Medical Schools Entry Requirements
August 2014

This report was commissioned by the GSA/HMC Universities Sub Committee to identify the complexity and diversity of entry requirements for medical schools, and also to lay down the first year of information to help identify how much notice is given of changing entry requirements. Its main purpose was therefore to provide GSA and HMC with the material to help lobby the medical schools on your behalf. While it wasn’t compiled with advising individual pupils in mind, it may be of some use to you in these situations if used judiciously alongside any other material that you are already using.

This report covers the entry requirements at 16 of the leading medical schools in the UK. The information included in the report was all gathered from the websites of the 16 institutions during August 2014.

The 16 schools were selected because they were the 15 schools to which ISC candidates made most applications in 2010 (the most recent year for which I have full data), with an additional university included – Liverpool – as, although it was 17th on the list for applications, it ranked 9th on the list for volume of offers accepted by ISC pupils. These 16 medical schools collectively accounted for 74% of applications from pupils at ISC schools to medical schools, and for 76% of the offers accepted by ISC pupils. The 16 include all of the institutions that are ranked in the top 15 medical schools by volume of application in Peter Mason’s most recent survey of applications and offers from ISC schools.

Having reviewed the material on these 16 websites, I can offer some conclusions:

- In most cases there is a high level of detail available on the entry requirements for each medical school. It is not, however, the case that all of the medical schools provide the same level of detail. Nor do they all provide detail on the same elements (while all 16 were strong on detail of the required academic qualifications, it was not the case that they were all equally transparent on issues such as the non-academic qualities required and the way that they are assessed).

- Information on the entry requirements at medical schools is not always contained in one place. Some medical schools offer a range of overlapping documents including detail for potential applicants: this includes course brochures, admissions policies, supporting documents on detailed aspects of admissions and videos advising applicants. While it is helpful when universities are transparent, there are risks in having too many documents. First, there is the risk of inconsistencies between the documents (a – relatively minor – problem in a handful of cases). Secondly there is a greater challenge for the candidates to process the substantial volume of material.
• Just as each medical school seems to have its own slightly different means for assessing candidates, they all have their own different ways of describing their requirements. This can make it challenging to put something together that allows simple and quick comparisons to be made between medical schools. Often the devil is in the detail: it is necessary to describe fairly painstakingly the different combinations of subject choices permitted in order to show some fairly subtle differences between the medical schools. This doesn’t lend itself well to the creation of a streamlined and easy to use document.

If I have faced these challenges putting this document together, I can only sympathise with applicants for medicine. It is clearly a very complicated process and one where an ill-judged decision made as early as Year 9 can cause problems for the pupil putting together an application in Year 13.

In addition to this report I have saved copies of all of the relevant webpages and documents. These will form a resource that can be used in subsequent years in order to demonstrate when changes to the entry requirements have been brought in. The intention is to be able to highlight those instances when candidates might be disadvantaged by changes to the entry requirements that take place after potential applicants have already made the decisions that the changes relate to.

REL
31.8.14
### ISC university applications in 2010 for Pre-Clinical Medicine (A1)

Top 15 HEIs by applications, plus the University of Liverpool (17th in terms of applications, but 9th in terms of accepts).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank by Applications</th>
<th>Rank by Accepts</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Applications for A1 (Pre-Clinical Medicine)</th>
<th>% of all A1 applications</th>
<th>Running total % of all A1 applications</th>
<th>Offers</th>
<th>Offer Rate</th>
<th>Number of Offers that were Firm Offers</th>
<th>Number of Offers that were Insurance Offers</th>
<th>Number of Offers that were Declined</th>
<th>Number of accepts</th>
<th>Ratio - Applications:Accepts ( :1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>University of Leeds</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>University of Bristol</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>21.8%</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>University of Southampton</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cardiff University</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>8.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>King's College London</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>29.1%</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>The University of Edinburgh</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>6.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>The University of Nottingham</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Newcastle University</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>35.1%</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>The University of Birmingham</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>64.0%</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>3.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>University College London</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>35.4%</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Imperial College London</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>57.2%</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>38.4%</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>University of Cambridge</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>120</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>The University of Sheffield</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>64.7%</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>The University of Manchester</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>68.1%</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>37.2%</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Oxford University</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>The University of Liverpool</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total of the 17 universities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applications (A1)</th>
<th>Offer Rate</th>
<th>Number of Accepts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8,348</td>
<td>74.3%</td>
<td>1,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,659</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,369</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>560</td>
<td>1,285</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>1,285</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total of all HEIs with ISC applicants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applications (A1)</th>
<th>Offer Rate</th>
<th>Number of Accepts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11,234</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,707</td>
<td>33.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,815</td>
<td>787</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>730</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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### University of Leeds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Medicine &amp; Surgery, A100, MBChB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A-level requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Standard offer is AAA including Chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No advantage in taking 4 A2s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• General Studies &amp; Critical Thinking not counted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Chemistry, Biology, Human Biology not an acceptable combination (unless with a 4th A-level)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry, Maths, Further Maths not an acceptable combination (unless with a 4th A-level)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AS requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• For those who do not have 3 cashed in AS results (including Chemistry), they score the GCSE results.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• For those that have cashed in at least 3 AS results, they score the better of either your AS or GCSE results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No minimum grade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No advantage in having 4 AS levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Must have Chemistry.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative qualifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Pre-U: 3 D3s in principal subjects. One must be Chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• IB: 35 points; 6 or 7 in three Higher Level subjects (one must be Chemistry); two subjects from Biology, Maths and Physics at either Higher or Standard if not offered at GCSE; if English not offered at GCSE then a mark of 5+ at Standard level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Scottish Highers: AAAAB including Biology, plus grades of BB Advanced Higher including Chemistry.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GCSE requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• At least 6 Bs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Must include English Language; Maths; Dual Science/Double Science, or Chemistry &amp; Biology.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aptitude test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>BMAT</strong>: No formal cut off threshold. Intention is to help assess &quot;'non-traditional&quot; applicants. Will take it into account for traditional applicants alongside previous and predicted academic performance, personal statements and references. Intention is to weight it as they used to weight UKCAT, i.e. 15% of the weight given to GCSEs and half the weight of the personal statement. Must sit BMAT in the academic session in which they apply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>UKCAT</strong>: No longer accepted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Personal qualities

- **Interpersonal skills** – verbal, non-verbal, written and presentational aspects. Evidence from activities in which you take part and/or the reference on your UCAS form.
- **Insight into a career in Medicine** – demonstrate you have considered your reasons for choosing Medicine and have taken steps to investigate what a medical degree and career would mean for you. Provide details of work experience and its duration. Show even failed attempts to get work experience. Show factual knowledge about potential careers and be realistic about the future.
- **Social and cultural awareness** – Useful to have experience (not necessarily medical) of society beyond your immediate environment, preferably over several months. Work experience, voluntary work, part time employment, organised community schemes.
- **Responsibility** – Responsibility through school, paid employment or family and leisure activities.
- **Non-academic achievements** – Developed non-academic interests. Provide more than one verifiable example, e.g. sport, performing arts, community service.

Detailed advice on the personal statement is available here: [http://medhealth.leeds.ac.uk/download/40/guidance_on_completeing_the_personal_statement](http://medhealth.leeds.ac.uk/download/40/guidance_on_completeing_the_personal_statement)

### Interview

- Interviews are of the Multi Mini Interview (MMI) format.
- More than 500 are interviewed.
- 8 different stations. Each station lasts 7 minutes. There is one minute to move between stations and read the next task. Format of each station varies. Will involve ethical reasoning, self-evaluation, communication skills and problem solving. Marks awarded on a standardised scale. A ranked score will be calculated based on all 8 stations.

