

✔ SECTION 1: PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Tell me about yourself (1-Minute | Point-wise Sentences)

- My name is **Sagar Jayeskumar Shah**, and I am from **Anand, Gujarat, India**.
 - My date of birth is **19 June 1995**.
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Academic Background

- I completed my **10th standard (SSC)** in March 2010 from **Gujarat Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Board, Gandhinagar** with approximately **59.08%**.
 - I then completed my **12th standard (HSC)** in March 2012 from the same board with approximately **52.97%**. School Name - **RPTP School**
 - After that, I pursued a **Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)** from **Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam University**, and I completed my graduation in June 2019 with **65.89%**.
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Work Experience

- Currently, I am working as a **Business Development Manager at Asha Construction since 2019**.
- My responsibilities include **managing client relationships, identifying business opportunities, coordinating with project teams, and contributing to business growth strategies**.
- My current monthly salary is **25,000 INR**.

Tell me about your family.

(Need to get data)

COUNTRY AND UNIVERSITY COMPARISON

Why do you want to study in the UK? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- I chose the UK because it is one of the most respected countries for higher education, known for its high-quality universities and globally recognised degrees.
- The UK education system focuses on **practical learning, case studies, and real-life examples**, which help students understand how businesses work in the real world.
- Another important reason is that most master's courses in the UK are **only 1 year long**, which helps me save both time and cost compared to other countries.
- The UK also has a **multicultural environment**, where students from different countries study together. This helps in improving communication skills and understanding global business.
- Studying near London is beneficial because it is a **major business hub**, where I can learn about international companies and build professional connections.
- Overall, the UK provides a good mix of **quality education, global exposure, and practical knowledge**, which will help me achieve my future career goals in management.

Why not India? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- India has many good universities, but most master's courses take **2 years**, while in the UK it is usually **1 year**, which helps save both time and cost.
- In the UK, the teaching style is more **practical**, with case studies and real-life examples, which helps in understanding how businesses actually work.
- Studying in the UK also gives **international exposure**, where I can study with students from different countries and learn about global business.
- UK universities have strong **industry connections**, which helps students understand how multinational companies operate.
- Therefore, studying in the UK will give me **global knowledge, practical skills, and better career opportunities**, which will help me build a stronger future.

Why UK & Why Not Any Other Country? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- Yes, I considered other countries like **Canada and Australia** before choosing the UK.
- In **Canada**, many universities were offering **diploma-level programs**, which are more practical but not as advanced as a master's degree. Since I already have a bachelor's degree, I wanted to study a **master's course**, so Canada was not the best option for me.
- In **Australia**, similar courses were available, but the next intake was **January 2027**, which would delay my studies by almost one year. I did not want to waste that time.
- After comparing all options, I found that the **UK is the best choice** because it offers high-quality education and globally recognised degrees.
- Another major advantage is that master's courses in the UK are usually **1 year long**, while in countries like Canada and Australia, they are mostly **2 years**, which increases both time and cost.
- The **tuition fees** in the UK are also more reasonable. For example, in the UK it is around **£16,000–£20,000**, while in Australia it is around **AUD 35,000–45,000** and in Canada around **CAD 30,000–40,000**.
- Also, the UK provides a **multicultural environment** and strong industry exposure, which helps in building global knowledge and career opportunities.
- Therefore, I chose the UK because it gives me the best combination of **quality education, shorter duration, and better value for money**.

Why University of Hertfordshire? (With Rankings – Interview Answer)

I chose the **University of Hertfordshire** because it offers a strong combination of academic quality, industry-focused learning, and excellent career outcomes.

Firstly, the university has a solid and improving academic ranking. It is ranked among the **Top 50 universities in the UK (Guardian University Guide 2026 – around #48–49)** and **#82 in the UK (Complete University Guide 2026)**, which places it within the **Top 100 UK universities**.

At the global level, it is ranked in the **#901–950 band in QS World University Rankings 2026** and **601–800 range in Times Higher Education rankings**, showing its international recognition and global presence.

Secondly, the university is known for its strong focus on employability. More than **90% of graduates are in employment or further study**, which reflects strong career support and industry connections.

