UK actuarial application timeline 2026-27

The cycle, month by month

Employers usually name schemes by start year: a 2027 graduate programme typically starts in September 2027 and opens for applications in autumn 2026. Dates from the last cycle are marked as such.

When	What happens	What you do
July 2026	The last month before the earliest windows open	Build your target list, check eligibility requirements and note which firms are expected to open first
Aug 2026	The earliest 2027-intake windows open. Last cycle Just closed on 21 September, so its window opened in August	Finish your core CV and application preparation, check eligibility against the current adverts and begin online-test practice
Sep to Oct 2026	Most windows open. LCP's verified 2027 window opens 28 September, closes 23 October and may shut on 9 October if volumes are high	Where recruitment is rolling, applying early can help. Submit once your application is properly researched rather than waiting until the closing date
Sep to Dec 2026	Summer 2027 internship windows, for penultimate years. Internships convert to graduate offers at several firms	Apply during the preceding academic year. Many summer internships recruit during autumn and early winter
Oct 2026 to Jan 2027	Windows close as tests and video interviews run. Last cycle: Isio 21-28 November, Aon 5 December, Aviva 5 January	Read the deadline in each invitation carefully and avoid leaving assessments until the final day. Some graduate schemes can also close earlier than their initial advertised date
Jan to Feb 2027	The second season. Lloyd's of London opened in January last cycle with a 3 February deadline; Allianz's pricing scheme closed 31 January	Some employers recruit later than the main autumn wave, so continue checking for opportunities after Christmas
Feb to Apr 2027	Lloyd's runs its video interviews in March and its assessment centres in March and April. Last cycle, summer internship offers went out in the week of 23 February	Prepare for interviews and assessment centres, including motivation, technical explanations, commercial awareness and group or written exercises

The application process, stage by stage

Actuarial employers use different recruitment processes, but many combine the stages below. Always check the process for the employer you are applying to.

Stage	What to expect
Application form	Eligibility questions. Check requirements such as right to work, academic grades and location carefully. Some employers use these questions to determine whether an application can progress
Numerical tests	Common topics include percentages, percentage change, ratios, averages and interpreting information from tables or charts. The exact format and timing depend on the test provider
SJT and strengths	Situational judgement tests assess how you respond to workplace scenarios, often against the employer's values or competencies. Strengths questions focus on the things you both do well and enjoy
Video interview	Recorded interviews usually use pre-set questions with a limited answer time. Prepare real examples and short bullet-point structures rather than scripts
Assessment centre	Common exercises include group discussions, written or numerical analysis, presentations and interviews. Contribute clearly, listen to other candidates and explain how you reached your conclusions
Final interview	Be ready to explain why actuarial work, why the employer and why the practice area, alongside competency, commercial and basic technical questions relevant to the role

Rules of thumb

- → Graduate programmes are usually named for the year you start. A 2027 graduate programme will normally be advertised during the preceding academic year.
- → Where recruitment is rolling, do not assume the advertised closing date guarantees the role will remain open until then.
- → Apply to a sensible spread of employers rather than relying on one preferred firm. Tailor the parts of the application that genuinely need to reflect the employer and role.
- → UK employers averaged around 140 applications per graduate vacancy in the ISE's 2025 survey.
- → Check each employer's rules before submitting more than one application. Some firms restrict candidates to one department, role or location, while others structure applications differently.
- → If you need visa sponsorship, check the specific programme before applying. Being on the Home Office sponsor register does not mean every graduate role is sponsored. The Acttuary visa tracker is at acttuary.co.uk/tools/visa-sponsorship.
- → Follow each employer's rules on the use of AI in applications. Whatever tools you use while preparing, make sure every answer reflects your own experience and is something you can explain in an interview.
- → Keep one application tracker with the employer, role, opening date, deadline, status and your next action. Mark dates as confirmed or expected and update them as employers publish new information.

Dates on this sheet were checked in August 2026. Recruitment windows change, so confirm each one on the employer's careers page or use the live Acttuary grad-scheme tracker at acttuary.co.uk/tools/grad-scheme-tracker.