

Leicester Medical School

Scoring of Application for Medicine A100

2024 entry

**TO BE READ ALONGSIDE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

Incomplete UCAS forms will not be chased for missing data. It is the candidate's responsibility to complete the relevant sections or email medadmis@le.ac.uk with other essential information.

We reserve the right to change the scoring document up until 1st October in the year of application.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 [General Information](#)
- 2.0 [Minimum entry requirements](#)
- 3.0 [UCAT](#)
- 4.0 [Undergraduate applicant Pre-Interview scoring](#)
- 5.0 [Graduate applicant Pre-interview scoring](#)
- 6.0 [Access applicant Pre-interview scoring](#)
- 7.0 [Personal Statements](#)
- 8.0 [Mitigating Circumstances](#)
- 9.0 [Interviews](#)
- 10.0 [Offers](#)
- 11.0 [Additional information](#)

1.0 General Information

Home Applicants (including EU with settled / pre-settled status):

The information set out below refers to the admissions procedure for the 5 year medicine course (UCAS code A100). Approximately 1400 Home applicants are expected to be interviewed, although this is subject to change.

Candidates will be divided into 4 groups – predicted A Levels (or equivalent), achieved A levels (or equivalent), , Graduates (predicted and achieved) and Access to Medicine.

International/ EU Applicants:

GCSE English Language as a first language only will be accepted and therefore, for many students, including those with GCSE English language as a second language, an IELTS score (overall score 7.5, no component under 7.0) will be required; or an equivalent as per our international webpage <https://le.ac.uk/study/international-students/english-language-requirements>. We will consider applicants applying with the IB, with SL English Language of at least 6.

We expect to interview approximately 100 international applicants (subject to change). International candidates will be ranked against other international candidates.

Many international / EU candidates do not sit formal year 10/11 examination (ie GCSE equivalents), in which case school transcripts will need to be submitted at the time of application to medadmis@le.ac.uk. We will not chase applicants for this information. It is the applicant's responsibility to supply it. Where that information is not supplied, it will not be possible to score an application and it will be rejected. Failure to have noticed this requirement will not be considered grounds for an appeal against rejection.

Please note that if your fee status changes during the cycle your application may become void as the scores to get to interview and/or offer differ between home and international applicants, and the interview experience may also differ.

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 on a second gap year will only be considered with evidence of paid experience in a caring role.
- 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 evidence of substantial 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 evidence of substantial 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 rejected following interview in the 2023 cycle will only be considered in a subsequent application if their interview score was no more than 5% below the level required to be on the wait-list for 2023 entry. Please see our [admission statistics](#) for 2023 entry. We will then use the mean of the two scores so they will need to demonstrate a significant improvement to be considered for an offer. We do this to balance out any advantage due to being familiar with our interview process and stations. 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 SIT 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. All predicted qualifications must also be included. Graduates who do not include their current degree studies may be rejected.

2.0 Minimum Entry Requirements

We will not confirm in response to telephone queries whether you meet our minimum requirements since not all information will be available to us.

All applicants must show evidence of recent academic attainment - within 3 years of the UCAS closing date. Graduates of vocational professions may be considered after this if they can demonstrate ongoing professional development.

Initial assessment of all UCAS forms will be based on minimum entry requirements and having a valid UCAT score from the year of application. 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 ECCTIS as our reference for other qualifications. For **international / EU students** who have not sat formal year 10/11 exams we ask for school transcripts to be submitted directly to medadmis@le.ac.uk, at the same time as the UCAS application is submitted: we will not chase applicants for these.

2.1 All candidates

GCSE Grade B or 6 in English Language (as a first language), Maths and two sciences (Biology and Chemistry, or Double Science).

In the rare situation that someone has Biology at A level / IB HL, but not at GCSE, we will consider chemistry and physics at GCSE instead. But there must be biology at one or other level.

Resits

We will consider resits in GCSE English Language and Maths from any applicant for meeting our minimum requirements. 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. First sit results must be submitted as these will be used for scoring purposes.

All results must be listed on the UCAS form (first sit and resits where applicable), 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

We require A*AA 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. The A* must be in one of the science subjects.

We will also consider candidates with AAA (to include two science subjects as above) **plus** an EPQ at Grade A or B.

For International Baccalaureate (IB) candidates we will require either a minimum score of 34 points, with 7,6,6 in the HL subjects; or a minimum score of 36 with 6,6,6 in the HL subjects; and the higher level subjects must include Chemistry or Biology, and one of Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Maths or Psychology.

Candidates who are part of the Realising Opportunities Programme will be considered with predicted or achieved grades of AAA and completion of the programme.

Candidates who are part of AccessLeicester: Medicine, or one of our fellow UKWPMED member progression courses, will be considered with predicted or achieved grades of ABB (A in Chemistry or Biology) and successful completion of the programme.

Since we know predicted grades can be inaccurate, we will score any candidate predicted at least AAB.