Thirdly, the university provides **industry-oriented teaching**, including practical learning, case studies, and real-world projects. It also has strong links with global companies, which helps students gain relevant skills for the job market.

Additionally, it is located in **Hatfield, close to London**, which gives access to one of the world's biggest business hubs while keeping living costs lower compared to central London.

Overall, the University of Hertfordshire offers a strong balance of **ranking, practical education, global recognition, and career opportunities**, which makes it the right choice for my MSc Management studies.

Have you considered any other universities in the UK? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- Yes, I considered other universities such as the **University of East London** and the **University of Bedfordshire** before making my final decision.
- I compared them based on **course structure, teaching style, facilities, fees, and ranking**.
- I found that while these universities offer similar courses, the **University of Hertfordshire** provides better **overall quality and balance**.
- Hertfordshire has stronger **ranking and reputation**, better **learning facilities**, and a more **practical teaching approach** with focus on real-world business skills.
- In terms of cost, although some universities have slightly lower fees, the **overall value at Hertfordshire is better**, especially considering quality of education and career opportunities.
- Also, being located in **Hatfield (near London)** gives access to business opportunities while keeping living costs lower than central London universities.
- Therefore, after comparing all factors, I found that the **University of Hertfordshire is the best choice for my studies and future career goals**.

Why did you choose this course? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- I chose **MSc Management at the University of Hertfordshire** because it matches my academic background and my goal of moving into **managerial and decision-making roles**.
- I have completed my **BBA** and I am currently working in a business environment, where I understand basic operations and management. However, to grow in my career, I need **advanced knowledge in strategy, leadership, and analytics**, which this course provides.
- This course has strong **student satisfaction and outcomes**, as it is ranked **6th in Business and Management (PTES 2024)** and **1st for Skills Development and 2nd for Support and Resources (Advance HE 2023)**. This shows the course focuses on both learning and practical skills.
- The University of Hertfordshire has received several **prestigious awards and recognitions**.
- It has been awarded **Silver in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF 2023)**, which shows high-quality teaching and strong student outcomes.
- The university has also received the **King's Award for Enterprise (2024)**, which is a very respected award in the UK for innovation and business excellence.
- In terms of research, the university has strong performance, with around **90% of its research rated as world-leading or internationally excellent**.
- These achievements show that the university provides **high academic standards, quality teaching, and strong research environment**, which supports student success.
- Another important reason is the **quality of teaching**. The course is taught by experienced professionals like **accountants, project managers, HR managers, and economists**, so learning is practical and industry-relevant.
- The course also provides good **industry exposure**, with guest lectures from companies like **Tesco, Amazon, and Ocado**, and opportunities like **career fairs and networking events**.
- It also includes **case studies, projects, and research work**, which will help me apply my knowledge in real business situations and improve my decision-making skills.
- Overall, this course offers a strong mix of **theoretical knowledge, practical learning, and career support**, which makes it the best choice for my future in management.

What is the course structure and modules of your programme?

My MSc Management programme at the University of Hertfordshire is a **1-year full-time course (Level 7)**, consisting of **180 credits**, where all modules are compulsory. The course is designed to provide a balance of **core management knowledge, analytical skills, and practical application**.

Course Structure

The programme includes:

- **6 core modules (30 credits each)**
- **1 professional development module (0 credits)**
- A strong focus on **research, simulation, and real-world business problem solving**

The teaching approach combines **theory with practical learning**, and assessment methods include case studies, group work, presentations, reports, simulations, and research projects.

Core Modules (RQF Level 7)

1. Strategic Leadership and HR Management (30 credits)

- Focuses on people management, leadership, and HR strategies
- Helps in understanding how managing people contributes to organisational success

2. Strategic Marketing & Entrepreneurship (30 credits)

- Covers marketing strategies, consumer behaviour, and business start-up concepts
- Includes digital marketing and innovation

3. Using Financial Data (30 credits)

- Teaches how to analyse financial statements and make business decisions
- Focuses on investment evaluation and financial performance

4. Analytics for Operations and Logistics Management (30 credits)

- Covers supply chain, operations, and business analytics
- Includes data-driven decision-making and digital innovation

5. Research Skills for Management Decisions (30 credits)

- Develops research and analytical skills
- Helps in understanding real-world business challenges

6. Management Simulation Research Project (30 credits)

- A practical project involving real business scenarios
- Focuses on problem-solving, teamwork, and strategic thinking

7. PG CPD for MSc Management (0 credits)

- Supports academic and professional skill development
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Conclusion Line (Use in Interview)

Overall, the course structure combines **strategic management, finance, marketing, analytics, and research**, with a strong focus on **practical learning and real-world application**, which will help me develop the skills required for managerial roles in my future career.