### Deferred entry

- For time spent in employment, voluntary service or travelling. Contact Admissions Office for guidance. Deferred entry will not affect whether you receive an offer or not, but will determine whether your place is from the allocation of places for 2015 or 2016 (i.e. if you don’t give enough notice it may not be possible to switch).

### Re-sits and re-applications

- Re-applications from candidates that achieved the required grades at the first attempt are considered alongside other candidates. Applications from candidates resitting exams will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

### Other

- Most applicants have an excellent academic record, typically offering AAA at A2 Level, or equivalent, and a good range of subjects at GCSE in addition to impressive non-academic achievements.
- Last year over 40% of applicants achieved full marks on our academic scoring system which requires either 9 A* grades at GCSE (including English Language, Mathematics and either Chemistry and Biology or Dual/Double Science) or AAA at AS.
• Last year over 3,500 applied for 218 places.
Bristol University

Course
Medicine, A100, MBChB

A-level requirement
• AAA (a "contextual offer" is AAB with an A in Chemistry and another lab-based science)
• No advantage in doing a 4th A-level (but see AS levels on the need for a 4th there)
• Must include Chemistry and another lab-based science.
• General Studies and Critical Thinking are not counted.
• Should be completed within two years of study.

AS requirement
• Minimum of 4 subjects.
• Minimum grade C in weakest subject.

Alternative qualifications
• IB: 37 points overall; three grade 6s at Higher Level including Chemistry and another lab-based science (With a "contextual offer", 35 points overall; three grade 6s at Higher Level including Chemistry and another lab-based science).
• Pre-U: Requirements are as for A-level where A*=D2, A=D3, B=M2, C=M3.
• BTEC: DDD in a medically related subject, plus grade A in A-level Chemistry
• Scottish Highers: AAAAB; Advanced Highers of AA in Chemistry and another lab-based science.

GCSE requirement
• 5+ grade A+
• Credit is given for the top 8 grades.
• A grades in Maths, English Language and two science subjects.

Aptitude test
• None.

Personal qualities
• Has the applicant demonstrated:
  • a realistic interest in Medicine?
  • life skills?
  • a wide range of interests?
  • acts of altruism and voluntary work?
  • communication and interaction skills?
• Each of these is scored on 0-4 scale.
• References are read in conjunction with the personal statement and used as supporting information.
• Applicants with an adverse comment from their referee are unlikely to be successful.
### Interview
- MMI: 10 stations of 5 mins each. Each station is assessing a particular criterion.

### Deferred entry
- Only possible to make a small number of deferred offers each year. Not possible to switch to deferred entry once it has been submitted, neither before nor after a decision has been made.

### Re-sits and re-applications
- No apparent penalty if GCSEs have been re-sat.
- Applicants who are re-sitting their A-levels, are unlikely to be invited for interview.

### Other
- Applications are weighted 80% on the personal statement, 20% on academic criteria.
# University of Southampton

## Course
Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, A100, BMedSc

## A-level requirement
- AAA
- Must include Chemistry and Biology
- General Studies and Critical Thinking not accepted.
- Subjects with material overlaps (e.g. Human Biology/Sports Studies/Physical Education) may not be offered in combination at A-level.

## AS requirement
- A grade at AS in a subject not offered at A2, or an A grade in EPQ

## Alternative qualifications
- **IB**: 36 points, with 18 at Higher Level across 3 subjects, with a 6 in Chemistry and Biology at Higher Level.
- **BTEC**: The BTEC National Diploma may be considered on a case by case basis as an acceptable alternative to a GCE A level. The subjects should include sufficient elements of chemistry and biology.
- **Scottish Highers**: Applicants offering Scottish qualifications are required to offer four subjects at grades AAAA in the Higher examination, including chemistry and biology, together with grade A in chemistry and biology in Advanced Highers.

## GCSE requirement
- 7 at grade A
- A grades must include English Language and Double Award Science (or equivalent).
- Candidates can offer qualifications which are equivalent to GCSE.

## Aptitude test
- **UKCAT**: must be taken in the summer prior to making an application.
- All applicants must score 2500 or above in the UKCAT exam in order for their application to be considered further (the score must be from the first four subtests, excluding Situational Judgement). The Faculty of Medicine will then rank applicants by UKCAT score and a certain percentage will be invited to attend a selection day.
**Personal qualities**

- In addition to academic entry requirements, during the selection process, the selectors will look at the UCAS personal statement and reference for evidence of non-academic criteria. Candidates must demonstrate that they:
  - are self-motivated and have initiative
  - are literate and articulate
  - are able to interact successfully with others
  - have learnt from their experiences of interacting with people in health or social care settings - this may draw on what they have learnt from their own life experiences (e.g. friends and family), or more formalised activity (e.g. paid or voluntary work, or work shadowing)
- In addition they need to show they understand and respect the NHS values. The NHS constitution outlines the values of those working in the NHS and our selection methods aim to identify people who have those values of compassion, team working and treating others with respect and dignity.
- Candidates need to show they have learnt from experiences of interacting with people in health or social care settings - this could be helping to look after an ill family member or friend or could be voluntary/paid work or work shadowing. It can be difficult to obtain experience in a hospital setting so candidates could work/volunteer in a nursing home, homeless shelter, local hospice, work with people with special needs or a youth group.

**Interview**

- Applicants are ranked by UKCAT score and a certain percentage will be invited to a selection day, which will include an interview and group task.

**Deferred entry**

- Happy to consider requests for deferred entry (for no more than one year). These requests must normally be received prior to the confirmation period in August. The conditions of any offer would have to be met in the year in which you apply.

**Re-sits and re-applications**

- Unable to consider applicants who are retaking their A Levels/GCSES/or equivalent qualifications.

**Other**

- For 2012 entry Medicine received around 5,500 applications for our programmes.
# Cardiff University

## Course
Medicine, A100, MBBCh

## A-level requirement
- **AAA**
- If Biology and Chemistry are both offered at A2 candidates must achieve an A grade: an A at AS Biology or Chemistry will not be accepted if the subject is taken to A2.
- A fourth A2 will not enhance the application.
- 2 science subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths. Statistics can be offered instead of Maths. At least one A2 must be in Biology or Chemistry. If not offered at A2, Biology and Chemistry must be offered at AS with a minimum A grade.
- General Studies is not accepted, and Critical Thinking and Further Maths are only accepted at AS level.

## AS requirement
- Minimum of grade C in a 4th subject from the 3 at A2.

## Alternative qualifications
- **IB:** 36 points (excluding ToK & EE); 2 sciences (out of Chemistry, Biology, Physics and either Maths or Statistics) must be offered at Higher Level, one of which must be Chemistry or Biology. A minimum of 18 points must be achieved in Higher Level subjects including a 6 in Chemistry or Biology. If not offered at Higher Level, Chemistry and Biology must be offered at Subsidiary Level. Physics must be offered at GCSE if not at Higher or Subsidiary level.
- **Pre-U:** D3 in each of the three Principal Subjects, including 2 science subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Physics and either Maths or Statistics. One D3 must be in Biology or Chemistry. In addition a grade of M3 is needed in a 4th subject short course. If not offered as a Principal Subject, Biology or Chemistry must be at A grade in AS level. No more than one Maths subject will be accepted within the whole subject combination. A combination of Pre-U with A and AS levels is fine if equivalent to the above.
- **Scottish Highers:** AAAB, including Chemistry, Physics, Biology and English Language; AA in Advanced Highers, including Chemistry.

## GCSE requirement
- English/Welsh 1st Language grade B.
- Maths grade B.
- Either AA in Science and Additional Science (or equivalent), or AAB in Chemistry, Physics and Biology (in any order)
- Other subjects not stated above to make up a total of 9 GCSEs at grade B or above.
- Human Biology will be considered, but not in conjunction with Biology.