A-levels sat in year 12 will not form part of the pre-interview selection process, nor will 4th subject AS levels, except in the rare situation of a candidate being in a borderline group. Candidates must take three subjects over 2 years to show they can cope with the depth and breadth of study required on a medical degree course.

If a candidate is sitting an A-level in a language subject, other than English Language, that they are a home or native speaker of as their 3rd subject then they will be made an adjusted offer of A*A*A, with A* also required in the language subject should they reach that stage.

Please note that we do not consider the ICCE nor the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate skills challenge certificate.

Year 12 Resits (first sit of A levels after 3 years)

Candidates who for significant health or social reasons have taken 3 years to sit their A levels for the first time will be considered, but this will have to have been formally agreed by the admissions tutors ahead of application. The latest date for receipt of requests will be 1st September in the year of application, and all requests, along with supporting formal evidence should be sent to medadmis@le.ac.uk.

A level Resits

Applicants who had not attained the required grades at first sit, will only be considered with resits if there is substantial mitigation that has been previously agreed by the admissions tutor. All mitigation requests should be sent along with formal supporting evidence to medadmis@le.ac.uk by the UCAS deadline. If the request is received by midnight of 1 September, we will provide a definitive response as to whether or not the mitigation is accepted before the UCAS closing date; after this date we are not able to guarantee that candidates will receive a response before the UCAS closing date.

2.3 Graduate Applicants

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.

Graduates must have the equivalent of **BBB or ABC** in their 3 A level subjects. These can have been achieved over 3 years, though academic scoring will be adjusted accordingly.

2.4 Access Applicants

Applicants must meet our minimum GCSE requirements and have studied one of our approved Access to Medicine Diploma 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.

We will only consider mature applicants (must be 22 years or more at registration) by this route, with evidence of five-years' paid employment, or an apprenticeship, post-school, including at least a year in a relevant caring role.

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 for Access candidates).

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

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 2022/3 entry this would have been less than or equal to a total UCAT score of 2250)*.

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>

UCAT also offer a bursary scheme for some applicants and receipt of a UCAT bursary gives you a contextual flag. **If you are entitled to a UCAT bursary we strongly recommend you apply for one.**

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. **We will only score subjects taken in the same academic year (unless one of the mandatory subjects has been taken early).**

If your school did not permit you to take 8 GCSE subjects, we require formal evidence from the school to support this before the 1st 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.

If you studied in a country where you did not sit formal exams at this stage, we will need to see school transcripts. These need to be submitted to medadmis@le.ac.uk at the time of application.

4.1 Candidates with predicted A levels or IB (first-sit)

Academic score will be based on eight full-length 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 (excluding Citizenship Studies, Global Perspectives). First sittings only will be scored, and it is expected that all subjects will have been sat in the same academic year. Subjects from other years will not be scored unless first-sit of one of the mandatory subjects. **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.**

If it subsequently transpires that the original sitting result was not disclosed by a candidate, or an incorrect grade transcribed onto their UCAS form when their certificates are reviewed, then an investigation into their probity will be started.

8 GCSE qualifications will be taken into account as below:

English language	or	English language
Maths		Maths
Double Science (2)		Chemistry
Best four other subjects		Biology
		Best four other subjects

GCSE scoring will be as follows:

9	=	4
8	=	3
7	=	2
6	=	1

Example scoring for applicants with predicted A-levels

English Language	7	= 2
Maths	9	= 4
Chemistry	9	= 4
Biology	9	= 4
Physics	9	= 4
Business Studies	8	= 3
Religious Studies	6	= 1
French	6	= 1
GCSE Total		= 23/32

4.2 Candidates with achieved A levels / IB

Provided you have all our minimum requirements (for GCSEs and/or English Language competency) as set out in section 2.2 **at first attempt**, have achieved your A levels **within two years** of your GCSEs, and have a total UCAT score in the top 2 deciles with an SJT Band 1-3 we will automatically invite you to interview provided you are in your **first gap year**.

Otherwise, your application will be scored using your GCSEs and UCAT score (see section 4.1). Bonus points will be awarded for more than one A* at A level as follows: A*A*A = 1, A*A*A* = 2, with the academic score capped at 32.

If you are in your second gap year, unless there has been for instance significant illness, or mandatory national service, we will expect you to have evidence of paid employment in a caring role.

4.3 Candidates who are part of Access Leicester: Medicine, or another UKWPMED member progression programme, or a Realising Opportunities Programme

Access Leicester: Medicine or other UKWPMED progression programme: Provided you meet our minimum GCSE requirements, are predicted or have attained (first gap year only) at least ABB in our required subjects without resits, successfully completed the progression programme, and have a UCAT in the top 7 deciles with a SJT 1-3, we will guarantee you an interview. The A must be in Chemistry or Biology.

Realising Opportunities Programme: provided you meet our minimum GCSE requirements, are predicted or have attained (first gap year only) at least AAA in our required subjects without resits, successfully completed the progression programme, and have a UCAT in the top 7 deciles with a SJT 1-3, we will guarantee you an interview.