How is this course relevant to your previous academic background?

My chosen course, **MSc Management**, is highly relevant to my previous academic background in **Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)**, as there is a strong connection between the subjects I studied and the modules in this programme.

During my BBA, I studied core subjects such as **marketing, finance, human resources, operations management, and business communication**, which gave me a solid foundation in business concepts.

This MSc Management course builds on that foundation at a more advanced and strategic level. For example, my knowledge of basic management and HR directly connects with the module **Strategic Leadership and HR Management**, where I will learn how to manage people and organisations more effectively.

Similarly, my understanding of marketing concepts will be further developed through **Strategic Marketing and Entrepreneurship**, where I will learn about digital marketing, innovation, and business growth strategies.

In finance, I studied basic financial principles during my BBA, and this will be enhanced through the **Using Financial Data** module, where I will learn how to analyse financial information for decision-making.

Additionally, my basic understanding of operations will be strengthened through **Analytics for Operations and Logistics Management**, which focuses on real-world business processes and data-driven decisions.

Overall, my BBA provided me with fundamental knowledge, and this MSc Management programme will help me develop **advanced analytical, strategic, and leadership skills**, making it a logical and relevant progression for my academic and career growth.

What are the teaching and assessment methods? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- The MSc Management programme follows an **integrated teaching approach**, where theory is connected with real-world practice.
- Teaching methods include **lectures, seminars, group discussions, and case study analysis**, which help in understanding business situations practically.
- There are also **guest lectures from industry professionals** and opportunities for **research presentations**, which give exposure to real business environments.
- This approach helps me not just learn theory but also **apply it in practical situations**.

- In terms of assessment, the course mainly includes **written assignments, group projects, individual reports, and presentations.**
- It also includes a **final research project**, where I will apply my knowledge to solve a real business problem.
- There are **no traditional exam-based assessments**, which suits my learning style as I prefer **practical application over memorisation.**
- Overall, the teaching and assessment methods focus on **continuous learning, practical skills, and real-world problem solving.**

Which module interests you most and why? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- The module that interests me the most is **Strategic Management**, because it helps me understand how organisations make **long-term decisions and stay competitive.**
- This is important for me as I want to move into **senior management roles**, where strategic thinking is required.
- I am also interested in **Marketing and Operations**, as they give a complete view of how a business works.
- Marketing helps in **attracting and retaining customers**, while operations ensures that the company can **deliver efficiently.**
- This balance is very important for **business growth and long-term success.**
- Additionally, the **Leadership and HR module** is important to me because organisations grow through people.
- I want to learn how to **lead teams, manage conflicts, and create a positive work environment.**
- It will also help me understand **recruitment, performance management, and employee engagement**, which are essential for becoming a good manager.

Which module interests you most and why? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- The module that interests me the most is **Strategic Management**, because it helps me understand how organisations make **long-term decisions and stay competitive in the market.**
- This module is directly connected to my goal of moving into **senior management roles**, where strategic thinking is very important.
- I am also interested in **Marketing and Operations**, because together they give a complete understanding of how a business works.
- Marketing helps in **attracting and retaining customers**, while operations ensures that the company can **deliver products and services efficiently.**
- This balance between marketing and operations is very important for **business growth and long-term success.**

- The duration of my course is **1 year full-time**.
- My course start date is **September 2026**.
- The total tuition fee is **£19,500**.
- I have paid a **deposit of £3,500**, so the remaining fee is **£16,000**.
- It is a **full-time course**.

