

# Postgraduate 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”.

# 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



## 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)



## 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

\* The international MBA course will start in August at Utah State University (dates will be emailed to relevant applicants)

## Your conditional offer

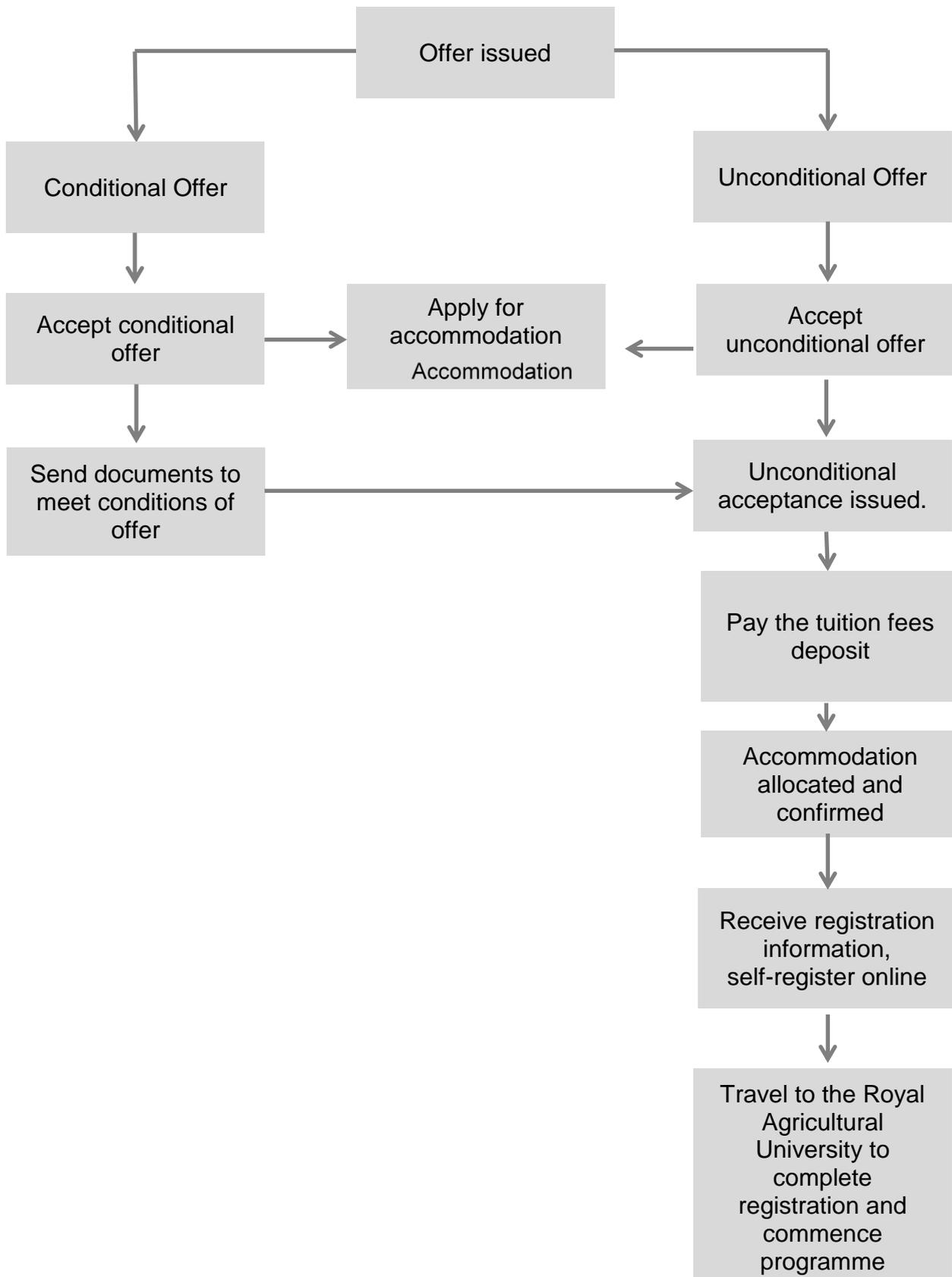
You should shortly be receiving a letter outlining the conditions of your offer. If you accept our conditional offer it will remain at this stage until all of the respective conditions have been met. Applicants wishing to defer their offer must have satisfied all conditions by the 28<sup>th</sup> August 2015 in order for a place to be reserved for you in September 2016.

## “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.



## Admissions Flow chart



## 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](#)



# Money matters

## Fees

You can find the latest fee information for all postgraduate courses [here](#)

## Financial Support

Postgraduate programmes are funded differently from undergraduate study. As there are no loans and grants available from Student Finance England, you will need to investigate other sources of funding thoroughly. The competition for scholarships can be very intense, so it may be worth exploring alternative options such as those listed below.

**Professional and Career Development Loans**  
A Professional and Career Development Loan is a deferred repayment bank loan set at a competitive fixed interest rate that can be used to support learning or training that enhances your job or career prospects.

**Charities, foundations and trusts**  
Some charities, trusts and foundations offer funds to students who are undertaking particular routes of study and research. These range from large medical societies and charities through to very small organisations. The awards these organisations provide will range in value and eligibility criteria, which may include academic, sport, hobbies, parental occupation and residency  
Alternatively, you can search for support from trust or charity organisations online at

[www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk](http://www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk),  
[www.scholarship-search.org.uk](http://www.scholarship-search.org.uk) or  
[www.gradfunding.co.uk](http://www.gradfunding.co.uk).



## 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](#).

## Frequently asked questions

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

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

### **When do I need to send your proof of my qualifications?**

If you are taking qualifications that are required for you to complete your conditions, 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 the 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 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 start my postgraduate course, who do I tell?**

It's important to contact the admissions team as soon as possible if you intend to withdraw your application

### **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 contact our Admissions team on 01285 652531 or email Helen Joyner at [scholarships@rau.ac.uk](mailto:scholarships@rau.ac.uk).