4.4 Candidates who are resitting A-levels

Pre-interview score will be based on GCSEs and UCAT as set out in section 4.1 and on the whole UCAS application including reference, employment / voluntary work and personal statement.

5.0 Scoring for Graduates (A100, 5 Year Course)

Provided you meet our minimum GCSE and A-level requirements as set out in section 2.3, 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* (7)	= 10	(or 8 if over a 3 year period)
A (6)	= 8	(or 6 if over a 3 year period)
B (5)	= 6	(or 4 if over a 3 year period)
C (4)	= 4	(or 2 if over a 3 year period)

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

Degree:

1 st Class obtained	= 5	2:1 Obtained	=3
1 st 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	= 8
Biology	B 5	= 6
Maths	B 5	= 6
A Level Total		= 20
<u>Degree Prediction</u>		
Upper Second Class		= 0
Academic Grand Total		= 20/32

Example Scoring for an Achieved Graduate

<u>A Level or HL IB</u>		Score
Chemistry	A* 7	= 10
Biology	B 5	= 6
Maths	B 5	= 6
A Level Total		= 22
<u>Degree Obtainment</u>		
First Class Honours		= 5
Academic Grand Total		= 27/32

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 ECCTIS. It will 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 October deadline in the year of application.

Graduates with non-science A levels studying for an Access to Medicine qualification will be scored as graduates.

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

Academic Score Maximum = 32

6 GCSEs will be scored:

English language		English language
Maths		Maths
Double Science (2)	OR	Chemistry
Best two other subjects		Biology
		Best two other subjects

GCSE scoring will be as follows:

9	= 4
8	= 3
7	= 2
6	= 1

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. We will expect evidence of paid employment and at least a year in in a relevant caring role.

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 in tiebreak situations, the personal statement and reference may be used.

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

The following contextual information will be considered for applications in the borderline group: POLAR4 score, UCAT bursary, carer, refugee status, first in family to higher education, time in local authority care. These criteria are also considered at the point of offer (see section 9).

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 (we would not consider the pandemic per se as this has affected everyone's education)

It is essential that you contact us via 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 academic qualifications below our minimum requirement. Accepted mitigation may mean we consider resits, or award bonus academic points (maximum 2).

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 was (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 **the UCAS October deadline 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 **1st September in the year of application** we will give you a definitive response as to whether we will or will not accept the mitigation before the closing date for applications.

No decision on mitigation will be given via the telephone.

We do not usually consider mitigation for the UCAT test, but will consider this on an individual basis. UCAT does inform us of any issues that arise during the test, and significant annotations will be taken into account.

9.0 Interviews

Following scoring of academic ability and UCAT, applicants will be ranked within the 5 groups (predicted A-level, achieved A-level, resitting A-level, Graduate and Access), and the highest scoring candidates will be invited to interview. The lowest ranked applicants will not be considered further and will be rejected via UCAS.

Candidates in a borderline group will be further reviewed on the basis of their whole UCAS form, including academic qualifications, POLAR4 score, UCAT bursary, carer, refugee status, first in family to higher education, time in local authority care, work experience, employment, reference, personal statement, and UCAT results.

We run Multiple Mini-Interviews (MMI). The number of stations and whether the interviews are delivered online or face to face will depend on the situation at the time; but currently we are planning face to face for Home applicants, and online for International applicants for 2024 entry.

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 as we do not feel they are necessary, nor beneficial. 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 a pandemic, may make it essential to offer alternative interview formats for some applicants.

9.1 Stations

The various stations will assess a number of attributes including:

- Communication Skills
- Problem solving
- Personal qualities and values
- Motivation and suitability
- Ability to show empathy and compassion
- Organisational ability

9.2 Outcome of Interviews

Each station will be scored and applicants will be ranked on the basis of their total score. For the majority of candidates, the interview score alone will be used to determine if an offer is given. Recent numbers of offers can be seen on our statistics page on the website.

Candidates in a borderline group will be further reviewed on the basis of their whole UCAS form, including academic qualifications, POLAR4 score, UCAT bursary, being a carer, time in local authority care or refugee status, first in family to higher education, work experience, employment, reference, personal statement and UCAT results etc (see above and section 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

Applicants with disabilities, special needs (including dyslexia) and medical conditions should enter the relevant disability code on their UCAS application.

Should candidates wish to request adjustments at interview they must inform the Medical School in writing immediately after submission of their application, and provide supporting evidence. We will make reasonable adjustments based on those that are available once on the course.

Informing us at the application stage also allows us to make offer holders aware of support services available.

9.4 Timing of Interview

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

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.

NB. We reserve the right to alter our interview dates if other circumstances necessitate this.

10.0 Offers

Although we hope to make the majority of our offers in late February / 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. Many decisions are not made by early offer holders until their June deadline. Consequently, the offer making process will continue into summer 2024. 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 **the UCAS closing date in the year of application.**