Internship & Placement Information (Simple & Clear Answer)

- The MSc Management programme at the University of Hertfordshire is designed with a strong focus on **practical learning and employability**, although it does not include a mandatory placement year.
- However, the university provides a **guaranteed online internship** for postgraduate students, which helps in gaining practical experience alongside studies.
- This internship is flexible and usually requires around **15 hours per week**, allowing students to balance both study and work experience.
- The university also offers strong **career support services**, including guidance for internships, placements, and job opportunities through its Careers and Employment Service.
- In addition, students benefit from **career fairs, networking events, and industry interaction**, which improve job opportunities after graduation.
- The university has a strong employment record, with around **96% of graduates in employment or further study within a short period after graduation**, which shows good career outcomes.
- Although placements are not guaranteed as part of the course, the university provides **full support, resources, and opportunities** to help students gain work experience and secure jobs.

FEES, FUNDING, AND SPONSORSHIP

Who will finance your studies? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- My studies will be financed through a combination of an **education loan and family support**.
- I have secured an **education loan of ₹35 lakhs from Credila Bank**, which will cover both my **tuition fees and living expenses**.
- In addition, my father has **savings of more than ₹15 lakhs in his bank account**, which provides extra financial support and stability.

- Therefore, with the loan and my father's savings, I have **sufficient funds to manage my entire study and living cost in the UK without any financial difficulty.**

How will you show your funds?

We have prepared all the required documentation, including recent bank statements, fixed deposits, and property valuations, to demonstrate that we meet the UKVI financial requirement. We are also prepared to show source of funds and any other relevant financial proof during the visa process.

What is your tuition fee and how much have you paid? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- My total tuition fee for the MSc Management course at the University of Hertfordshire is **£19,950.**
- Currently, I have **not paid the deposit yet**, as I have received a **conditional offer**, and the payment can only be made after receiving the **formal offer with student ID.**
- Once I receive the formal offer, I will proceed with the **tuition fee deposit payment as per university guidelines.**

LOGISTICS & ACCOMMODATION

Where will you live in the UK? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- I plan to live in **university-managed accommodation near the University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield.**
- This accommodation is **safe, secure, and convenient**, with facilities like furnished rooms, internet, and study spaces.
- It is located **close to the campus**, so it will save my travel time and allow me to focus more on my studies.
- If university accommodation is not available, I will look for **private student accommodation through trusted platforms like AmberStudent**, where verified options are available near the university.
- Therefore, I will choose a place that is **safe, affordable, and close to my university.**

How will you find accommodation near University of Hertfordshire? (With AmberStudent Option – Final Answer)

- I will follow a **planned and reliable approach** to find accommodation near the University of Hertfordshire.
- Firstly, I will apply for **university-managed accommodation**, which is safe, secure, and located on campus with all necessary facilities like furnished rooms, study spaces, and security.

- If university accommodation is not available, I will use trusted platforms such as **AmberStudent**, which provides verified student housing options near the university.
- Through AmberStudent, I can choose from different types of accommodation like **shared apartments, en-suite rooms, and private studios**, depending on my budget and preference.
- According to my research, popular student areas include **Hatfield Town Centre, College Lane, and De Havilland**, which are close to the university and well connected.
- The average rent is around **£100 to £200 per week**, and many accommodations include **utilities like electricity, water, and internet**, which makes it easier to manage expenses.
- I will also make sure that the accommodation is:
 - Close to campus
 - Safe and secure
 - Within my budget
 - Suitable for study
- Therefore, by using **university accommodation and trusted platforms like AmberStudent**, I will be able to find a safe, comfortable, and convenient place to stay near my university.

Why did you choose outer London over inner London? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- I chose **outer London / Hatfield area** because it is more **affordable and practical** for students compared to inner London.
- The **cost of living in inner London is much higher**, especially for accommodation, which can be around **£800 to £1,200 per month**, whereas in outer London or Hatfield, it is comparatively lower.
- By living in outer London, I can **manage my expenses better** and reduce financial pressure on my family.
- At the same time, Hatfield is **well connected to central London** by public transport, so I can still access job opportunities, networking events, and business areas whenever required.
- The University of Hertfordshire is also located in Hatfield, so living nearby will **save travel time and transport costs**, allowing me to focus more on my studies.
- The area is **safe, student-friendly, and suitable for study**, which is very important for me as an international student.
- Therefore, choosing outer London gives me a **better balance of affordability, convenience, and access to opportunities**, which is the main reason for my decision.

