visits and fairs

Research & Direction

- Continue researching universities
- Determine your testing plan
- Begin preparation for specific pathways (Medicine, Law, Arts, etc)
- Participate in activities, internships, and summer programs in subjects and careers of interest
- Create a preliminary balanced list of universities
- Start drafts for essays
- Attend university visits and fairs



Discovery & Exploration

- Introduction to the Unifrog platform
- Take formal assessments to discover your learning style, personality traits, skills, and interests
- Begin to explore university options and admissions requirements
- Choose IBDP courses
- Participate in activities and summer programs that will expose you to subjects and careers of interest
- Attend university visits and fairs

Decisions & Transitions

- Finalize college list
- Create an application timeline
- Complete and submit university and scholarship applications
- Compare offers
- Decide on what university to attend
- Prepare and send final documents

Additional Postsecondary Options

- There are many options for students who feel they would be best served outside the traditional postsecondary education system or want to develop other skills before heading to university
  - Gap Year
  - Foundation Year
  - Vocational Programs
  - Workforce
  - Military



The Path to Graduation

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

TASIS
VERUM BONUM PULCHRUM
PORTUGAL

TASIS PORTUGAL CERTIFIES THAT

HAS COMPLETED THE PRESCRIBED COURSE OF STUDY
FOR GRADUATION AND IS THEREFORE AWARDED THIS

DIPLOMA

Given this 23rd of May, 2026

HEADMASTER

CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CAMBRIDGE
International Education

International General Certificate of Secondary Education

This certifies that in the June 2025 examination series

[redacted]

of TASIS PORTUGAL

was awarded the following grade(s) in the syllabus(es) shown:

Syllabus	Grade
Additional Mathematics	A*(a*)
Biology	A*(a*)
Chemistry	A*(a*)
Computer Science	A*(a*)
First Language English	A*(a*)
History	A*(a*)
Physics	A*(a*)
Geography	A(a)
Literature in English	A(a)

SYLLABUSES REPORTED: NINE

Vice-Chancellor
University of Cambridge

Candidate Number: PT455/0023
Certificate Number: 0074402020

Diploma of the International Baccalaureate · Diplôme du Baccalauréat International · Diploma del Bachillerato Internacional

International Baccalaureate®
Baccalauréat International
Bachillerato Internacional

IB Diploma Programme | Programme du diplôme | Programa del Diploma

We certify that · Nous certifions que · Certificamos que

Test CANDIDATE

entered by · présenté(e) par l'établissement scolaire dénommé · presentado(a) por el colegio denominado

TEST School

has been awarded the · a obtenu le présent · ha obtenido el

Diploma of the International Baccalaureate | Diplôme du Baccalauréat International | Diploma del Bachillerato Internacional

Olli-Pekka Heinonen
Director general - Geneva
Directeur général - Genève
Director general, Ginebra

15 February 2022

Diploma Programme
Programme du diplôme
Programa del Diploma

D 000001 0001

abc123

01234567

Specimen

The Path to Graduation

Do grades in 9 and 10 “count”?

The short answer is…

YES!

But sometimes more in some contexts than others

ESID (next slide)

Every Situation is Different

- Universities may consider some or all of the following items:

- Earned internal TASIS Grades

- IGCSE - Final Exam Results
  - For some universities it may be part of the application (UK, US, holistic review) while some other systems do not require or consider these results.

- IBDP - predicted and final scores
  - Most European and UK countries require students to pass the full IBDP and some may require specific high school IBDP subjects and minimum final scores. Some do not consider predictions at all.
  - In the US, predicted scores form one part of the admissions puzzle.
    - Final IBDP scores are used primarily for determining advanced university credits in US and Canadian schools. However, it is expected that you maintain your level of academic standing*

- GPA - Only schools in North America put a large emphasis on class grades and GPA. Our school policy is not to report GPA as it will be calculated by each university when needed and they all understand IB grading well.

