

School of Medicine – Variation to admissions policy for 2025 entry

This policy provides detail on the additional requirements of the following programmes offered by the School of Medicine:

- MBBCh Medicine (A100)
- MBBCh Medicine Feeder Stream (A101)

Note: this policy should be read in conjunction with the [Cardiff University Admissions Policies](#) and published entry requirements.

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1. Pre-application eligibility checks

1.1 To be eligible to apply for these programmes you must:

- a) be 18 years of age by 20 September of year 1 (please see the [age on entry policy](#) for more information),
- b) and fulfil the Fitness to Practice regulations and eligibility to pursue regulated programmes requirements (please see the [Fitness to Practise and eligibility to pursue regulated programmes policy](#) for more information),
- c) and meet the minimum entry requirements at Level 2 (typically GCSE) and Level 3 (typically A level), including grade and subject requirements.

2. Entry requirements

2.1 The typical entry requirements for GCSEs, A level, BTEC, International Baccalaureate (IB), and T Level applicants (hereafter referred to as “standard entry requirements”) are published on Coursefinder and UCAS (including grade and subject requirements, and whether or not these qualifications are accepted).

2.2 All applicants must provide evidence of prior academic capability in externally moderated, publicly validated examinations, e.g., GCSE, IGCSE, or equivalent qualifications. For applicants with UK qualifications, only those that are defined in the [National Database of Accredited Qualifications](#) are acceptable.

2.3 Non-standard entry requirements: Applicants who do not meet the standard entry requirements should refer to the appendices for further guidance.

2.4 Applicants to A101: Applicants to A101 must meet the entry requirements for A101 published at the point of entry to one of the approved feeder streams, as detailed in the progression agreement with the partner institution.

2.5 Additional requirements at A level: Only one Biology subject at A level (from Biology, Human Biology, or other biology variants) will be considered.

2.6 AS Level exceptions: Applicants who are offering only **one** of Biology or Chemistry at A2 **and** a second science subject e.g., Physics or Maths, may still be considered for the A100 course, if they achieve an A grade at AS Level in the subject (Biology or Chemistry) not offered at A2 level.

2.7 Resits at level 2: We will only accept Level 2 (e.g., GCSE) resits completed within 12 months of the original sitting. These must be completed prior to application. The exception to this is English Language which has no time limit for resit but must be included as achieved or pending on the application form.

2.8 Resits at Level 3: Resits at Level 3 are not normally accepted. Resits at Level 3 may only be considered for those who received a conditional offer in the previous cycle if evidence is provided of extenuating circumstances. These must be provided to the School of Medicine Admission Group (via medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk) so that these can be discussed, and a decision taken before a reapplication is made. The Group will consider applications where modules have been re-sat in either AS level or A level, on the understanding that the full Level 3 qualification is completed within the standard two-year A level period.

2.9 UCAT: All applicants are required to take the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) during July to October of the year of application. Test results obtained in previous years are not accepted. The UCAT score may be used as part of the interview shortlisting or offer selection process. There is no minimum score and the cut-off (if the UCAT is used) varies each cycle.

2.9.1 Any extenuating circumstances relating to the UCAT must be submitted to UCAT and follow their policy and procedures

2.10 Transfers: Transfers (also known as [RPL](#)) onto A100 or A101 are not accepted.

2.11 Current undergraduate students: Applicants applying before final completion of an honours degree should be in their final year. Any offer will be based on achieving a 2:1 or higher as well as having achieved the minimum entry requirements for graduates onto A100. Applicants who have started a degree, but have chosen not to complete it, may apply for the A100 but must have:

- withdrawn from their course and
- have provided the Medical Admissions Team (medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk) with a letter from their university confirming the withdrawal was voluntary and not as the result of failure to progress due to poor academic performance or probity concerns.

As long as both these conditions are met, the application will be considered within the applicant cohort for the year of application and will be subject to the full selection process in line with those applying with achieved A levels.

