

PREPARED FOR

Your Journey to Your Future

Ananya Iyer

INTAKE

Fall 2027

PREPARED BY

Learner Connect

12 August 2026

Ananya Iyer, this is your personal step-by-step plan targeting a **Fall 2027** intake — mapped to exactly where you are today, and what to do next.

INTAKE

Fall 2027

YOUR PLAN

5 phases

100 steps

YOUR ROADMAP, PHASE BY PHASE

**Tests & eligibility**

22/22 done

Get the English score banked and your school credentials clean, so nothing on the eligibility side can hold an application up later.

🕒 **English Proficiency** · Sep – Dec 2026

- ✓ IELTS Academic — target 7.0 overall with no band below 6.5; Toronto and UBC both set 6.5, and the extra half band protects you if one section dips
- ✓ Or TOEFL iBT — target 90+ for Canada and 92+ for the Russell Group universities on your list
- ✓ Book the test 4–6 weeks ahead; Pune centres fill first for Nov and Dec dates, and a late booking pushes you into January
- ✓ Sit one full timed mock before booking so you find the weak band while there is still time to fix it
- ✓ Send scores directly to each university from the test portal — a PDF you upload yourself is not accepted by most Canadian admissions offices

📅 **Class 12 board results** · Mar – Jun 2027

- ✓ Maharashtra State Board results are usually out late May; your predicted 88% keeps you inside the 85%+ band Toronto looks for in CS
- ✓ Order two extra attested copies of the marksheet the week results are published — reissue takes 3–4 weeks in peak season
- ✓ If any subject comes in below expectation, tell your counsellor the same week rather than at application time
- ✓ Keep Mathematics and Physics marks visible on the transcript; CS admission at both Canadian universities checks them specifically
- ✓ Upload the provisional marksheet to the portal as soon as it is issued — the final certificate can follow later

📄 **Passport and identity** · Sep – Oct 2026

- ✓ Your passport must stay valid at least six months past your intended entry date — check the expiry against September 2027 now
- ✓ Name spelling must match your board certificate exactly; a mismatch between passport and marksheet delays visa processing
- ✓ Scan every page at 300 dpi in colour — grainy scans are the single most common cause of a document being sent back
- ✓ Keep one certified copy separate from the original in case the original is with an application

🕒 **Aptitude tests — check before you study** · Sep 2026

- ✓ No SAT is required for Canadian undergraduate CS admission for Indian board students — Toronto and UBC assess Class 12 directly
- ✓ UK universities on your list do not ask for SAT either; UCAS decisions rest on predicted grades and the personal statement
- ✓ Spend the time you would have spent on SAT prep on the portfolio work in the next phase — it counts for more here
- ✓ Revisit this only if you add a US university to the shortlist, where SAT policy differs by institution

■ Credential clean-up · Jan – Feb 2027

- ✓ List every certificate you will need: 10th, 12th, IELTS, passport, and any olympiad or course completion
- ✓ Check each name, date of birth and school name reads identically across all of them
- ✓ Get the school to issue a bonafide certificate now; requesting one after results are out takes far longer
- ✓ Store everything in the portal so your counsellor can spot a gap before an admissions officer does



Profile & portfolio

22/22 done

Build evidence that you can actually do computer science. For an undergraduate applicant this is what separates two students with the same marks.

◇ Ship two real projects · Oct 2026 – Feb 2027

- ✓ Finish the Python course you started — an incomplete course on a CV is worse than no course
- ✓ Build one project end to end that solves a problem you personally have, and put the code somewhere public
- ✓ Write a short README explaining what broke and how you fixed it; admissions readers value the debugging story over the feature list
- ✓ Build a second, smaller project in a different area — one web, one data — to show range rather than a single hobby
- ✓ Ask one person who writes code to review both and tell you honestly what is weak