## Aptitude test
- Must sit the UKCAT. There is not a minimum score necessary in the UKCAT.
Person qualities

- Applicants are assessed by their Personal Statement and the Referee’s Report given on the UCAS Application Form.
- Applications are reviewed by trained selectors and the following are assessed and scored:
  - Medical motivation and awareness of the career
  - Caring ethos and a sense of social awareness
  - Sense of responsibility
  - Evidence of a balanced approach to life
  - Evidence of self-directed learning and extracurricular activities
  - Referee’s report
- All applicants are expected to have an appreciation of the length of the training programme and the career structure, and how this relates to their own situation and circumstances.
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Interview

- Interviews are offered to applicants who achieve the highest positions according to their academic and non-academic rankings (some degree of mutual compensation between these is allowed).
- UKCAT test scores may also be taken into consideration. The number of applicants to be interviewed in order to meet the student intake quota is determined at the start of the admissions cycle. Interviews normally take place during a five month period beginning in November, and no significance should be attached to whether the interview date is early or late within this period.
- The aim of the interview is to explore the non-academic criteria (see above) and to encourage applicants to talk naturally about themselves, their studies and their experiences, and to demonstrate that they have the interpersonal skills to be able to communicate effectively and whether they have a balanced approach to life. In this way they can show how they meet the academic and non-academic attributes required of a prospective doctor.
- Individual interviewers assess each applicant’s performance and the interviewer panel agrees an overall recommendation. Interviews normally last 20 minutes.

Deferred entry

- The Medical School will consider applicants seeking deferred entry to 2016, provided that the intervening year is spent in a positive and worthwhile way, e.g. through a Gap programme.
  Application is made through UCAS in the usual way, the UCAS form should be amended clearly to show at the point of application, the intention to defer. The Personal Statement should include an indication of the reasons why it is proposed to defer entry. Deferment of entry for a period longer than 12 months is not permitted.
- Deferment requests post application will not normally be considered unless there are significant changes in an applicant’s situation and are at the sole discretion of the Sub Dean for Medical Admissions.
Re-sits and re-applications

- Applicants, who fail in their first application, may reapply providing they meet the minimum entry criteria for the year they wish to apply.
- Results of resits will only be considered in exceptional circumstances, and applicants are advised to contact the admissions department prior to submission of their application.

Other

- The School of Medicine receives over 2,500 applications for some 309 places (25 overseas and 284 home and EU students) on the five-year (A100) Medicine programme. In the 2013/14 applications round, most of those selected for interview had the equivalent of four/five A* grades at GCSE and/or AAA grades at A2 Level.
- Initial screening of applications is whether they meet the minimum academic criteria. Remaining candidates are then ranked by their overall certificated qualifications. AS grades and predicted A2s are not used. Based on this ranking, candidates will be asked to interview (i.e. meeting the minimum requirements may not be enough - you need to rank high too).
- Applicants who meet the minimum academic requirements and are sufficiently highly ranked academically are assessed on non-academic criteria according to the information contained in their Personal Statement and the Referee’s Report given on the UCAS Application Form.
- At the beginning of each admissions cycle, the Admissions Sub-Committee reviews the previous cycle and recommends to the Board of Medical Studies any changes in policy or the selection criteria. This policy and the selection criteria will not normally be changed during an admissions cycle.
King’s College London

Course
Medicine, A100, MBBS

A-level requirement
- AAA
- Must include Biology and Chemistry.
- General Studies and Critical Thinking are not accepted as an A or AS level. However if offered, the grade achieved may be taken into account when considering whether or not to accept a candidate who has just fallen short of the conditions of their offer.

AS requirement
- An AS level grade B in a subject in addition to the 3 main A levels.

Alternative qualifications
- **Pre-U**: 3 D3s in principal subjects. These must include Chemistry and Biology. Combinations of Pre-U and other qualifications (such as A-level) considered.
- **IB**: 35+ points with three Higher Level subjects at 6, 6, 6 including Chemistry and Biology. The total of 35 points includes ToK/EE. GCSE Grade B in both English and Maths required (if no GCSE, passes are required at Standard Level if English and Maths are not offered at Higher Level).
- **Scottish Highers**: AA in Advanced Highers in Chemistry and Biology in addition to AAAAB in 5 Highers. If only one of Chemistry or Biology is offered at AH, the other must be taken at Higher grade A [I'm aware this appears to be contradictory...]. English and Maths required at N5/Standard Credit grade 1 or 2/Intermediate 2, with grade B if not offered at Higher.

GCSE requirement
- Grade B in both English and Maths (if not offered at A/AS level).

Aptitude test
- **UKCAT**. No minimum UKCAT score fixed in advance of the admissions cycle as the quantity and quality of applications varies each year. In general though, the better one does on the UKCAT the greater the chance of being invited to interview. As a guide to applicants, the average score for 2014 entry was 730 for candidates invited to interview.

Personal qualities
- **Scholastic activities** (Very Desirable). Any scholastic activity would be considered, e.g. general reading, debating, theological interests etc.
- **Community activities** (Very Desirable). We look for applicants who have participated as fully as possible in school, college or community life, making the most of the opportunities available to them and also demonstrated some experience of society beyond their immediate environment. Your interests, achievements and contribution to your community are taken into account e.g. clubs, theatrical, religious etc.
• **General** (Very Desirable). We look for applicants who not only have interests but may have also achieved in these areas e.g. music, sport, first aid, etc.

• **Work shadowing/observation** (Very Desirable). We would normally expect that applicants will have undertaken some voluntary work experience in a caring/health environment and/or observation in a medical clinical setting. It is important for applicants to have a realistic appreciation of what a career as a health professional involves.

• **Paid or voluntary work** (Very Desirable). Any voluntary contribution to your community is taken into account, eg volunteer in a care home. We look for evidence that you have worked in a setting where you can interact with the general public e.g. in a pharmacy, check-out or restaurant.

• We are looking particularly for evidence of appropriate commitment to, and realistic appreciation of, the academic, physical and emotional demands of a medicine degree programme and career. We would normally expect that you will have undertaken some work experience in a caring environment and/or observation in a dental clinical setting. If this is not possible, we look for evidence that you have worked in a setting where you can interact with the general public, e.g. in a pharmacy, check-out or restaurant.

• Communication skills and the ability to work successfully in a team are of great importance. We look for applicants who have participated as fully as possible in school or college life, making the most of the opportunities available to them and also demonstrated some experience of society beyond their immediate environment. Your interests, achievements and contribution to your community are taken into account in addition to academic ability. We aim to ensure that all of our students can cope with the heavy academic workload of the programme and display those professional qualities, skills and attitudes that help to make competent and caring medical professional.

• We would expect your application to be strongly supported by your referee both in terms of academic achievements/potential and in terms of your character and suitability for medicine.

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### Interview

• No candidate is made an offer without an interview. About 30% of applicants are invited for interview.

• Semi-structured interview, usually 15 to 20 minutes, with at least two interviewers. Interviewees complete a short questionnaire.

• The interview is designed to test: communication skills, exploring in detail the interviewee’s written application, exploring general social and ethical issues, normally health related, the interviewee’s general suitability for the programme and as a health professional, how the interviewee will contribute to the College as a whole.

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### Deferred entry

• No information.
Re-sits and re-applications

- Conditional offer holders must supply to the College all complete examination results (including final grades) by 30 August of the year of entry. For example, conditional offers holders who initially do not meet their offer may apply for an A level re-mark. If official notification of any change to the final grade is supplied to the College no later than 30 August and this change meets the initial offer, the offer holder can begin the programme that academic year. Without exception, if the improved re-marked examination result is supplied to the Student Admissions Office after 30 August, a deferred offer of a place will be made.
### University of Edinburgh

#### Course
- Medicine, A100, MBChB

#### A-level requirement
- AAA in Upper Sixth.
- Must include Chemistry (at A grade).
- For both AS and A level, only one of Maths or Further Maths will be considered.
- Human Biology can replace Biology.
- General Studies will not be considered.
- Must be achieved at first attempt.
- Those applying with resit qualifications (other than a maximum of two GCE AS Level modules) will not be entered into the selection system unless under very exceptional circumstances (for which verified evidence has been provided prior to UCAS application and been approved).