What will your monthly and annual living expenses be? (With UKVI Reference – Simple Answer)

- Since my university is located **outside London**, my estimated living expenses are planned carefully.
- However, as per **UKVI requirements**, I need to show **£1,171 per month**, which totals **£10,539 for 9 months**.
- My actual monthly expenses are approximately planned as follows:
 - Accommodation: **£400 to £700**
 - Food and Groceries: **£200 to £250**
 - Transportation: **£50 to £120**
 - Internet and Mobile: **£30 to £40**
 - Entertainment: **£50 to £60**
 - Stationery and Supplies: **£20 to £30**
 - Laundry: **£10 to £20**
 - Miscellaneous: **£180 to £190**
- This overall matches closely with the **UKVI requirement of £1,171 per month**.
- My **father has already arranged sufficient funds**, and these expenses are fully covered in the financial documents submitted.
- Therefore, I am financially prepared to manage my living costs in the UK without any difficulty.

How will you travel from the airport to the university? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- I will be travelling from India and will most likely land at **London Heathrow Airport**, which is the nearest major international airport.
- From the airport, I will use **public transport**, as it is reliable and well connected in the UK.
- I can take the **London Underground (Tube)** or a combination of **train and bus** to reach Hatfield.
- For example, I can take the **Piccadilly Line from Heathrow to King's Cross**, and then a **train from King's Cross to Hatfield station**, which is close to the University of Hertfordshire.
- From Hatfield station, I can take a **local bus or taxi** to reach my accommodation or campus.
- I will also use apps like **Google Maps or Citymapper** to plan my route and ensure smooth travel.
- Therefore, I have a clear and practical plan to reach my university safely and conveniently.

FUTURE PLANS

What are your career plans after the course? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- After completing my MSc Management, I plan to **return to India** and continue my career in the **construction and business sector**.
- In the short term, I aim to work in roles such as **Business Development Manager, Operations Manager, or Project Coordinator**, where I can use my advanced knowledge and skills.
- I will apply to companies like **L&T, Tata Projects, Adani Group, and other reputed organisations**, where my UK degree and international exposure will be valued.
- In the long term, I want to move into **senior management roles**, where I can handle **strategic planning, business expansion, and decision-making**.
- I also plan to contribute to my **family business or expand into my own business in the future**, using the knowledge gained from this course.
- Overall, my goal is to build a **successful career in India with strong growth, leadership opportunities, and long-term stability in management**.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- In the next 5 years, I see myself working in **India in a mid to senior-level management position** in the construction or business sector.
- I aim to work in a reputed company like **L&T, Tata Projects, or Adani Group**, where I can apply my skills in **business development, operations, and strategy**.
- By that time, I expect to have gained **strong practical experience, leadership skills, and industry knowledge**.
- I also want to take on responsibilities such as **team management, project handling, and decision-making roles**.
- In the long term, I may also explore opportunities to **expand my own business or contribute to business growth**, using the knowledge gained from my MSc Management.
- Overall, I see myself as a **confident professional in a leadership role, contributing to organisational growth and development in India**.

How will this course help your career? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- This course will strengthen my **leadership skills and analytical abilities**, which are important for career growth.
- It will help me move into **higher managerial roles** in my industry.

- I will be able to work in areas like **strategic planning and operations management**, where decision-making is very important.
- The course will also improve my **practical knowledge and problem-solving skills**, which I can apply in real business situations.
- Overall, it will help me **grow professionally and achieve my long-term career goals in management**.

CAMPUS, TRANSPORT & ACCOMMODATION

What is the nearest metro/bus station to the university? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- The **nearest train (metro-type) station** to the University of Hertfordshire is **Hatfield Railway Station**. It is about **1.5 miles from the campus**, which is around a **30-minute walk or 10 minutes by bus**.
- From Hatfield Station, I can easily take a **Uno bus** such as **602, 614, or 653**, which directly goes to the university campus in about **10 minutes**.
- The **nearest bus stop** to the university is **Todd Building bus stop**, which is only about a **4–5 minute walk from the campus**.
- There are multiple bus routes like **243, 602, 610, 614, 635, and 653** that connect the university to nearby areas.

