



# Leicester Medical School

## Scoring of Application for Medicine A100

### 2021 entry

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

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#### 1.0 General Information

##### Home/EU Applicants:

The information set out below refers to the admissions procedure for the 5 year medicine course (UCAS code A100). Approximately 1200 Home/EU applicants are expected to be interviewed, although this is subject to change.

Pre-interview candidates will be divided into 5 groups – predicted A Levels (or equivalent), achieved A levels (or equivalent), Resitting A levels (or equivalent), Graduates (predicted and achieved) and Access to Medicine.

##### International Applicants:

The following information will also apply to international applicants. GCSE English Language as a first language only will be accepted, and for many students, including those with GCSE English language as a second language, an IELTS score will also be required (overall score 7.5, no component under 7.0). We expect to interview approximately 100 international applicants (subject to change).

Pre-interview, international candidates are ranked against other international candidates.

### **Re-applicants:**

We are willing to consider re-applicants in some circumstances, see below:

Applicants who have applied to us previously may be considered providing they meet the following criteria:

- Applicants presenting with achieved or predicted A-levels, IB or equivalent who have applied once before, but have not been interviewed, will be considered and scored as usual on their second application. Subsequent applications will not be considered without further qualification at degree level.
- Applicants presenting with achieved or predicted degree who have applied once before with their degree, but have not been interviewed, will be considered and scored as usual on their second application. Subsequent applications will not be considered without substantial evidence of paid employment in a caring role.
- Applicants presenting via the Access to Medicine route who have applied once before, but have not been interviewed, will be considered and scored as usual on their second application. Subsequent applications will not be considered without substantial evidence of paid employment in a caring role.
- Applicants who were invited to interview but did not attend and had not submitted a valid reason will not be reconsidered.

In all cases applicants who have been rejected following interview will only be considered in a subsequent application if their interview score was no more than 10% below the level required for an offer in the year that they applied. They will need to demonstrate a significant improvement in their score to be considered for an offer. UCAT must be resat in the year of application.

### **Please Note:**

We reserve the right to change our scoring system at any point in order to rank applicants appropriately.

### **IMPORTANT:-**

**PLEASE ENSURE ALL ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS ARE ENTERED ON YOUR UCAS FORM (INCLUDING FIRST SITTING AND RESIT IF APPLICABLE). IF INFORMATION PERTAINING TO OUR MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS IS MISSING (e.g. GCSE results or predicted grades) WE WILL NOT CHASE YOU FOR INFORMATION. YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE REJECTED FOR THIS CYCLE. Predicted qualifications must also be included. Graduates who do not include their current degree studies may be rejected.**

## **2.0 Minimum Entry Requirements**

We cannot comment over the telephone as to whether you meet our minimum requirements since not all information is available to us.

All applicants must show evidence of recent academic attainment (within 3 years of the UCAS closing date). Initial assessment of all UCAS forms will be based on academic ability and UCAT score **only**. If you have not reached our minimum entry requirements (or have not listed them) your application will be automatically rejected.

If you are offering other academic qualifications eg Scottish, Irish or European, then please see our website for our minimum requirements. Subjects will be scored on an equivalence basis. We use UKNARIC as our reference for other qualifications. For international students who have not sat formal year 10/11 exams we ask for school transcripts to be submitted directly to [medadmis@le.ac.uk](mailto:medadmis@le.ac.uk).

## 2.1 All candidates

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**GCSE Grade B or 6** in English Language (as a first language), Maths and two sciences (Biology and Chemistry, or Double Science). For students taking Methods and Applications in Maths our minimum requirement is a Grade B or 6 in both, but we will only score the Methods in Maths.

For applicants who have taken qualifications other than GCSEs, an assessment of equivalence will be made. If candidates have not sat formal examinations at this stage then internal school results will be asked for (this will be the case for the majority of international candidates).

### **Resits**

We will consider resits in GCSE English Language from any applicant. We will only consider resits in other GCSE subjects if there are very significant mitigating circumstances that have been previously agreed by the admissions tutors in writing.

***All results must be listed on the UCAS form, and predicted grades must be listed in the 'qualifications not yet achieved' column and not solely mentioned in the academic reference. Predictions for individual subjects at higher and standard level should be included for IB.***

## 2.2 Applicants with predicted or achieved A-levels or equivalent

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We require predicted or achieved AAA at A level including Chemistry or Biology, and one of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths or Psychology, but excluding General Studies, Citizenship Studies, Critical Thinking or Global Perspectives.