#### AS requirement
- A fourth subject beyond the 3 counted at A2.

#### Alternative qualifications
- **Pre-U**: D3, D3, D3 and M2 (or combination of D3 and A level grade A). GPR at M2 or a further AS level at grade B can be accepted in lieu of the fourth subject M2. Subject requirements are the same as for A-levels.
- **IB**: Overall score of 37+ (including ToK and EE), including 6, 6, 7, at Higher Level in Chemistry and at least one other science (Biology is preferred). Biology should be taken to at least standard level. Must have standard grade 2 or GCSE B or equivalent in Maths and English if these subjects are not part of the IB diploma. If English at Standard Level is being used as part of the English Language requirement it must be at at least grade 5. Maths Studies can be taken in lieu of Maths at Standard Level.
- **Scottish Highers**: AAAAB by the end of S5, including Chemistry and two of Biology, Maths or Physics. Students who meet the grade requirement in S5 but are missing one or more science subjects may take the missing subject(s) in S6. Human Biology may replace Biology. Standard Grades: Standard Grade 2 (or Intermediate 2/ National 5 at Grade B) in Biology, Chemistry, English and Mathematics. SQA Advanced Highers: We encourage the study of at least two subjects at AH level plus a Higher in S6 in order to be competitive. The subjects of greatest relevance to a medical programme are Chemistry and Biology. Not studying these in S6 may impact on how competitive you are.

#### GCSE requirement
- Grade B in Biology, Chemistry, English & Maths. Double Award Combined Science or equivalent at BB may replace Science GCSE grades. Additional Applied Sciences or Applied Science will not be accepted. All grades must be obtained at the first attempt.
### Aptitude test

- **UKCAT.** Must be sat in the year of application. Total score is assessed, not the average, as will the performance in the Situational Judgement Test. All scores are considered and no one will be excluded from the selection process solely on the basis of their UKCAT score.

### Personal qualities

- Personal qualities and skills:
  - empathy
  - interpersonal relationships
  - ability to communicate
- Evidence of career exploration prior to application
  - understanding of medicine
  - work experience and shadowing (diseased, disadvantaged and disabled)
- Breadth and level of non-academic achievements and interests
  - social involvement
  - school responsibilities
  - leadership
  - organisational abilities
  - cultural, sporting, vocational and voluntary achievements
  - interests and hobbies
- Demonstration of a clear understanding of the nature of a career of medicine will be expected. This can be achieved by:
  - Appropriate work experience or work shadowing, as evidence of an informed decision to apply for a medical programme.
  - Talking with medical doctors and medical students.
  - Attending a University Open Day and medical conferences/lectures.
  - Reading medical literature.

### Interview

- Do not normally interview school leavers

### Deferred entry

- No information.

### Re-sits and re-applications

- All examination grades must be obtained at the first attempt of each subject. Those applying with resit qualifications (other than a maximum of two GCE AS Level modules) will not be entered into the selection system unless under very exceptional circumstances (for which verified evidence has been provided prior to UCAS application and been approved).
The Medical School reviews the selection procedure on a regular basis. This usually results in minor changes each year. However, there is likely to be significant change over the next few years in how we select our medical students, due to numerous changes in curriculum delivery, UKCAT and approaches to selection in general. Whilst we aim to give applicants as much information as far in advance as possible, it may well be that some changes are only advertised shortly before UCAS opens for submission of applications. We therefore recommend coming back to our website and checking for changes just before you apply, particularly if you are not intending to apply for a year or two.

If a candidate takes an exam early it may not be considered. If they sit an A Level in the lower sixth, this can count towards their fourth subject AS. Early GCSEs will not be counted in the selection process but will be valid for meeting subject requirements.

The breakdown of our selection weightings is as follows:

- 50% - academic
- 30% - non-academic (15% personal statement/reference and 15% situational judgement section of the UKCAT test)
- 20% - UKCAT (excluding situational judgement)
### A-level requirement
- AAA
- Must include Chemistry and Biology.
- Third A level in any subject except General Studies and Critical Thinking.
- A fourth A-level will not increase your chances.

### AS requirement
- They don’t ask for particular grades at AS level, although they expect candidates to achieve at least a B in each of the subjects they are taking to full A-level.
- 4th AS level doesn’t have a required grade (although candidates must pass it).
- If the school policy is for no 4th AS level then the school should write a letter to confirm this.

### Alternative qualifications
- **IB**: 36 points. 6, 6, 6, at Higher Level including Biology and Chemistry. Must have 6 A grades at GCSE including all sciences.
- **Pre-U**: Offers will be made on the basis of D3 (Distinction) being achieved in Biology and Chemistry and a third subject.
- **Scottish Highers**: AH grades A in Biology and Chemistry and a B in a third subject. At GCSE equivalent, 6 A grades including the three sciences.
- **Extended Project Qualification**: While we appreciate the value of the extended project, we will not make it a requirement of any offer.

### GCSE requirement
- At least 6. Including Chemistry, Physics and Biology, or Double Science at Grade A. Grade B in English and Maths. If you achieved a B in Physics at GCSE, a grade A at AS level will compensate.

### Aptitude test
- **UKCAT**. The test must be taken during the year you make your application through UCAS and can only be taken once during that year.

### Personal qualities
- This is your opportunity to tell us about yourself, the medical insight you have gained from your work experience and other achievements and hobbies. We want to understand:
  - what has motivated you to want a career in medicine,
  - what you have learnt from any work experience you have, or are undertaking, and the length of time you have carried out this work experience
  - Non-academic achievements,
  - Hobbies
- Activities you are undertaking at school

**Interview**
- No offers made without interview.
- We are working towards implementing the multi-mini interview format for 2015/16 entry with four mini stations. We will add more information on the station formats shortly.
- If you are invited for interview, you will be asked to bring certain documents with you as evidence of who you are together with original academic certificates or transcripts and original letters from volunteer and work experience placements.
- There will be current medical students available on the day to take you on a tour of the medical school.

**Deferred entry**
- Applications for deferred entry are considered.

**Re-sits and re-applications**
- During your A-level years we will accept one module re-sit in each full A-level subject you are studying, over the two year period. Once you have achieved an A-level grade we will not accept any further re-sits.
- You can reapply, but they do not consider people who have already been rejected after interview.

**Other**
- Phase I: rejection of candidates that do not meet the minimum requirements.
- Phase II: candidates are scored on their highest 8 GCSEs (inc. 3 sciences or double award, maths and English language). Also scored on the 4 cognitive sections of UKCAT and the SJTs. The candidates scores in the 2 areas are added together and candidates are ranked (UKCAT appears to have 71% of the weighting at this stage). Bottom 50% are rejected. Remaining 50% have their personal statement and reference scored and this score is combined with their score from UKCAT and GCSEs. c.600 candidates are then invited to interview.
- Phase III: Structured interviews. 215 places for home (or EU) students and 25 for international ones.
### A-level requirement

- AAA including Chemistry and/or Biology at A or AS level and excluding General Studies and Critical Thinking. If only one of Biology and/or Chemistry is offered at A or AS level, the other should be offered at GCSE grade A (or Dual Award Science grade A).
- Once the academic criteria have been met, academic achievement is not considered further in subsequent parts of the application process. e.g. additional A levels or A* results or additional GCSE results are not considered.
- We would normally expect all applicants to have achieved their A Levels on their first attempt.

