

Leicester Medical School

Scoring of Application for Medicine A100

2020 entry

The following outlines the entry requirements for the A100 course. Details of the pre-interview scoring of applications will be published before the UCAS closing date.

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 onto 4 groups – predicted A Levels (or equivalent), achieved 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 will only be accepted, and for many students 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 section 1.0 Minimum Entry Requirements below.

Please Note:

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

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1.0 Minimum Entry Requirements

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 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.

All applicants must show evidence of recent academic attainment (within 3 years of the UCAS closing date).

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 will need to be resat in the year of application.

All candidates

GCSE Grade B or 6 in English Language (as a first language), Maths and 2 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 examination 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.

Applicants with predicted or achieved A-levels or equivalent

We require predicted or achieved AAA at A level including Chemistry or Biology, and one of Biology, Chemistry, Physics 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 36 points (excluding core or bonus points) and a minimum of 6 in 3 higher level subjects including Chemistry or Biology, and one of Chemistry, Biology, Physics or Psychology.

We will consider applicants with predicted or achieved A*AB provided they have at least an A in Chemistry or Biology.

A levels sat in year 12 will not form part of the pre-interview selection process, nor will EPQs, or 4th subject AS levels, except in the rare situation of a candidate being in a borderline group. Candidates must take 3 subjects in year 13 to show they can cope with the depth and breadth of study required.

If a candidate is taking a language subject that they are a home or native speaker of as their 3rd 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** at the first A level attempt can apply with a resit in **one subject**.

Applicants who attain **ABB** at the first A level attempt can apply with resits in **two subjects** if there was significant mitigation that the admissions tutors have accepted and agreed in writing prior to applying.

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.

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.

Access Applicants

Applicants must meet our minimum GCSE requirements and have studied one of our approved Access to Medicine courses (see website).

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).

2.0 UCAT (UKCAT)

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.

UCAT will be out of a maximum 3600 points in 2019. Points will be awarded by the total score as follows:

>3,200 = 32	3150 – 3199 = 31.5	3100 – 3149 = 31	3050 – 3099 = 30.5	3000 – 3049 = 30	2950 – 2999 = 29.5	2900 – 2949 = 29	Less than or equal to 2280 = 16
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Applicants with a total score in the bottom two deciles of that year's results will be given a maximum score of 16 points (for 2019/0 entry this would have been less than or equal to a total UKCAT 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>

3.0 Undergraduate Entry

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 1st October 2019, otherwise we cannot make an adjustment. In this instance you may wish to consider deferring application until you have completed A levels.

3.1 Candidates with predicted A levels or IB

Candidates must be predicted **AAA** in Chemistry **or** Biology, plus one of Chemistry, Biology, Physics or Psychology, and a 3rd subject excluding General Studies, Critical Thinking, and Citizenship Studies. Biology and Human Biology cannot both be counted. For IB candidates, we require 36 points overall, not including core or bonus, with at least 6,6,6 in higher level Chemistry **or** Biology, plus one of Chemistry, Biology, Physics or Psychology, and a 3rd subject. A levels or IB must usually be obtained within 2 years of your GCSEs (see resit policy).

NB if the 3rd 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 8 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 4 best others will be scored. First sittings only will be scored.

Predicted grades must be clearly stated on the 'qualifications not yet completed' section of the UCAS form. This should include the individual subject levels for IB candidates.

8 GCSE qualifications will be taken into account as below:

English language		English language
Maths		Maths
Double Science (2)	OR	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>	= 3
<i>Maths</i>	<i>A* or 8/9</i>	= 4
<i>Chemistry</i>	<i>A* or 8/9</i>	= 4
<i>Biology</i>	<i>A* or 8/9</i>	= 4
<i>Physics</i>	<i>A* or 8/9</i>	= 4
<i>Business Studies</i>	<i>A or 7</i>	= 3
<i>Religious Studies</i>	<i>B or 6</i>	= 1
<i>French</i>	<i>B or 6</i>	= 1
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<i>GCSE Total</i>		= 24/32

3.2 Candidates with achieved A levels / IB

Provided you have attained at least **grade B** at first sitting in the 4 mandatory GCSE subjects, plus AAA or A*AB¹ at A level (or IB 36 or more including 666 or 7,6,5¹ in HL subjects) in our required subjects within 2 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 2 years of leaving school.

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

4.0 Graduate Entry (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 3 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 UKNARIC 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	= 10
Biology	B 5	= 8
Maths	B 5	= 8
A Level Total		= 26
<u>Degree Prediction</u>		
Upper Second Class		= 0
Academic Grand Total		= 26/32

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
<u>Degree Obtainment</u>		
First Class Honours		= 5
Academic Grand Total		= 31/32

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 UKNARIC. It may help to speed up the processing of your application if you provide the transcripts prior to applying.

5.0 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 15th October 2019.

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	OR	English language
Maths		Maths
Double Science (2)		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.

6.0 Personal Statements

The personal statement and reference are not routinely scored except for candidates applying with an Access to Medicine qualification. However in borderline candidates or tie-break situations these sections may also be used (see 8.0) to generate a combined score out of 10, giving a total score for Personal Qualities.

Where appropriate, the Personal Qualities score will be added to the academic and UCAT score in order to determine the final ranking and selection for interview.

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

7.0 Mitigating Circumstances

We aim to be as inclusive as possible and, therefore, will give due consideration to any 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 our [online form](#)) 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.

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, dated. This should be submitted with the online mitigating circumstances form.

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 **1st October 2019**. 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 **31st August 2019** we will give you a definitive response as to whether we will or will not accept it. After this date we are not able to guarantee 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 be consider this on an individual basis.

8.0 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, POLAR3 score, time in local authority care, work experience, employment, reference, personal statement, and UCAT results (see 6.0).

Interviews will be held in a Multiple Mini-Interview (MMI) style for 2020 entry and will comprise 8-9 stations.

Invitations to interview are sent from our medoffice@le.ac.uk address, please ensure that you mark this address as an approved sender so that any emails from us do not go into a junk folder.

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, it will be the same for all applicants.

8.1 Stations

The various stations will assess the following:

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

8.2 Outcome of Interviews

Each station will be scored and applicants will be ranked on the basis of those scores. Approximately, 750 offers are expected to be made, although this is subject to change.

Candidates in a borderline group will be further reviewed on the basis of their whole UCAS form, including academic qualifications, school Attainment 8 score, POLAR3 score, time in local authority care, work experience, employment, reference, personal statement and UCAT results (see 6.0).

All international and all Home/EU applicants are considered together post-interview i.e. regardless of undergraduate or graduate status.

8.3 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, 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.

8.4 Timing of Interview

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

Week commencing 9th December 2019

Week commencing 16th December 2019

Week commencing 6th January 2020

Week commencing 11th February 2020

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.

9.0 Offers

Although some offers may be made after each round of interviews, the majority of offers will be made later in the process because of the numbers cap enforced by HEFCE, and whilst we await decisions from earlier offer holders. Consequently the offer making process will continue into May 2020.

Whilst we acknowledge that this causes angst and stress, unfortunately the process cannot be made any faster whilst we are under such external constraints.

10.0 Other Information

If an applicant wishes to submit additional information to support their application, we must receive any documentation/correspondence by **1st October 2019**.