◆ Recommendations · Jan – Mar 2027

- ✓ Choose two teachers who have seen you struggle with something and get past it, not simply the two who gave the highest marks
- ✓ Your Maths teacher and your Computer Science teacher are the natural pair for a CS application
- ✓ Give each of them your CV, the university list, and a deadline three weeks earlier than the real one
- ✓ Brief them on which two or three things you would like mentioned — most teachers welcome the steer
- ✓ Follow up once, politely, a week before your stated deadline

◇ Olympiads and competitions · Nov 2026 – Feb 2027

- ✓ Enter one coding competition this cycle — participation with a modest rank still evidences initiative
- ✓ The Indian Computing Olympiad zonal round runs in the winter window and is well recognised internationally
- ✓ Log the date, your rank and what you learned; a vague claim reads as invented to an admissions reader
- ✓ Do not enter five and finish none — one completed entry is stronger than four abandoned ones

◆ Community and leadership · Oct 2026 – Mar 2027

- ✓ Go deeper on the two activities you already do rather than adding a third for the application
- ✓ Take on one thing where you are responsible for an outcome, not only attendance
- ✓ Get one line of written confirmation from whoever runs it, with dates
- ✓ Record hours honestly — UK and Canadian admissions both treat inflated claims severely if discovered

■ Your CV · Feb – Mar 2027

- ✓ One page. An undergraduate CV that runs to two pages is padded and reads that way
- ✓ Lead with the projects, then academics, then activities — in that order for a CS application
- ✓ Every line states what you did and what resulted, not what you were interested in
- ✓ Have your counsellor read it before it goes anywhere near an application



Shortlist & fit

18/18 done

Turn a long wish list into six universities you can defend — on entry requirements, on total cost, and on what happens

after you graduate.

❖ **Build the six-university list** · Mar – Apr 2027

- ✓ Two ambitious, three realistic, one you would genuinely be happy to attend — the safety choice matters most and gets the least thought
- ✓ Check each entry requirement against your actual Maharashtra Board percentage, not a converted GPA
- ✓ Toronto and UBC both run direct-entry CS; some UK courses require a foundation year for Indian Class 12, which adds a year of fees
- ✓ Rule out anything whose total annual cost exceeds the ceiling your family agreed, before you get attached to it
- ✓ Review the final six with your counsellor and be able to say in one sentence why each is on the list

❖ **Money, properly** · Mar – Apr 2027

- ✓ Build one table: tuition, living, travel and insurance per year, per university, in rupees
- ✓ Canadian CS tuition for international students runs roughly C\$40,000–60,000 a year; Vancouver and Toronto living costs differ by about C\$2,000
- ✓ UK three-year degrees can total less than a four-year Canadian one even at a higher annual fee — compare the whole degree, not the year
- ✓ Decide what is funded, what is borrowed and what a scholarship would need to cover for each option
- ✓ Note the currency risk: fees are set abroad and paid in rupees, and a 5% move is real money over four years

❖ **Scholarships you can actually win** · Apr 2027

- ✓ UBC's International Major Entry Scholarship is open to your profile and is awarded automatically on the admission application
- ✓ Toronto's Lester B. Pearson award needs a school nomination — ask now whether your school has nominated before
- ✓ List which awards need a separate form and diarise each closing date; scholarship deadlines usually fall before course deadlines
- ✓ Be realistic about odds and plan the finances as though you will not get one

❖ **Life after the degree** · Apr – May 2027

- ✓ Canada's post-graduation work permit currently allows up to three years after a four-year degree — confirm the current rule at the time you apply
- ✓ The UK Graduate Route currently gives two years after an undergraduate degree
- ✓ Check graduate employment rates for computer science specifically, not for the university as a whole
- ✓ Ask your counsellor what has changed in the last twelve months; both countries have adjusted student rules recently

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Applications

6/18 done

Submit early and submit clean. Most of the disappointment in this process comes from a deadline missed by a week or a document nobody checked.