### AS requirement

- See A-level requirement.

### Alternative qualifications

- **Scottish Highers**: AAAAA at Higher Grade including Chemistry and/or Biology.
- **IB**: 38 points including grade 5 in all subjects, and Higher Level grade 6 in Chemistry or Biology. Combinations including two sciences, Maths and English are "desirable".
- **Pre-U**: D3, D3, D3 in Principal Subjects. Subjects should include Chemistry and/or Biology. If only one of Biology and/or Chemistry is offered, the other should be offered at GCSE grade A (or Dual Award Science grade A).

### GCSE requirement

- Biology and Chemistry (or Dual Award) at grade A if not offered at A/AS level.

### Aptitude test

- **UKCAT**: The UKCAT threshold may differ in each admissions cycle as it is dependent on the scores achieved by those applicants who apply to our Medical School in the current cycle. In previous years the threshold has been rising: 2009 - 2450; 2010 - 2600; 2011 - 2670; 2012 - 2660; 2013 - 2780; 2014 - 2980.

### Interview

- Approximately 1,000 will be invited to interview. 327 will be offered places.
- The purpose of the interview is to confirm whether the candidate has the aptitude, motivation and personal qualities to succeed as a medical student in Newcastle or at Durham University, Queen’s Campus, Stockton and as a potential doctor of the future. Interviews will be held between mid-November and early-March.
- The interview at Durham University, Queen’s Campus, Stockton will be conducted by two selectors and takes about 45 minutes. Prior to and during the interview the selectors are not given access to the application information, including the reference and personal statement, as
the interview is designed to explore the candidate's personal qualities. At the conclusion of the interview each selector will grade the candidate's performance and complete an assessment form. These grades are used as the basis for the decision making process for actual offers. Interview selectors will not convey their recommendations to the candidates at the time of the interview or at any time thereafter.

- The following are the interview processes used at Newcastle University. These may differ slightly to those used at Durham University, Queen’s Campus, Stockton. The interview will be conducted by two selectors and will last approximately 25 minutes. At the conclusion of the interview each selector will grade the candidate’s performance and complete an assessment form. These grades are used as the basis for the decision making process for actual offers. Selectors will not convey their grades to the candidates at the time of the interview or at any time thereafter.
- Your personal statement, reference and contribution at interview are the sources from which the selectors will make their judgement.

### Deferred entry

- We will consider applications from candidates who wish to defer entry by one year only provided they use their time constructively. Any further additional deferral requests will require extenuating circumstances. Once offers have been made deferrals will not normally be granted.

### Re-sits and re-applications

- We would normally expect applicants to have achieved their A levels on their first attempt.

### Other

- “The admissions policy is reviewed annually by the MBBS Joint Recruitment and Admissions Executive Committee (a joint committee of the Universities of Newcastle and of Durham). Since the policy is made freely available, via the World Wide Web and other sources, and in order to ensure that all applications are dealt with on the same basis, changes are not made part-way through the admissions cycle.”
### University of Birmingham

**Course**

Medicine and Surgery, A100, MBChB

### A-level requirement

- **A*AA.** Should have predictions of AAA including Biology and Chemistry (Human Biology is acceptable as an alternative to Biology). General Studies and Critical Thinking are not accepted. All A2 modules of the 3 subjects must be taken in Y13. If third subject is PE, Theatre Studies, Dance, Art or Music a fourth subject (not in this list) is needed at AS level.

- A student studying a single Mathematics A Level must follow a curriculum that involves the study of three modules (including C3 and C4) in Year 13 and each of these modules must contribute to the final A Level Mathematics result. The following applies to students who also study Further Mathematics:
  - We will consider a module combination that leads to an A Level in Mathematics and an AS Level in Further Mathematics after two years of study (Years 12 and 13). Three modules must be studied in Year 13. Only one of these can be from the following list: M1, S1, D1 and FP1. The module results may contribute to either the Mathematics A Level or the Further Mathematics AS Level. An offer will be based, in part, on achieving A/A* in A Level Mathematics and A in AS Level Further Mathematics. This does not circumvent the policy not to consider Mathematics and Further Mathematics as separate subjects offered at AS Level (end of Year 12) as described below.

### AS requirement

- Certificated as well as non-certificated results must be provided (the latter could be included in the reference)
- Preference will be given to those applicants who offer AAAA, achieved by the end of the first year of A level study. Mathematics and Further Mathematics will not be considered as separate subjects.

### Alternative qualifications

- **Pre-U:** D3, D2, D2 from three subjects, including Biology and Chemistry. If Global Perspectives and Research is not offered, a fourth subject at AS level must be studied in Year 12.

- **Scottish Highers:** Highers - Five subjects at grade A including, Chemistry, Biology, Maths and English. Advanced Highers - Three subjects including Chemistry and Biology must be offered (grade requirements: AAB)

- **IB:** 36 points (excluding core points) must be attained, with at least Grade 6 in each HL subject and a minimum of 5 in the rest. Higher level: Chemistry and Biology and one other approved subject. Subsidiary level: The subjects must include English and Mathematics if not offered at the higher level
### GCSE requirement

- Preference will be given to those applicants offering A* grades in Mathematics, English and Science subjects. Integrated Science (double certificate) is acceptable as an alternative to single sciences.

### Aptitude test

- None. Considering introducing an aptitude test for applications in 2015 for 2016 entry.

### Interview

- Approx 1,150 invited to interview (c.1,800 apply). Interviews are organised in a multiple mini-interview format. You will participate in six separate, short interviews, lasting 6 mins each. This will allow you to start afresh at each mini-interview. A range of your personal attributes relevant to studying medicine will be assessed by means of different tasks. Interview stations are designed to assess aspects such as: motivation for medicine; communication; self-insight; ethical reasoning; data interpretation; ability to evaluate information and identify relevant aspects.

### Deferred entry

- Approximately 10% of our students have taken a gap year and applying for deferred entry will in no way jeopardise your chance of an offer. If you intend to do this we recommend that the year is used to broaden your experience either by working, travelling, voluntary service or some other activity. We do not necessarily expect it to be in a field directly related to medicine.

### Re-sits and re-applications

- Second time A levels: Second-time applicants are considered only in exceptional circumstances. Only those who have achieved less than our standard offer by a small margin the first time round may be considered if there are persuasive mitigating circumstances.
- Repeat medicine application: We will not consider anyone whose application to Birmingham medical school has been rejected previously following interview. Otherwise, we will consider those applying for medicine for a second time. This fact is often not apparent until interview but, even at this stage, an applicant must provide good evidence that their application is stronger.
## University College London

### Course

| Medicine, A100, MBBS BSc |

### A-level requirement

- **A*AA.** Biology and Chemistry required, with A* in one of these subjects. A contrasting subject is encouraged for the third A level, but is not compulsory.

### AS requirement

- A pass in a fourth AS (other than the 3 subjects taken to A2). Your marks are used to assess your suitability for interview. Essential to indicate what marks have been achieved in modules at the time of application, even in instances where they are not yet certificated.

### Alternative qualifications

- **IB:** 39 points. A total of 19 points in three higher level subjects including Biology and Chemistry with one at grade 7 and the other at grade 6, with no score below 5.
- **Pre-U:** D2,D3,D3 in three Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subjects. Chemistry and Biology required with one at D2
- **Scottish Highers:** A1,A,A at Advanced Highers, including Chemistry and Biology, with one at A1

### GCSE requirement

- English Language and Maths at grade B. For UK-based students, a grade C or equivalent in a foreign language (other than Ancient Greek, Biblical Hebrew or Latin) is required.