Entrance Exams



Want to learn more?
Join our information session on Tuesday, September 15th! ☺

Exams	Programs across the globe require testing as part of the admissions process. Some examples are the UCAT, LNAT, SAT/ACT, IELTS etc. Students should pay careful attention to the registration requirements and deadlines to be sure they have taken any exams by the required deadlines. US universities are returning to test required! Complete list here Some European universities (such as IE and Bocconi) allow students to submit SAT scores in lieu of their own entrance exams.
Timeline	• Most students take the ACT or SAT exam in the second half of Grade 11 or in the beginning of Grade 12. Many others must be taken in the year of application (could be summer between 11 and 12)
Preparing for the SAT	There are many different companies that help students prepare for these tests. Some offer one-on-one sessions, while others offer group classes. There are several free online resources. PSAT at TASIS on October 12th – Register by September 15th • Low-stakes way to see what the SAT is like (scores aren't sent to universities!) • If you are a US citizens/residents you can qualify for the National Merit Scholarship by taking the PSAT/NMSQT in Grade 11.

Finding “Best Fit” Options!

Some Factors to Consider When Students Build their University List

- Academic Considerations
  - Does the university offer the right program
  - Can students study across disciplines, or do they have to apply to a subject focused program
  - Are there Internship/research/study abroad opportunities built into the program

- Campus Environment / Student Life
  - Small classes vs. large lecture halls
  - Accessibility to professors
  - Location and size of campus
  - Housing availability
  - Student population
  - Extracurricular opportunities - Athletics, clubs, community service
  - Support services



Be Frank about Finances

Realistic and honest conversations at home about the cost of university are important

Best Fit should absolutely include financial fit

Students can have amazing, aspirational choices that fit within financial confines

Expensive does not necessarily equal good

A Word About Rankings

Consider with caution

What goes into a ranking system may or may not be relevant to you

Rankings are only one data point

Consider cultural implications alongside rank

Most importantly, consider program rank above overall rank

Rank comes into play only after all other factors have been considered

Building a balanced university list

Aspirational

Target

Soft



Most student's final list contains no more than 10-12 applications of varying degrees of selectivity. This number may fluctuate depending on what countries students are applying to and the type of application.

The student should be happy attending any of the schools on their list!

How to help

Encourage your children to explore different careers and interests and to stay involved

Talk to them about your careers!



- Consider visiting universities when on holiday!
- Set aside a time to talk about the process
  - No more than 45 minutes
  - Once a Month in the earlier years, and up to once a week in the last year
- Otherwise, be the cheerleaders!
- **Remember**, WE (parents and counselors) are not applying to university,

THEY (the students) are!

We guide the journey. They do the hard work.

Upcoming Events

- Interview/UCAS Application Workshop for High School Students
  - Friday, September 11 (3-4pm)
- SAT class at TASIS (grade 10,11 and 12)
  - Monday, September 14 – Friday, September 18 (4-6pm)
- NYU University Visit for High School Students
  - Monday, September 14 (1:30-2:00pm)
- US University Admissions with Stanford
  - Monday, September 14 (4-5pm)
- SAT & ACT Information Session
  - Tuesday, September 15 (6:15-7:00pm)
- U.S. Higher Education Fair at Dom Pedro Lisboa Hotel (Organized by EducationUSA)
  - Wednesday, September 16 (4:30-6:00pm)
- PSAT Test for Grade 10 and Grade 11
  - Monday, October 12 (10am start) - Register by September 15
- UK University Fair at St Dominic's International School
  - Wednesday, October 7 (4:30-6:00pm)

TASIS Portugal International University Fair

📣 Exclusive early access for TASIS families:

From 10:00–10:45, the fair is open just for TASIS students and parents before doors open to the public.