Or predicted or achieved International Baccalaureate (IB) with a minimum score of 34 points and a minimum of 6 in three higher level subjects including Chemistry or Biology, and one of Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Maths or Psychology.

We will also consider applicants with predicted or achieved A\*AB (for IBs 7,6,5) provided they are predicted or have achieved at least an A (6 for IBs) in Chemistry or Biology.

A levels sat in year 12 will not form part of the pre-interview selection process, nor will EPQs, or 4<sup>th</sup> subject AS levels, except in the rare situation of a candidate being in a borderline group. Candidates must take three subjects in year 13 to show they can cope with the depth and breadth of study required.

If a candidate is sitting an A-level in a language subject that they are a home or native speaker of as their 3<sup>rd</sup> subject then they will be made an adjusted offer to reflect this should they reach that stage.

Please note that we do not consider the ICCE as equivalent to A levels, nor the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate skills challenge certificate.

### **Resits**

Applicants who attain **AAB or ABB** at the first A level attempt can apply with a resit in **one or two subjects**. There is no need to submit mitigation, but the first sitting results **MUST** be declared on the UCAS form. Applicants with lower grades at the first A level attempt and significant mitigation can apply if their mitigation is accepted in writing prior to applying. However, such applicants must apply after they have attained the required grades of AAA. Predicted grades will not be considered for such applicants, and so such applications will be rejected for this cycle.

### 2.3 Graduate Applicants

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Applicants must have achieved or be predicted a minimum of an upper second class honours degree, or equivalent. We will consider honours degrees in any discipline provided the applicant meets our minimum **GCSE requirements** (see above) and has a **grade B** in either **Chemistry or Biology at A level**. We do not consider Masters or PhDs in lieu of bachelor degrees below the required level.

### 2.4 Access Applicants

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Applicants must meet our minimum GCSE requirements and have studied one of our approved Access to Medicine courses (see website). We require distinctions in all graded credits (usually 45) with a distinction overall. We will not consider Access to Medicine courses from students who could have undertaken A levels (ie school leavers), nor in lieu of poor science A-level results, nor poor A-level results in graduate applicants.

Graduates with an Access to Medicine Diploma are scored as graduates (some allowance may be given for the diploma if achieved in addition to non-science A levels).

### 3.0 UCAT

UCAT will form 50% of the pre-interview scoring system\* (less from Access candidates).

**Applicants with band 4 in the Situational Judgement Test will be automatically rejected pre-interview.**

The total UCAT score will be out of a maximum 3600 in 2020. Points will be awarded by the total score using the following sequence until the bottom 2 deciles:

TOTAL UCAT SCORE	Points	TOTAL UCAT SCORE	Points	TOTAL UCAT SCORE	Points
>3,200	32	2850 - 2899	28.5	2500 - 2549	25
3150 – 3199	31.5	2800 - 2849	28	2450 - 2499	24.5
3100 – 3149	31	2750 - 2799	27.5	2400 - 2449	24
3050 – 3099	30.5	2700 – 2749	27	2350 - 2399	23.5
3000 – 3049	30	2650 - 2699	26.5	2300 - 2349	23 or 16*
2950 – 2999	29.5	2600 – 2649	26	If bottom 2 deciles	Max 16
2900 – 2949	29	2550 - 2599	25.5		

\*depending on where bottom two decile begins

Applicants with a total score in the bottom two deciles of that year's results will typically be rejected as they will not score sufficient to get to interview, (for 2020/1 entry this would have been less than or equal to a total UCAT score of 2280).

UCAT offers a range of adjusted tests, which will be considered on receipt of formal evidence to support these adjustments. For more information, please follow the link <https://www.ucat.ac.uk/ucat/access-arrangements>

\* Note: Should UCAT scores not be available by the time we need to select for interview, we may just decide to score academic qualifications and use UCAT later if available.

### 4.0 Scoring for those applying with A-levels, IB etc.

Academic ability will be scored on the basis of 8 GCSE results including the mandatory subjects of English Language, Maths, Chemistry and Biology (or Science and Additional Science). It will form 50% of the pre-interview score.

If your school did not permit you to take 8 GCSE subjects, we require formal evidence from the school to support this before the 1<sup>st</sup> October in the year of application, otherwise we cannot make an adjustment. In this instance you may wish to consider deferring application until you have completed A levels.