### Aptitude test

- **BMAT.** No fixed score to guarantee an interview, although higher scores make an interview more likely. If you score significantly under average you are unlikely to be invited to interview. Your section 3 essay will be returned to you as it will be used as the basis for part of your interview. In 2012 the average applicant to UCL scored 4.8 in section 1, 4.9 in section 2 and 3 A/B in section 3; among those admitted the average scores were 5.4, 5.5 and 3.5 A respectively.

### Personal qualities

- Strong warning about the dangers of plagiarising in your personal statement. Concerns also about lying in the personal statement. In order to counteract this, they say it is preferable to be specific about work experience (i.e. name precisely where it was, and who it was with) and that you may subsequently be asked to provide references from these experiences.

### Interview

- Early December to mid-March. Panel of 2-3 interviewers.
### Deferred entry
- UCL accept deferred offers.

### Re-sits and re-applications
- While they don't discriminate against candidates who have re-sat modules, they question whether you would be a suitable candidate if you have to take a resit in order to achieve the minimum requirements.

### Other
- 2,300-2,600 applicants for 330 places. In 2012 727 were interviewed. 503 were made offers. 73% of candidates took up their offer.
- Intake: Average grades achieved AAAA+, average BMAT of 5.4; 5.5; 3.5A (see above). 80% at least 1 A*; 50% at least 2 A*. 30% took no more than 3 A-levels.
**Imperial College London**

**Course**
Medicine, A100, MBBS/BSc

**A-level requirement**
- AAA including Chemistry and/or Biology and one science or maths subject. Vocational A and AS levels are not accepted. Nor is General Studies.

**AS requirement**
- A fourth subject at grade B beyond the 3 counted at A2. If only one of Chemistry and Biology is taken at A2, the other must be taken at AS with at least a B grade.

**Alternative qualifications**
- **Pre-U**: Must offer our Principal Subjects with grades of D3 or higher including Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematics. The fourth subject may be either an additional Science or another Mathematics subject. Those taking a combination of Pre-U and A-Level subjects should contact the Medicine admissions team - medicine.ug.admissions@imperial.ac.uk
- **IB**: 38 points including a 6 in Biology and a 6 in Chemistry. At least one of these subjects must be offered at Higher level. If either Biology or Chemistry is offered at Standard level, one other science or mathematical subject must be offered at Higher level. We also require English, grade 5 at Standard level.
- **Scottish Highers**: 5 standards (or GCSEs) at AAABB in - in any order - Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths and English Language. AAA grades in Advanced Highers including Chemistry and/or Biology and one science or maths subject and one additional subject at Scottish Higher. If either Chemistry or Biology is offered alone at Advanced Highers or A-Level, then the other is required at Scottish Higher or AS-Level with at least a grade B.

**GCSE requirement**
- AAABB+ in Biology (or Human Biology), Chemistry, English Language, Maths (or Additional Maths, or Statistics), Physics. Double Award science can substitute all sciences at GCSE.

**Aptitude test**
- **BMAT**. Must be taken in the year of application.

**Interview**
- 15 min interview.
- The interview is not intended to be an intimidating experience and staff will try to put candidates at ease while evaluating the following:
  - Motivation and realistic approach to medicine as a career
  - Capacity to deal with stressful situations
  - Evidence of working as both a leader and a team member
  - Ability to multitask
- Likely contribution to university life
- Communication skills and maturity of character

### Deferred entry
- Applications for deferred entry are welcome. Candidates must state in your UCAS personal statement how you propose to spend your time.

### Re-sits and re-applications
- Resit candidates must have achieved at least grades CCC at the first attempt and have predictions of at least three A grades in the winter resit examinations. They must have acceptable extenuating circumstances to explain the failure to achieve the grades at the first attempt (the extenuating circumstances should be included in the referee’s statement and the candidate may also wish to write directly to the School). Candidates who do not fulfil the above requirements will be rejected without interview.

### Other
- We receive well over 2,000 applications for entry and interview about 650 candidates. We make approximately 450 offers, and 277 students will be admitted in October 2015.
- Candidates are invited to interview based on the content of their UCAS application and their performance in all three sections of BMAT. The BMAT threshold changes with each cohort, but in 2014 it was 4.5 in section 1, 4.6 in section 2, 2.5 and a B in section 3.
- Applications are assessed on the following criteria:
  - GCSE results
  - A/AS-level or equivalent predicted (or achieved) grades
  - BMAT scores
  - Motivation and understanding of medicine as a career
  - Community activities
  - Leadership and teamwork
  - General interests
  - Referee’s report
### A-level requirement
- A*A*A
- At least one of Chemistry, Biology/Human Biology, Physics and Maths.
- Most applicants for Medicine at Cambridge have at least three science/mathematics A Levels and some Colleges require this and/or ask for particular A Level subject(s). Although some Colleges consider applicants offering only two science/mathematics subjects at A Level, please note that the success rate of such applicants is much lower. In the past three admissions rounds, 98 per cent of applicants for Medicine (A100) offered three or more science/mathematics A Levels and, of these, 23 per cent were successful in obtaining a place. Of the two per cent of applicants who offered only two science/mathematics A Levels, just 10 per cent were successful in gaining a place.

### AS requirement
- Chemistry and 2 of Biology/Human Biology, Physics and Maths.

### Alternative qualifications
- **IB**: 40-41 points, with 7, 7, 6 at Higher Level. The GCSE and AS/A Level subject requirements also apply to the IB. Individual Middle Years Programme subject results validated by the IB at grade 4 or above will satisfy the GCSE requirements Standard Level subjects will satisfy AS Level subject requirements, and Higher Level subjects will satisfy A Level subject requirements.
- **Scottish Highers**: AAAAB. Grades should be achieved in the same sitting at first attempt. English language and any science subject (Maths, Physics, Chemistry or Biology) not taken at Higher/Advanced Higher must have been achieved at SCQF level 5 (National 5, Intermediate II or Standard Grade Credit level grade 2 or above). Grades AAA in Advanced Highers are required in one of the following combinations:
  - Three Advanced Highers, including Chemistry; one other subject from Mathematics, Biology, or Physics; plus one other rigorous subject; or
  - Two Advanced Highers, plus one A2-level subject (subjects as above); or
  - Two Advanced Highers, plus one new Higher (subjects to include Chemistry at Advanced Higher, plus one other science at Advanced Higher, and a further rigorous subject).

### GCSE requirement
- C in Double Award Science and Maths. 2 single awards in Biology and Physics may be substituted for the Double Award.

### Aptitude test
- BMAT.
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<tr>
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A-level requirement
- AAA. Including Chemistry and another Science Subject (Biology, Physics, Maths or Psychology).
- General Studies not accepted.
- A levels to be taken in one sitting. Resits and early entries are not accepted.
- Further Maths is not considered from candidates who hold A Level maths.
- "In some cases we may not be able to consider Modern Languages A Levels. Please contact us for further information."

AS requirement
- ABBB. You must declare that you have met this requirement somewhere on your UCAS form.
- If AS Levels have not been certificated, UMS scores will be needed.
- The 4 AS levels must be studied for no longer than one year and all be obtained in the same sitting. AS level resits or early entries are not accepted.

Alternative qualifications
- IB: 37 points overall; three grade 6s at Higher Level including Chemistry and another science. No less than 4 in all Standard Level subjects.
- Pre-U: D3, D3, D3 including Chemistry and another Science Subject.
- Scottish Highers: AAAAB + AA in Advanced Highers. AH in Chemistry and another subject.
- "Unfortunately, we are not able to consider the following qualifications for entry to our Medicine courses: [includes] Bedales Examinations"

GCSE requirement
- 6+ A grades. C in English, Maths and the Sciences (which may be dual awards).

Aptitude test
- UKCAT. Must be sat in year of application. Likely that a score of 2,600+ from a candidate meeting the minimum entry requirements will be given an interview.