Students and parents are welcome to volunteer! If you are interested, please reach out to Martha

Canada
McGill University
University of British Columbia

Czech Republic
Second Faculty of Medicine, Charles University

England
Brunel University of London
Cardiff Metropolitan University
Durham University
Goldsmiths, University of London
Hult International Business School
Lancaster University
Leeds Arts University
Nottingham Trent University
Oxford Brookes University
Regents University London
Royal Holloway, University of London
St Mary's University London
The University of Manchester
University of Leeds
University of Portsmouth
University of Surrey
University of Sussex
University of Warwick
University of Westminster

France
ESSEC Business School
The American University of Paris

Germany
Constructor University
Frankfurt School of Finance & Management

Gibraltar
University of Gibraltar

Global
AD-Education: ICMP/SAE/Media University
ESSCA School of Management
Forward College

Italy
Bocconi University
Istituto Marangoni
John Cabot University
NABA – Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti
Temple University Rome
The American University of Rome
Università IULM

Japan
Temple University, Japan Campus

Netherlands
Hotelschool The Hague Hospitality Business School
Radboud University
University College Groningen
University of Twente

Portugal
Católica Lisbon School of Business & Economics
Católica Medical School
Católica Porto University: Faculty of Arts, Law, Biotechnology, and Nursing
Universidade Europeia

Scotland
Abertay University
University of Edinburgh
University of Glasgow
University of St. Andrews
University of Stirling
Heriot-Watt University

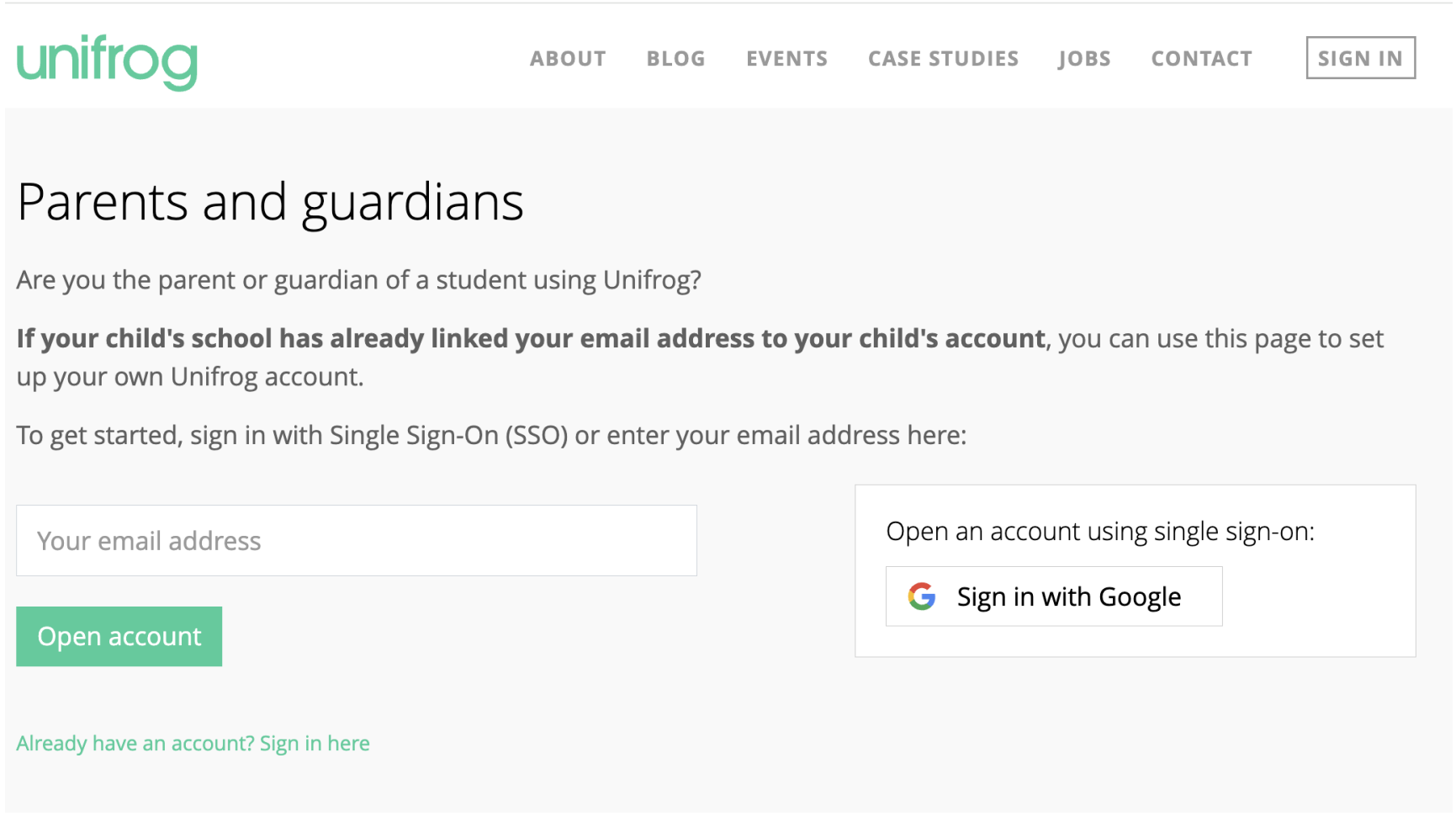
Spain
CUNEF Universidad
Esade Business & Law School
ESCP
EU Business School
IE University
Saint Louis University Madrid