#### 4.1 Candidates with predicted A levels or IB

Candidates must be predicted **AAA (or A\*AB)** in Chemistry or Biology, plus one of Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Maths or Psychology, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> subject excluding General Studies, Critical Thinking, Global Perspectives and Citizenship Studies. Biology and Human Biology cannot both be counted. For IB candidates, we require 34 points overall, with at least 6,6,6 (or 7,6,5) in higher level Chemistry or Biology, plus one of Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Maths or Psychology, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> subject. A levels or IB must usually be obtained within 2 years of your GCSEs (see resit policy).

NB if the 3<sup>rd</sup> subject is a language other than English, and you are a native or home speaker of that language you would be made an adjusted offer if you got to offer stage.

Academic score will be based on eight GCSEs (may include one Level 2 BTEC) but otherwise must be GCSE, iGCSE or non-UK equivalents. Mandatory subjects (English Language, Maths, Chemistry and Biology) plus four best others will be scored. First sittings only will be scored. If it subsequently transpires that the original sitting result was not disclosed by a candidate then an investigation into their probity will be started. **Only one maths subject will be scored. If the further maths grade is higher than maths, then this will be used for scoring, but the maths must meet the minimum grade 6/B.**

#### 8 GCSE qualifications will be taken into account as below:

English language	<b>or</b>	English language
Maths		Maths
Double Science (2)		Chemistry
Best four other subjects		Biology
		Best four other subjects

#### GCSE scoring will be as follows:

A* or 8/9	=	4
A or 7	=	3
B or 6	=	1

#### Example scoring for applicants with predicted A-levels

<i>English Language</i>	<i>A or 7</i>	<i>= 3</i>
<i>Maths</i>	<i>A* or 8/9</i>	<i>= 4</i>
<i>Chemistry</i>	<i>A* or 8/9</i>	<i>= 4</i>
<i>Biology</i>	<i>A* or 8/9</i>	<i>= 4</i>
<i>Physics</i>	<i>A* or 8/9</i>	<i>= 4</i>
<i>Business Studies</i>	<i>A or 7</i>	<i>= 3</i>
<i>Religious Studies</i>	<i>B or 6</i>	<i>= 1</i>
<i>French</i>	<i>B or 6</i>	<i>= 1</i>
<i>GCSE Total</i>		<i>= 24/32</i>

## 4.2 Candidates with achieved A levels / IB

Provided you have attained at least **grade B/6** at first sitting in the four mandatory GCSE subjects, plus AAA or A\*AB<sup>1</sup> at A level (IB 34 or more including 666 or 7,6,5<sup>1</sup> in HL subjects) in our required subjects within two years of your GCSEs, and have a total UCAT score in the top 7 deciles with an SJT Band 1-3 we will automatically invite you to interview provided you are within two years of leaving school. Otherwise your application will be scored using your GCSEs and UCAT scores only as with those applying with predicted A-level grades.

**<sup>1</sup> minimum of A in chemistry or biology, and A\* in languages excluding English Language if native/ home speaker**

## 4.3 Candidates who are resitting A levels

Pre-interview score will be based on the whole UCAS application including reference and personal statement.

## 5.0 Scoring for Graduates (A100, 5 Year Course)

Provided the minimum GCSE requirements have been met, your academic ability will be scored on the basis of your A levels and degree. If your A levels were taken over three years an adjustment will be made to the scoring. The maximum academic score awarded will be 32.

### A levels (or HL IB subjects):

A*/A	(6/7) = 10	(or 8 if taken over 3 year period)
B	(5) = 8	(or 6 if taken over 3 year period)
C	(4) = 6	(or 4 if taken over 3 year period)

Where other qualifications are offered an equivalence will be made based on UCAS tariff and/or UKNARIC tables

### Degree:

1 <sup>st</sup> Class obtained	= 5	2:1 Obtained	=3
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Predicted	= 3	2:1 Predicted	=0

### Example Scoring for a Final Year Student

<u>A Level or HL IB</u>		Score
Chemistry	A 6	= 10
Biology	B 5	= 8
Maths	B 5	= 8
A Level Total		= 26

### Degree Prediction

Upper Second Class	= 0
<b>Academic Grand Total</b>	<b>= 26/32</b>

### Example Scoring for an Achieved Graduate

<u>A Level or HL IB</u>		Score
Chemistry	A* 7	= 10
Biology	B 5	= 8
Maths	B 5	= 8
A Level Total		= 26