3. UCAS Application Deadlines

3.1 A fully completed application (including all previously achieved and pending academic and English language qualifications, references, and personal statement) must be submitted via UCAS by 15 October 2024 at 18:00hrs (UK time).

3.1.1 Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered and will be rejected as "late".

3.1.2 Where we are unable to give an academic score to your application due to missing information, including where a personal statement or reference has not been supplied, your application will be rejected as incomplete.

3.2 If you have non-standard qualifications or Level 3+ qualifications which have already been achieved, you are invited to send us certificates and transcripts at the same time as submitting the UCAS application. You can upload copies of your qualifications to our application portal (sims.cf.ac.uk) upon receipt of your Cardiff University username and password, or PDF/JPEG copies can be sent directly to admissions@cardiff.ac.uk from the email address given on the UCAS application with 'Medicine application – supporting documents' in the subject line and your full name, programme you have applied to, and UCAS ID in the body of the email.

4. Selection process

4.1 If you meet the minimum entry requirements at Level 2 (typically GCSEs) and Level 3 (typically A levels), have submitted an acceptable personal statement and reference, and have completed the UCAT within the required timeframe, your application will be given an academic score based on the Level 2 and 3 (if applicable) qualifications achieved.

4.2 The highest scoring applicants are invited to interview. (Please see the [interview and audition policy](#) for more information on the framework in which interviews are conducted.)

4.2.1 Applications are scored based on achieved qualifications only.

4.2.2 Mandatory subjects are scored first, then a score given to the remaining highest graded subjects.

4.2.3 If you fail to submit two scores for double science by the deadline, you will be given an assumed grade at one grade lower than the grade given. For example, if you state you achieved an A grade, you will be scored assuming you achieved AB grades.

4.2.4 The UCAT may be used in the selection process where the number of applicants with the same score exceeds the number of interview places.

4.3 Additional consideration is given in the scoring process for:

- applicants who are classed as contextual. Please see the [contextual admissions policy](#) for more information on who is considered contextual and how this is applied to each programme.
- applicants who are participating in certain widening participation initiatives in the year they apply for the programme. Participation in one of the following initiatives and meeting the minimum entry requirements ensures a guaranteed interview:
 - Cardiff University Step-Up to University programme
 - Sutton Trust attendees to Cardiff University Summer School
 - Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol (specifically the Doctoriad Yfory scheme)
 - Coleg Gwent Certificate
 - Agored Cymru Access to Medicine Course
- applicants who are domiciled in Wales.
- applicants who are part of our High Performance Sports programmes. Please see the [full policy](#) for more information on eligibility and how this is applied to each programme.

4.3.1 If you are eligible in more than one category listed above, you will only be given additional consideration in one of these categories.

5. Oversubscription

5.1 The School of Medicine has an oversubscription policy to manage numbers on each course, as these are capped by the Welsh Government. Please see the [oversubscription policy](#) for more information on who this may apply to and how and when it may be used.

Appendix A- Level 2 qualifications for A100 and A101

The table below outlines additional information relating to non-standard entry requirements for Level 2 qualifications. Any qualifications not listed in this section or published on the course pages are deemed unacceptable for entry.

GCSE Mathematics and Numeracy	<p>A maximum of one of the following subjects can be accepted in addition to Mathematics or Numeracy as part of the nine Level 2 qualifications required for the scoring and selection process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Mathematics • Applications of Mathematics • AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics • Methods of Mathematics • Numeracy • Statistics
GCSE Science	<p>Two grades are required at Level 2 and should be comprised of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry and Biology (or Human Biology) • Core Science, and one of Additional Science or Further Additional Science • Double Award Science • Science and Additional Science • or equivalent •
GCSE Short courses (Level 1 or Level 1/2)	<p>A single GCSE short course is not considered alone. If, however, you are not offering 9 full GCSEs, then two short course GCSEs can count as one whole GCSE.</p>
Other acceptable Level 2 qualifications (UK)	<p>The following qualifications can be used in lieu of one GCSE in the selection process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA) Applied Business or ICT • Diploma in Digital Applications (DiDA) • LIBF Certificate in Financial Capability and Careers Development • WJEC National/Foundation Skills Challenge Certificate (Level 2)

Where an applicant cannot take nine GCSEs (or equivalent) due to their school or college policy, they must offer a minimum of 7 GCSEs and are advised to email medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk prior to application for further advice.