Switzerland
Franklin Switzerland
Geneva Business School
Les Roches Global Hospitality Education
Swiss Education Group

USA
Elon University
Fordham University
Minerva University
Pennsylvania State University
Rhodes College
SCAD – The University for Creative Careers
Schiller International University
Stanford University
Trinity University

60+ Universities confirmed so far!

Unifrog.org/parent



Let Martha know if you would like a Unifrog account! She can activate it for you and then you can log in at unifrog.org/parent

Other Helpful Resources – University Admissions guide by country

Postsecondary Options

There is no single right path after TASIS. We support all students regardless of their choice — whether that's applying to universities around the world, taking a gap year, or another route entirely.

UNIVERSITY OPTIONS BY COUNTRY

Explore admissions information for over 10 countries.

Each country has its own admissions timelines, testing requirements, and application platforms. Click any country below to see its guide — and download the printable PDF version if you'd like a copy to keep.

Download your PDF of the University Admissions Guide by Country

Click to expand and choose countries.

Australia & New Zealand | Canada | Denmark | France | Germany | Hong Kong | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Portugal | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States

Other Helpful Resources – Key University Deadlines

Key Deadlines 2026/2027

A month-by-month overview of application deadlines for universities worldwide and TASIS Portugal internal deadlines for Grade 12 students. Always confirm dates directly with each relevant website, for example, check UK deadlines on UCAS.