Personal qualities
- A good Personal Statement will include information on your relevant work experience. Medical Schools expect applicants to have a range of work experience for two reasons. Firstly, this demonstrates that you have a realistic insight to the profession – you are after all committing to a lifetime career when you apply to study Medicine. It is important that you have an understanding of the complex nature of a doctor’s role, as well as being aware of the highs and lows of the profession.
• Work experience is also important in enabling you to develop (and to demonstrate that you have) the relevant skills and qualities that are essential to becoming a good doctor. A few examples are listed below.
  • Ability to overcome setbacks
  • Ability to work independently
  • A sense of responsibility
  • A sense of service to the community
  • Communication skills
  • Enthusiasm
  • Experience of working with diverse groups
  • Perseverance
  • Self-insight

• We recognise that it is not always possible for students to obtain work placements in a medical environment given the limited availability of volunteer placements in hospitals and similar clinical settings. However, in addition to shadowing a GP or other medical practitioner, there are many other areas related to medicine in which you can gain experience. Some examples of these are listed below.
  • Paid or voluntary work experience in a residential care home, hospice or similar.
  • Working in a youth centre or working with young children.
  • Participating in community volunteering schemes.
  • Working with a diverse range of people (whether on a paid or voluntary basis).

• Participatory work experience (not simply observing, but a 'hands on' role) is extremely valuable. Many applicants arrange to undertake paid or voluntary work as a Healthcare Assistant.

Whatever work experience you have, it is important that you reflect effectively on this in your Personal Statement.

• Your Personal Statement should communicate not only what meaningful activities you have undertaken, but also what you have learned from these experiences, particularly in regards to your future as a medical practitioner. A rota of the duties of your job or project involved is not required.

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**Interview**

• The Medical School interviews approximately 500-700 candidates for Medicine each year. From 2014-2015 the Medical School will use Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs) as evidence has shown that these are a more reliable and fair means of assessing applicants. Our MMIs are normally held between January and March.

• The Multiple Mini Interviews comprise a series of six 8-minute stations. The questioning in these stations is based around the following criteria:
  • communication skills
  • depth and breadth of interests (achievements in specific fields)
  • evidence of commitment for caring
  • knowledge of and interest in study in Sheffield
  • medical work experience
  • motivation for Medicine
  • understanding the nature of Medicine
  • values and attitudes.
Deferred entry

- At Sheffield Medical School we welcome deferred entry applications; you simply need to state this on your UCAS form. Students applying for deferred entry should summarise (briefly) their plans for the year ahead in their Personal Statement. Not only does this show that you have given considerable thought and effort into planning your gap year, but will also give you an opportunity to demonstrate relevant work experience that will enable you to become a good doctor in the future. If you are currently planning your gap year we would suggest you refer to the previous section on Relevant Work Experience. There are many advantages to taking a gap year, including:
  - An opportunity to travel the world and meet people from different cultures. This will develop your cultural awareness, which is of course important in the medical profession.
  - Additional time to gain further work experience in a relevant area, such as participating in a volunteer project overseas, thus reinforcing your evidence of commitment to caring and insight into the profession.
  - Lastly, the opportunity to earn some money over the coming year to help fund your studies at Sheffield. This reflects very well on you as an individual, as you are demonstrating social responsibility.
- A number of students find that taking a gap year leads to increased confidence, maturity, and self-insight, all of which are relevant to a career in medicine.
- If you decide you wish to defer your entry mid-way through the application cycle, we may still be able to accommodate your gap-year plans. You will need to put your request in writing (either via email or post) to the Medical Admissions Team, explaining your reasons for requesting deferment. In the majority of cases we can amend your year of entry accordingly.

Re-sits and re-applications

- Resits not accepted.

Other

- Applications must meet minimum UKCAT and academic requirements. Applications are grades on academic ability by taking into account all previous qualifications and predictions. Applications meeting the academic and UKCAT requirements are assessed according to the candidates personal qualities:
  - breadth and depth of interests, and linking these with ability to cope with stress
  - evidence of commitment for caring
  - evidence of team work, leadership skills, communication skills, acceptance of responsibility
  - motivation for medicine
  - understanding the nature of medicine
  - work experience
  - written communication skills
- Once your application has been given a score for your academic achievements and your personal qualities we will look at the combination of the two scores you have been given. Candidates with the highest grades for their academic achievements and personal qualities will be invited to attend a Multiple Mini Interview.
- For 2014 entry we received over 2,500 applications for 237 places
### University of Manchester

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<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>Medicine, A106, MBChB</td>
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### A-level requirement
- AAA in Chemistry, and one from Biology/Human Biology, Physics, Maths and Further Maths.
- One further "rigorous" subject - not General Studies, Citizenship or Critical Thinking.
- A levels must be taken at the same sitting and after no more than two years of study. If following an advanced curriculum when there examinations are taken over three years, consideration for an offer will be at the discretion of the admissions tutor.
- Applied A levels are not considered.

### AS requirement
- A fourth subject taken at AS.
- Cannot include General Studies.
- If the school does not offer this then the school must provide written confirmation of the policy.
- Inclusion of unit grade information is welcomed and will inform the consideration of applications.

### Alternative qualifications
- **IB:** 37 points. At least 7, 6, 6 at HL including Chemistry and a minimum of 5, 5, 5 at SL. Must include Chemistry, plus at least one of Biology, Physics and Maths, plus one further academic subject. Any science not offered at HL must be taken at SL or at GCSE. If Maths and English Language are not offered as part of the Diploma, they should be offered at GCSE or IGCSE at grade B or above.

### GCSE requirement
- 7+ subjects at C or above.
- 5+ must be at A or A*.
- English Language and Maths are required at B+.
- Physics and Biology required at grade C (or at AS). If dual award or core/additional, the minimum required is BB.

### Aptitude test
- **UKCAT.** Must be taken in the year of application. No fixed threshold, but in 2013/14 it was 2810, in 2012/13 it was 2650, in 2011/12 it was 2590, in 2010/11 it was 2610.

### Personal qualities
- The School requires voluntary caring work experience that does not need to be in a clinical setting. Shadowing doctors in a hospital/GP setting is not essential or considered to be a substitute for voluntary caring work experience.
### Interview
- One-to-one interviews of seven minutes each at seven separate stations

### Deferred entry
- The School welcomes applications from students who wish to defer entry to the following year and encourages candidates to use their gap year imaginatively.

### Re-sits and re-applications
- We consider re-sit applications from students who achieved AAB in their previous A2 examinations with exams taken at the same sitting after no more than 2 years of study. The A2 subjects previously achieved at AAB should include Chemistry and a second science.
- In order to ensure a level playing field for all applicants, re-sit applicants will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.
- Re-sit applicants must acknowledge and reflect on the need to re-sit in their personal statement, as this forms a key part of the assessment process for re-sit applicants. Information on any extenuating circumstances with supporting evidence from school/college/GP should be provided.
- Re-sit applicants will also be required to re-take UKCAT and shortlisted candidates will be required to attend an interview.
- We would normally require re-sit applicants to achieve A*AA in their final aggregated results with A* achieved in the subject re-taken.
- If you have applied to us before, any subsequent application should provide updated information on your suitability for the course. If you were rejected before interview, we may consider a re-application, however you must contact the Admissions Office before completing your UCAS form.
- We would normally re-consider applicants who were rejected by us after interview the previous year. We would require re-applicants to continue with their work experience and would also expect to see a material difference in their application from the previous year.
- If you were offered a place and either declined our offer or were unable to meet any of our non-academic conditions for the specified year of entry, we are unable to consider you for entry to a subsequent year.
- All re-applicants must retake UKCAT and provide updated information which refers to the initial application and chronicles subsequent events. We reserve the right to draw on any information from previous applications.
# University of Oxford

## Course
| Medicine, A100, BM BCh |

## A-level requirement
- A*AA.
- All taken in one academic year.
- Excludes Critical Thinking and General Studies.
- Must include Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Maths.
- No preference over whether the 3rd or 4th subjects offered are in a science or not.