### Degree Obtainment

First Class Honours	= 5
<b>Academic Grand Total</b>	<b>= 31/32</b>

**Although a total score of 35 is possible, maximum academic score awarded will be 32.**

For applicants who have taken qualifications other than GCSE and A-levels, an assessment of equivalence will be made. For applicants who are offering a degree that is not classified in the same way as the UK honours classification, transcripts will be required, and an assessment of equivalence will be made. We may ask you to provide us with transcripts of your qualifications in order for us to assess the UK equivalence through UKNARIC. It may help to speed up the processing of your application if you provide the transcripts prior to applying.

## 6.0 Scoring for Access Candidates

We require all Access candidates to submit a full CV detailing all employment and educational attainments, and any gaps, before the UCAS closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> October in the year of application.

**Graduates** studying for an Access to Medicine qualification will be scored as graduates.

A pre-interview score will be calculated using academic qualifications, UCAT score, personal statement and reference.

### Academic Score Maximum = 32

6 GCSEs will be scored:

English language		English language
Maths		Maths
Double Science (2)	<b>OR</b>	Chemistry
Best two other subjects		Biology
		Best two other subjects

### GCSE scoring will be as follows:

A*	= 4
A	= 3
B	= 1
C	= 0

### Non science A-level scoring will be as follows:

A*/A	= 3
B	= 2
C	= 1

One point may be awarded for Grade A in up to three non-science AS grades providing the candidate has not studied full A-levels or equivalent. BTECs/ NVQs/ Diplomas etc will be scored as AS or A-level equivalent based on UCAS points.

An additional **8 points** may be available for candidates who have a **completed Access to Medicine** with distinctions in ALL graded credits (usually 45, though older courses 60).

The total academic score will not exceed 32 points.

### UCAT/UCATSEN Maximum Score = 32

UCAT will be assessed in the same way as for all other applicants (see above).

### References / Employment – scored by 2 independent admissions tutors out of 5. Maximum score 10

We will expect to be able to track your employment / educational history from school to current day. We will expect to have any gaps explained; and in particular if you are <21years we will want to know why you did not stay at school to complete A levels at that stage.

### Personal statement / commitment to medicine - scored by 2 independent admissions tutors out of 5. Maximum score 10

We will expect you to be able to explain why you have decided on medicine and how you have come to it via this route and not the traditional route. As well as what you have done to ensure you understand the career you are applying for. Your CV and personal statement will be used to score this section.

Candidates will attain a total score out of 84.

## 7.0 Personal Statements and Contextual Information

The personal statement and reference are **not** routinely scored, except for candidates applying with an Access to Medicine qualification. However, for borderline candidates or tie-break situations the personal statement and reference may be used along with all other available information from the UCAS application, as detailed in section 9.

**The following attributes will be considered:**

- Motivation
- Commitment
- Appreciation of challenges of a medical career
- Work experience
- Extracurricular activities
- Contribution to school/college life
- Contribution to wider community
- Written communication skills
- Support from teachers/staff
- Confirmation of some aspects of personal statement in reference

## 8.0 Mitigating Circumstances

We aim to be as inclusive as possible and, therefore, will give due consideration to substantial mitigating circumstances that may have affected your academic achievement. Please view our [Mitigating Circumstances Guide](#), which applies primarily to our current students, but also provides a definition of mitigation and depicts the kind of unusual circumstances which may constitute special consideration. Possible circumstances may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Personal health
- Close family health (first degree relatives or grand-parents)
- Domestic circumstances
- Educational disadvantage
- Educational disruption

It is essential that you contact us (via [medadmis@le.ac.uk](mailto:medadmis@le.ac.uk)) as soon as possible if you believe that your academic achievement has been affected by any of the above, as we may be able take these issues into account when assessing your application. However, we will **NOT** accept qualifications below our minimum requirement e.g. Grade 5/C at GCSE in mandatory subjects.

**Please note:** In order for mitigation to be considered, an official letter must be provided by the relevant professional (school/college/university/health consultant/GP) to corroborate such circumstances. This letter should include the applicant's full name and UCAS number. It should be printed on letter-headed paper, signed and dated. This should be submitted via email preferably with your UCAS number.

The evidence must explain: (1) what the circumstance is (2) exactly how it affected you in relation to your studies and (3) precisely when it occurred (i.e. identifying which assessments were affected).