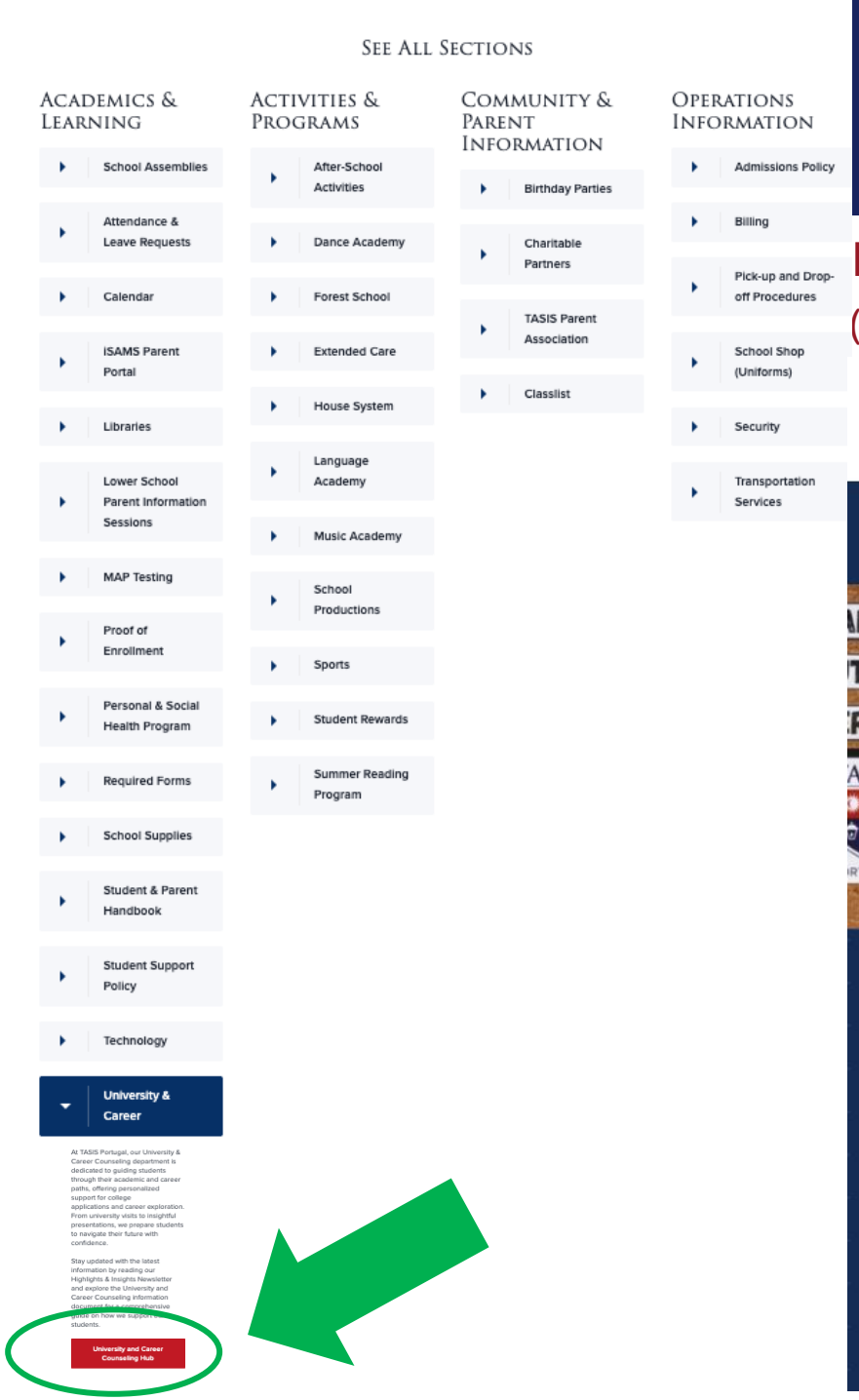
Click a region to show or hide its deadlines, then print your custom list.

HIDE ALL | PRINT / SAVE AS PDF

UK | EUROPE | US | ASIA | AUSTRALIA | CANADA | UAE | TASIS PORTUGAL

September

1	UK	Completed undergraduate applications for 2027-entry can be submitted to UCAS
14	MALAYSIA	Deadline for domestic applications to Universiti Malaya*
15	TASIS PORTUGAL	Grade 12: **For students applying Early (on or before Nov 1):** Early Application Form due and deadline to request teacher letters of recommendation
16	SPAIN	Deadline for domestic applications to Autonomous University of Barcelona and University of Barcelona*
16	UK	Registration closes for UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test)