## AS requirement
- No details.

## Alternative qualifications
- **Scottish Highers**: AA in Advanced Highers (taken in one academic year) and AAAAA in Highers (taken in one academic year). Must offer Chemistry at Advanced Higher and at least one from Biology, Physics or Maths.
- **IB**: 39 (including core points) with 7, 6, 6 at HL. Must take Chemistry and a second science (Biology/Physics) and/or Maths to HL.
- **Pre-U**: D2, D3, D3 in three principal subjects, taken in one academic year. Chemistry is compulsory. At least one from Biology, Physics and Maths is also necessary. A D2 equates to an A* at A-level and a D3 to an A if a mix of Pre-U and A-level are offered.
- **EPQ**: As Extended Projects (EPQs) are not a compulsory element of post-16 study, we will not make them as part of conditions for entry. However, we recognise that the project might provide you with an opportunity to develop research and academic skills relevant for studying Medicine. You are therefore encouraged to draw upon your experience of undertaking the project when writing your personal statement, particularly if the topic is relevant to Medicine.

## GCSE requirement
- In order to be adequately equipped for the BMAT and for the academic demands of the course, and if Biology, Physics or Mathematics have not been taken to A-level (or equivalent), applicants will need to have received a basic education in those subjects (for example at least a grade C at GCSE, Intermediate 2 or Standard grade (Credit), or equivalent; the GCSE Dual Award Combined Sciences is also appropriate).

## Aptitude test
- BMAT.
Personal qualities

- Applicants are shortlisted for interview on the basis of BMAT test performance, prior academic record, and all other information on their application. No student is admitted without interview. Any overseas candidates for Medicine who are shortlisted will be expected to come to Oxford for interview in December. Students are selected for their scientific ability and for their aptitude for Medicine. Applicants are expected to show that they have a realistic understanding of what a medical career will involve, and that they have the potential to become effective and caring doctors. All colleges use a common set of selection criteria that relate to academic potential and suitability for Medicine.
- Applicants are free to make reference to skills or experience acquired in any context to illustrate how they might fulfil the selection criteria; sometimes candidates refer to voluntary work and other extra-curricular activities, but many forms of evidence can help demonstrate to tutors that a candidate has made an informed decision regarding their own suitability to study Medicine.
- The personal characteristics we look for applicants to the A100 course (both the pre-clinical and clinical parts) are listed below.
  - Personal characteristics: suitability for medicine
  - Empathy: ability and willingness to imagine the feelings of others and understand the reasons for the views of others
  - Motivation: a reasonably well-informed and strong desire to practise medicine
  - Communication: ability to make knowledge and ideas clear using language appropriate to the audience
  - Honesty and integrity
  - Ethical awareness
  - Ability to work with others
  - Capacity for sustained and intense work
  - Academic potential
  - Problem-solving: critical thinking, analytical approach
  - Intellectual curiosity: keenness to understand the reason for observations; depth; tendency to look for meaning; enthusiasm and curiosity in science
  - Communication skills: willingness and ability to express clearly and effectively; ability to listen; compatibility with tutorial format
- Detailed advice on completing the personal statement is available here: http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/medicine/pre-clinical/applying/ps/

Interview

- No specific (medicine) details.

Deferred entry

- All colleges will consider applications for deferred entry for Medicine. Applicants should be aware that successful applications for deferred entry will generally be among the strongest of the cohort for their subject. It is also possible that deferred entry applicants may be offered a non-deferred place instead. Tutors will naturally wish to satisfy themselves that a gap year will be used wisely and constructively before making an offer of a deferred place. You may of course also apply post A-level (during the gap year). This has the advantage that colleges will know that you have already achieved A*AA at A-level.
## Re-sits and re-applications

- Require applicants to demonstrate that they can cope with the workload of taking three full A-levels (or equivalent) in one academic year. Some flexibility if there have been extreme circumstances beyond the candidates control. Examples would include disruption caused by change of school or system, severe discontinuity of teachers, bereavement and one-off debilitating illness. Under these sorts of extenuating circumstances an applicant resitting A levels might be considered.

- Module grades are an optional field on the UCAS form, so applicants and schools have flexibility in the amount of information they submit to us. That being the case, we generally do not use module information in a formal way when short-listing, and we do not specify any requirements in terms of either module grades or when modules need to be sat.

- It is worth bearing in mind that we are looking for individuals with capability to do well at a course that is demanding both in breadth and depth: an applicant who is struggling to reach the standard of an A grade at in an AS or A2 module is not likely to be well-suited to it, whereas a student performing consistently well across all modules stands a stronger chance of competing successfully for a place on our programme. There may be special reasons why particular students do not do well in particular modules, but they should put any doubt about their academic potential by the A2 year.

- If you are unsuccessful, you are welcome to try again. A second attempt will be considered as an entirely separate application.
### University of Liverpool

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>Medicine and Surgery, A100, MBChB</td>
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<tr>
<th>A-level requirement</th>
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<tr>
<td>• AAA including Chemistry and Biology. Taken in one sitting, usually at the end of 2 years of study. Only one of Maths or Further Maths can be counted.</td>
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<tr>
<th>AS requirement</th>
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<td>• B in a 4th independent AS subject. EPQ is an acceptable substitute at Grade B for the AS level.</td>
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<th>Alternative qualifications</th>
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<tr>
<td>• <strong>Scottish Higher</strong>: AAAAB-AAAAA plus Biology (A) and Chemistry (A) at Advanced Higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>IB</strong>: 36 points to include 3 subjects at higher level; at least 6 and 6 in Biology and Chemistry and at least 6 in one other subject plus 3 further subjects at standard level, minimum of 5 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Pre-U</strong>: 3 Principal Subjects to include Biology and Chemistry. Also the Independent Research Report. 3rd Principal Subject can be in any academic subject. Can substitute A-levels for Principal Subjects. Usually a minimum of D3, D3, M1 required with D3 in Biology and Chemistry. A grade in any A-levels offered. M2 for Global Perspectives &amp; Independent Research Report.</td>
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<th>GCSE requirement</th>
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<td>• 9 separate subject areas attained by the end of Y11. At least a score of 15 points (where A*/A = 2, B = 1) from the nine. Must include Core &amp; Additional Science (or Biology, Chemistry, Physics), English Language, Mathematics. All of these specified subjects must be at least grade B. Preference given to candidates with a higher GCSE score. 2 points is the max in each subject area (i.e. only one of Maths and Further Maths can be considered) and dual award GCSEs can only be worth up to 2 points (except Dual Science which can be 4 points). Short courses are worth half the value of a full course, but 2 short course can be counted in place of one full course.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Aptitude test</th>
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<tr>
<td>• No details.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Personal qualities</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Candidates assessed against non-academic criteria. Including health care awareness and insight, caring for the local community, and a critical, coherent, and informative approach to written communication.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Interview</th>
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<tr>
<td>• No candidate is made an offer without an interview. The interviews are 15-20 mins long and are semi-structured. Candidates are assessed for their insight about the Liverpool medical programme and its curriculum, medical ethics and teamwork and other non-academic criteria.</td>
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</table>
### Deferred entry
- No details.

### Re-sits and re-applications
- The standard offer for resitting applicants is AAA and an AS at B. Applicants resitting may want to reflect in their personal statement on why they are resitting. They must have CCC or better at their first sitting.

### Other
- 3 stage process. Stage one is academic. Candidates need 15+ points at GCSE and are likely to be predicted AABb at A/AS level. Stage two is non-academic attributes. This is assessed on the basis of the personal statement and the academic reference. Stage three is the interview.