Which university and campus are you going to study at? Where is it located? (Simple & Clear Answer)

- I am going to study at the **University of Hertfordshire**.
- My course will be conducted at the **Hatfield campus**.
- The university is located in **Hatfield, Hertfordshire, United Kingdom**, which is just **around 25–30 minutes from central London**.
- It is a **well-connected and student-friendly area**, making it convenient for study and living.

What are the UKVI rules for international students? (With Living Cost – Full Answer)

- As an international student, I must follow the rules set by **UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI)**.
- I am allowed to work **up to 20 hours per week during term time** and **full-time during official holidays**.
- I must maintain **regular attendance** and actively participate in my course.
- I am required to **complete my course within the given time** and follow all university regulations.

- I cannot take up **full-time permanent work or self-employment** during my studies.
 - I must keep my **passport, visa, and documents valid**, and inform the university about any changes in my personal details.
 - After completing my course, I can apply for the **Graduate Route visa** to gain work experience in the UK.
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Living Cost (As per UKVI)

- As per UKVI guidelines, since my university is located **outside London**, I need to show **£1,171 per month** for living expenses.
- This totals **£10,539 for 9 months**, which covers **accommodation, food, transport, and other daily expenses**.
- I have already arranged sufficient funds through my **education loan and family support**, so I can manage these expenses comfortably.

What is IHS and how is it relevant to your studies in the UK?

IHS stands for **Immigration Health Surcharge**, which is a mandatory fee that international students must pay as part of their UK visa application. This fee allows access to healthcare services under the **National Health Service (NHS)** during the stay in the UK. 📄

The main purpose of IHS is to ensure that international students can use **public healthcare services** without facing high medical costs. After paying this fee, I will be able to access services such as **doctor consultations (GP), hospital treatment, and emergency services**, which are essential for maintaining health and safety while studying abroad.

For students, the IHS fee is **£776 per year**, and since my course duration is **1 year**, I will be required to pay approximately **£776**. This payment is made **online during the visa application process**, before submitting the final visa application.

It is important to note that IHS covers most healthcare services, but some services like **prescriptions, dental care, and eye treatment** may still require additional payment.

IHS is completely **separate from tuition fees and living expenses**, and it is specifically meant for **healthcare coverage** during my stay.

Overall, I understand that IHS is an essential part of the UK visa process, and I have planned my finances accordingly to pay this fee. It ensures that I have **access to necessary medical services**, allowing me to focus on my studies without worrying about healthcare issues.

IHS (Immigration Health Surcharge) – Possible Interview Questions & Short Answers

Below are **common questions** related to IHS and how to answer them clearly:

1. What is IHS?

IHS stands for **Immigration Health Surcharge**, which is a fee paid during the UK visa application to access healthcare services under the **National Health Service (NHS)**.

2. Why do you need to pay IHS?

I need to pay IHS so that I can use **NHS healthcare services** like doctor consultations, hospital treatment, and emergency care during my stay in the UK.

3. How much is the IHS fee?

For students, the IHS is **£776 per year** of the visa duration.

4. How much IHS will you pay for your course?

Since my course duration is **1 year**, I will pay approximately **£776** as IHS.

5. When do you pay the IHS fee?

IHS is paid **online during the visa application process**, before submitting the visa.

6. What services are covered under IHS?

It covers most NHS services such as:

- GP (doctor) visits
 - Hospital treatment
 - Emergency services
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7. Are all medical services free after paying IHS?

No, some services like **prescriptions, dental treatment, and eye care** may still require additional payment.

8. Is IHS refundable?

IHS is refundable only in certain cases, such as **visa refusal**. If the visa is approved, it is generally **non-refundable**.

9. Is IHS separate from tuition fees?

Yes, IHS is **separate from tuition fees** and is paid only for **healthcare access**.

10. Why is IHS important for you?

It is important because it ensures that I have **access to healthcare services during my stay**, which is essential for safety and well-being.