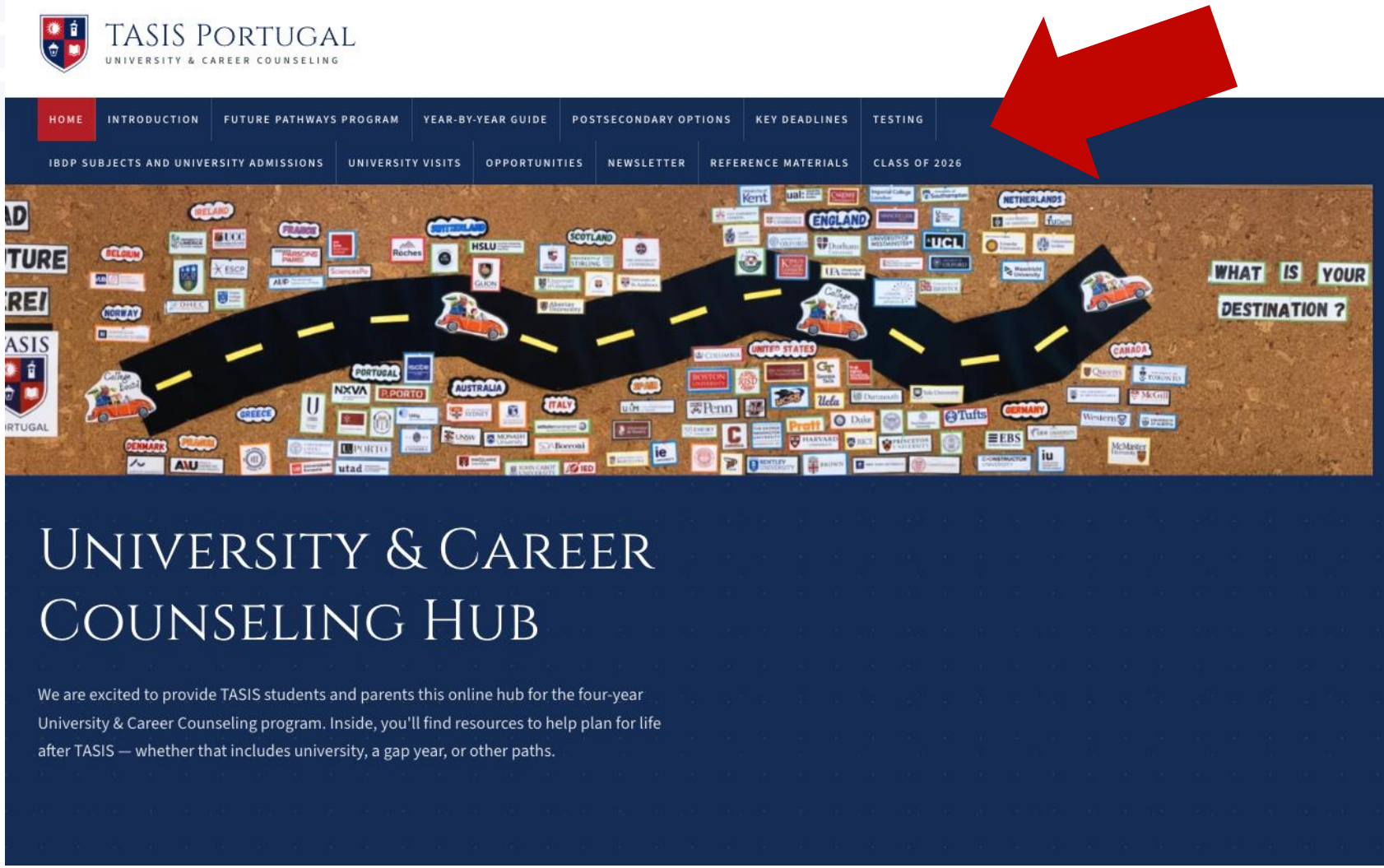


How to stay up-to-date and access our resources?

Visit the essential information page to view our latest newsletter and resources

Essential Information Page - https://www.tasisportugal.org/essential-info

(Same Information on the Parent Portal)



Thank You!