**All** mitigation and supporting documents **must** be received by **1<sup>st</sup> October in the year of application**. If we do not receive mitigation by this date then it will not be considered and the scoring of the application will be carried out on the basis of no mitigation.

If mitigation is received by the **31<sup>st</sup> August in the year of application** we will endeavour to give you a definitive response as to whether we will or will not accept the mitigation. After this date we are unlikely to be able to provide a response before the UCAS closing date.

No decision on mitigation will be given via the telephone or before the online mitigating circumstances form has been submitted.

We do not usually consider mitigation for the UCAT test but will consider this on an individual basis.

## 9.0 Interviews

Following scoring of academic ability and UCAT, applicants will be ranked within the 4 groups (predicted A level, achieved A level, Graduate and Access), and the highest scoring candidates will be invited to interview. The lowest ranked applicants will not be considered further.

Candidates in a borderline group will be further reviewed on the basis of their whole UCAS form, including academic qualifications, schools Attainment 8 score, POLAR4 score, time in local authority care, work experience, employment, reference, personal statement, and UCAT results (see 6.0).

We run Multiple Mini-Interviews (MMI) comprised of 8 timed stations and a 9<sup>th</sup> administrative station.

**Invitations to interview are sent by email. Unfortunately, such emails sometimes find their way into the junk folder. Please regularly check your junk email folder. Applicants with gmail accounts have had particular problems in the past with gmail sending invitation to interview emails to the junk folder. Some junk folders are automatically cleared after one month. It is your responsibility to check this.**

The Medical School does not endorse any interview courses. We regularly review our interview process and whilst we reserve the right to change our interview format, we aim to make it equitable for all applicants. Situations outside our control e.g. university closure due to coronavirus, may make it essential to offer alternative interview formats for some applicants.

### 9.1 Stations

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The various stations will assess the following:

- Verbal communication
- Written communication
- Listening
- Problem solving
- Personal qualities and values
- Motivation and suitability
- Organisational ability

### 9.2 Outcome of Interviews

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Each station will be scored and applicants will be ranked on the basis of those scores. Approximately, 800 offers are expected to be made, although this is subject to change. For the majority of candidates the interview score will be used to determine if an offer is given. Post-interview, graduates and those applying with A-levels (predicted or achieved) will be considered together.

Candidates in a borderline group will be further reviewed on the basis of their whole UCAS form, including academic qualifications, school Attainment 8 score, POLAR4 score, disadvantages such as time in local authority care or refugee status, work experience, employment, reference, personal statement and UCAT results (see 7.0).

On occasions, at the point of considering an offer, issues may be identified on the UCAS form, or comments may be made by interviewers, that mean we wish to give candidates a further opportunity by inviting them to a second interview. This will usually be held on an offer holders' day and take the format of a panel interview.

Please note we are not in a position to provide feedback to successful candidates. For unsuccessful candidates we will provide some suggestions on areas for improvement but will not provide individual station scores.

### 9.3 Students with Disabilities, Special Needs and Medical Conditions

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Applicants with disabilities, special needs (including dyslexia) and medical conditions should enter the relevant disability code on their UCAS application, or inform the Medical School in writing immediately after submission of their application. This will ensure that any necessary adjustments to the interview process can be made. We offer adjusted stations, not extra time stations; and will make reasonable adjustments based on those that are available once on the course.

This information also allows us to make offer holders aware of support services available.

### 9.4 Timing of Interview

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Interviews will take place between December and February. Specific dates will be published on [our website](#), once confirmed. THESE ARE PROVISIONAL DATES

10<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

6<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Please Note:** If applicants cannot attend any of the interview dates offered then please do contact us immediately. However, we may not be able to offer any alternative dates, nor be able to reschedule. We reserve the right to alter our interview dates.

## 10.0 Offers

Although we hope to make the majority of our offers in late February / early March, some offers will be made later in the process. Medical Schools are subject to a numbers cap enforced by the Office for Students, and we must await decisions from earlier offer holders to ensure we do not exceed our cap. Consequently, the offer making process will continue into May 2021. Whilst we acknowledge that this causes angst and stress, unfortunately the process cannot be made any faster whilst we are under such external constraints.

## 11.0 Additional Information

If an applicant wishes to submit additional information to support their application, we must receive any documentation/correspondence by **1st October in the year of application**.