Benefits of a Russell Group university

Extending knowledge

Russell Group universities are centres of opportunity and inspiration where the boundaries of knowledge are continually extended.

65% of the UK's world-leading research takes place at Russell Group universities.¹

A critical mass of talent and expertise means that Russell Group universities are able to pre-empt the issues of tomorrow and respond to future challenges.

Employment

Graduates from Russell Group universities are among the most sought after by graduate recruiters.

95%

of first degree graduates from Russell Group universities are in employment or study within six months of graduating.4 The estimated average salary of Russell Group university students in full-time employment within six months of graduating is

12%

higher than non-Russell Group graduates.⁵

Facilities

The libraries and facilities at Russell Group universities are highly rated with 88% of students saying they have good resources and 89% saying they have good access.²

On average, Russell Group universities spend 40% more per student than other universities on academic services and staff and student facilities.³

Russell Group universities are internationally recognised for providing high-quality learning environments.

Russell Group universities produce over 20%

of the nation's doctors and dentists.⁶

¹ Research excellence framework (2022)

² Calculated from the National Student Survey (2018)

³ Calculated from the Guardian University Guide (2019). Results based on the 24 leading universities within the Russell Group when compared to non-Russell Group universities

⁴ HESA UK Performance Indicators (2018). Results based on the 24 leading universities within the Russell Group

⁵ Calculated from the HEIDI salary data published by HESA (July 2015). Results based on the 24 leading universities within the Russell Group when compared to non-Russell Group universities

⁶ Higher Education Statistics for the United Kingdom (2016/17) published by the Higher Education Statistics Agency. Results based on the 24 leading universities within the Russell Group when compared to non-Russell Group universities.

Benefits of a Russell Group university

The student experience

Russell Group universities have more academic staff per student. Russell Group universities have a 7:1 student to staff ratio compared to 14:1 at non-Russell Group universities.⁷

88%



of students at Russell Group universities found their course intellectually stimulating compared to 84% at other UK universities.8

Six of the top 30 universities in the world are Russell Group universities. 11 One in three students will receive some form of financial support.⁹

Russell Group universities have lower non-continuation rates -96% of all entrants continue with their degree at the end of their first year compared to 93% across the UK as a whole.¹⁰

The quality of teaching and learning at Russell Group universities means they are in high demand among students and receive a large number of applications per place.

However, applying to a Russell Group university won't be the right choice for all students. There is a diversity of HE providers, with different missions, which gives students the opportunity to identify and pursue different types of higher education, skills training, and professional development at different stages of their careers.

⁷ HESA Staff and Student data (2016/17)

⁸ Data from National Student Survey (2018)

⁹ Office for Fair Access monitoring reports (2011/12)

¹⁰ HESA UK Performance Indicators (2016/17)

¹¹ QS World University Rankings (2021)