

Frequently Asked Questions for BSc (Hons) Sustainable Agriculture Degree – September 2025 intake

Q1. How do I apply to this degree programme?

For **full-time** Higher Education courses i.e. degree programmes after A- Levels or Leaving Certificate you must apply through [UCAS](#).

Q2. What happens if I miss the UCAS application deadline of 29th of January 2025?

Whilst we encourage all those interested in studying at CAFRE to apply before the deadline if you miss this you can still apply through UCAS. We will consider late applications if we are not oversubscribed. All UCAS applications received after 30th June 2025 are entered into 'Clearing' and are subject to course space availability.

Q3. Can I apply to CAFRE after my Junior Certificate?

No. Students must be studying for or have their Leaving Certificate before they can apply to degree course at CAFRE.

Q4. Where do I get my Unique Learner Number (ULN)?

You will have received your Unique Learner Number through your school. The Unique Learner Number (ULN) is a **10-digit reference number** which is used to access the Personal Learning Record of anyone over the age of 13 involved in UK education or training. If you do not remember it or have mislaid it, please contact your school.

Q5. Are there interviews to get onto a course?

For those applying to degree courses we hold career advisory discussions, if required. These make sure you have applied for the right course, fully understand the entry requirements, including work experience, and answer any questions you may have. The discussion can take place on campus or video call using Teams or Zoom and are arranged directly with the programme manager.

If you are under 18 years of age you should have a parent(s) or guardian with you.

Q6. What are the minimum grades required in English and Maths to get onto degree programmes?

The minimum standard of English and Maths to get on to the course is a Grade C at GCSE.

The equivalent of this is an O4 in Irish Leaving Certificate (2017) or a C2 in Irish Leaving Certificate (pre-2017). If English and Maths are completed at Higher a minimum of a H6 is acceptable.

Q7. What are the entry requirements for this degree programme?

104 UCAS tariff points at A2 Level (including a science subject*) plus four appropriate GCSEs or equivalent, including English Language and Mathematics at Grade C or above.

*For acceptable subjects and other qualifications please refer to www.cafre.ac.uk.

For more information and the most up-to-date requirements, check the [UCAS website](#).

Q8. How much does it cost to study at CAFRE?

Details of the fees and funding support for Higher Education degree courses at CAFRE can be viewed [here](#).

Q9. When do courses begin?

The first teaching week for Higher Education courses is normally the third week in September. The academic calendar is available on the college website under the [‘Student Life’ tab](#).

Q10. How are courses delivered?

All CAFRE courses include both classroom and practical learning opportunities. As CAFRE's ethos is 'learning by doing' we want to make sure that you can enjoy the benefits of learning in our state-of-the-art, modern facilities and make the most of your time as a CAFRE student.

Students can take part in a work placement over a period of 48 weeks during Year 3 of the course. On the successful completion of the work placement module, students will be awarded a Diploma in Professional Practice.

Q11. Do I need to choose my pathway before entering this course?

No, the pathways Agri-Business and Land Management are only available in final year. You do not need to make this choice before entering this degree course.

Q12. Does my home farm as a work placement?

No, students should carry out their work placement on other farm businesses. However, allowances can be made depending on the student's circumstances.

Q13. Do I need to purchase anything in advance if I get an offer on a course?

Yes, some courses will require that you purchase specific Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) before you come to CAFRE. However, do not purchase anything until you have a definite offer for a place on the course. Once you have accepted the offer you will be informed exactly what PPE you need to purchase.

Some elements of your course will involve online learning activities. Although desktops with internet access are available for use on campus, we recommend that you bring your own device (BYOD). Further device information is available on the ['Student Life – Learner Policies'](#) tab on the website.

You will receive further details when your place on a CAFRE course is confirmed. Again, we strongly advise you do not to purchase any equipment until you get an official confirmation of a place on a CAFRE course.

Q14. When will accommodation bookings become available for 2024-2025?

[Accommodation booking](#) will open in early summer 2025. Applications will be made online on the CAFRE website under the 'Student Life' tab.

Q15. How much does accommodation cost?

Accommodation cost varies depending on the type of accommodation and if you are on a catering package. Please visit [accommodation pages](#) for detailed information.

Q16. Is transport assistance available?

yLink is a free smartcard for all 16-23 years olds using Translink services within Northern Ireland. You get third off Translink bus travel in Northern Ireland. Apply for a free card using this link <https://www.translink.co.uk/ylink>. Students travelling on bus Eireann can receive up to 15% off fares, and the yLink card is suitable to use for this.

Q17. How far away is the bus station from the college/ how much does a taxi cost from the station?

The bus depot is approximately 2 miles away from the campus. Taxi transfers cost approximately £10. Ulsterbus operate service 108c to and from the campus, term-time only, Monday-Friday.

Q18. Is there a dress code for students?

CAFRE branded clothing is available to order online. The items offer good value for money and can be [viewed using this link](#). There are rules regarding clothing worn during practical activities to reflect health and safety requirements – no jewellery, no or no trainers etc.

Q19. Does this course meet the requirement of the “Green Cert qualification” in the Republic of Ireland?

You must seek confirmation from Teagasc or your local education provider to obtain confirmation. CAFRE cannot confirm that this programme meets the requirement of the “Green Cert” in the ROI.