

Q. HOW DO I APPLY?

A. Applications for the Maker Challenge are made online. You will need to create a personal account in our ASPIRE application system. If you haven't already got an account with us you can create one very easily.

You can access the ASPIRE system [here](#). Go to 'create your account', add in the required information, and create a password. Once this is done, the system will send you an email asking you to verify your account. Click the link provided and then you can then start your application for the Maker Challenge Programme.

Please remember your password!

Q. WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO COMPLETE MY APPLICATION?

A. You will need to know:

- whether you are eligible for free school meals
- your household income
- whether your parents/guardians have attended university
- your parent/guardian contact details (email, address, phone number)
- the details of a teacher or case worker (name, email and school/organisation) who will complete your reference

Q. CAN I START MY APPLICATION AND THEN FINISH IT ANOTHER TIME?

A. Yes. You can access your application via the [ASPIRE portal](#) to make changes up until the application deadline. You will receive automated emails every three days after you have started your application to remind you to complete it.

Q. ARE THERE ANY COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROGRAMME?

A. No. All Outreach programmes are free to attend but you will need to arrange how you get to the Makerspace yourself. If you need advice on transport, please do ask us by emailing makerspace@imperial.ac.uk

Q. HOW WILL I KNOW WHETHER YOU HAVE RECEIVED MY APPLICATION?

A. You will be able to see on ASPIRE whether your application has been submitted. You will also receive a confirmation email.

Q. WHEN WILL I FIND OUT IF I HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

A. We will assess all applications when they close, and following this you will receive an email from us informing you whether or not you have been successful.

Q. I AM STRUGGLING WITH THE APPLICATION FORM. ARE THERE ANY OPENING TIMES I CAN VISIT AND GET ONE TO ONE ASSISTANCE WITH MY APPLICATION?

We can sometimes provide drop-in sessions at our Makerspace. This is on Tuesdays 4-6pm. However, please let us know in advance so we can make sure we're in!

You can email: makerspace@imperial.ac.uk or call on: 02075948169

Q. I HAVE FORGOTTEN MY USERNAME/PASSWORD, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

A. Your username will be the email address you used to sign up to ASPIRE. There is a "forgotten password" option on the homepage. If you have forgotten the email address that you used to sign up

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to the application portal, email us on makerspace@imperial.ac.uk with your full name, date of birth and an idea of what email address you may have used. We will then be in touch and ask you to confirm some personal details before allowing you to change your email address.

PERSONAL DETAILS SECTION

Q. MY HOME POSTCODE DOES NOT COME UP ON ASPIRE, WHAT DO I DO?

A. There is no list of postcodes, so you should be able to type in your postcode and move onto the next section. Please make sure that you use the correct format (make sure there's a space and it's all in CAPS), for example, SW7 2AZ

Q. CAN I CHANGE MY PERSONAL DETAILS ON THE APPLICATION PORTAL?

A. Yes. Please log in to [ASPIRE](#) to change these details. If you wish to change your email address, please see the 'I want to update my email address' FAQ.

Q. I WANT TO UPDATE MY EMAIL ADDRESS, IS THIS POSSIBLE?

A. Yes. We use the email address you used to create your account to communicate with you so please do change it if needed!

If for any reason you need to change your email address you will need to submit a change email request through the applicant enquiry form. You can find the enquiry button at the top of ASPIRE. You will be notified once your email address has been updated and you should log in with the new email address.

SCHOOL AND EDUCATION SECTION

Q. WHAT DO I ENTER FOR EXAM RESULTS?

Your predicted or achieved exam results (this is dependent on which year you are in e.g. if you are in Years 10 or 11 you will need to know your predicted GCSE grades. If you are in Year 12 you will need to know your actual GCSE results and your predicted A-level/IB grades)

Don't worry - we don't select people based on their grades or predicted grades, it is just interesting info for us!

Q. MY SCHOOL DOES NOT COME UP ON THE DROPDOWN LIST, WHAT DO I DO?

A. All schools in England and most schools in Wales are on the list. As the list is long, please keep typing your school name until it comes up.

PERSONAL STATEMENT SECTION

Q. WHAT SHOULD I PUT IN MY PERSONAL STATEMENT?

A. Don't worry, this is not intended to be intimidating and we don't use this to choose applicants. We are just very curious about what you already make or would like to make. It helps us plan and to make sure that we have the correct materials and tools in the space.

You needn't write more than 250 words, but it is entirely up to you. You can tell us, for example, why you want to join the programme; if there is anything you enjoy making in particular; any relevant hobbies you enjoy; how the programme may help you in the future; or even something which you think is interesting about yourself that you would like to share.