☰ **Personal statement** · May – Jul 2027

- ✓ Build it around one specific thing you made — the project story is the strongest opening an undergraduate CS applicant has
- ✓ UCAS allows 4,000 characters; the Canadian supplementary essays are shorter and ask different questions, so do not reuse one text
- ✓ Cut every sentence that another applicant with your marks could have written word for word
- ✓ Counsellor review, then rewrite — the second draft is the one that goes, never the first
- ✓ Read the final version aloud; anything you stumble over is a sentence to cut

■ **Submit the applications** · Aug – Oct 2027

- ☒ UCAS equal-consideration deadline falls in late January; Canadian universities open in the autumn and assess on a rolling basis
- ☐ Apply to the Canadian universities in the first six weeks they open — rolling admission genuinely rewards early files
- ☐ Check every deadline against your own calendar rather than against what somebody told you
- ☐ Pay each application fee and keep the receipts in one folder
- ☐ Update the portal as each one goes in, so your counsellor sees the same status you do

■ **Supporting documents** · Aug – Sep 2027

- ☐ Each university states its own transcript format; they differ more than you would expect
- ☐ Confirm both referees have actually submitted rather than assuming they have
- ☐ Keep one folder holding the final version of everything you sent, per university
- ☐ Never send a document you have not read yourself first

◇ **Interviews, if they come** · Sep – Oct 2027

- ☐ Be able to talk for two minutes about the project in your statement, including what went wrong
- ☐ Have one real question ready about the course, not about the city
- ☐ Do one mock on camera with your counsellor — on-camera is a different skill from in person
- ☐ Test your connection, background and lighting the day before, not an hour before

5 **Offers, funding & departure**

0/20 done

Choose between real offers on real numbers, then clear the visa and the logistics without a last-minute scramble.

❖ **Compare the offers** · Nov 2027 – Feb 2028

- ☐ Put every offer in one table: tuition, living, scholarship, and the four-year total in rupees
- ☐ Ask each university in writing whether the scholarship renews after the first year — many do not
- ☐ Weigh co-op and placement access; a paid co-op year can offset a large part of the fee difference
- ☐ Accept one and formally decline the rest so deposits are not left sitting with universities you will not attend
- ☐ Pay the deposit only once your funding is confirmed in writing

■ **Funding** · Feb – Apr 2028

- ☐ Have the loan sanction letter in hand before the visa appointment, not after it
- ☐ Prepare financial documents in the exact format the visa office asks for; Canada and the UK differ substantially
- ☐ Keep six months of bank statements clean and consistent — unexplained large deposits invite questions
- ☐ For Canada, check whether a Guaranteed Investment Certificate is the faster route for proof of funds
- ☐ Budget the first two months separately; the initial outlay is always higher than the annual average suggests

■ **The visa** · Apr – Jun 2028

- ☐ Book the appointment the day slots open — peak intake slots go within days
- ☐ Carry originals of everything, including what you were told you would not need
- ☐ Do one mock interview with your counsellor; the questions follow a predictable pattern and rehearsal shows
- ☐ Be able to explain in your own words why this course, this university, and why you will return or what you will do after
- ☐ Keep every acknowledgement and reference number in one place

◆ **Before you fly** · Jun – Aug 2028

- ☐ Accommodation confirmed in writing, including what happens if your flight is delayed or arrives at night
- ☐ Forex, travel insurance and a working phone plan arranged a fortnight ahead, not in the airport
- ☐ Meet one student already on campus, online, before you go — arrival is far easier with one familiar name
- ☐ Pack the documents you will need in your first week separately from your checked luggage
- ☐ Register with the university's international student office before term begins, not during induction week

LEARNER · CONNECT

This is just the beginning.

Ananya Iyer, your plan will grow with you. Tick off each step as you go, and come back any time to see how far you've moved.

This roadmap was prepared for you with the help of AI. It aims to be thorough and accurate, but small errors are possible — if anything looks off or you'd like to go deeper, your counsellor is here to help.