Appendix B - Non-standard Level 3 and Level 3+ qualifications (UK and Ireland) for A100

The table below outlines additional information relating to non-standard entry requirements for Level 3 and 3+ qualifications. Any qualifications not listed in this section or published on the course pages are deemed unacceptable for entry.

Agored Cymru Access to Higher Education	For potential applicants who have not studied Biology and Chemistry A Levels but expect to meet our GCE A Level grade requirements for A100, the Access to Higher Education Diploma for Medicine (qaa.ac.uk) is available from Agored Cymru. Applicants must also meet the minimum entry requirements at Level 2 and must contact medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk to check their eligibility for this application route prior to submitting an application.
AQA Baccalaureate	This qualification is not acceptable for entry.
Cambridge Pre- University Diploma	The full Pre-University Diploma with three D3 grades in the Principal Subjects, which must include Chemistry and Biology, is accepted. Alternatively, applicants can offer a combination of Principal Subjects and other acceptable Level 3 qualifications. Subject and grade requirements must be met.
Irish Leaving Certificate	In place of the typical Level 2 requirements you will need to have achieved Grade B or Higher Merit all subjects including English, Maths and Science in the Junior Certificate and grade O3 in English and Maths in the Leaving Certificate. Typical Offer: H1 in Biology and Chemistry and H2 in four other subjects
Other UK qualifications	Applicants should also refer to the information published on our website for further information: https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/policies-and-procedures/qualification-acceptance
Scottish National 5s, Highers, and Advanced Highers	National 5s and Highers will be accepted in lieu of GCSE. Equivalent level, grade, and subject requirements must be met. Duplicate subjects will not be counted twice. Typical offer: AAAAB in Highers in any subjects, and BB in Advanced Higher Biology and Chemistry.

Appendix C – International and European (ex. Ireland) qualifications for A100

For the majority of applicants, the [University's international equivalency table](#) can be used to work out the appropriate equivalent to the A Level and GCSE requirements for entry. However, there are some exceptions and/or additional requirements that apply.

For more information, please contact the School of Medicine directly: medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk

Appendix D – Graduate applicants for A100

<p>Graduates with a Bachelor's in Dental Surgery with Honours (or equivalent)</p>	<p>If you have a Bachelor's in Dental Surgery with Honours (or equivalent) you are not eligible for A100 (5-year programme). Please see Appendix E for information on the A101 programme.</p>
<p>Graduates with a Bachelor's with Honours</p>	<p>Level 2 requirements must be met (subjects and grades). Level 3 requirements equivalent to A Level BBB or ABC including Biology and Chemistry must be met.</p> <p>Graduate applicants must have completed their degree or must be in the final year of their current degree programme for their application to be considered. Degree results must be awarded and conferred by 31st August of the year of entry to the course.</p> <p>Typical offer: 2:1 Honours degree in any subject</p>
<p>PhD graduates</p>	<p>Level 2 requirements must be met (subjects and grades). Level 3 requirements equivalent to A Level BBB or ABC including Biology and Chemistry must be met.</p> <p>Applicants must contact medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk to check their eligibility prior to submitting an application.</p> <p>Typical offer: Pass in PhD</p>

Appendix E – Graduate applicants for A101

<p>Graduates with a Bachelor's in Dental Surgery with Honours (or equivalent)</p>	<p>A maximum of two places can be offered each cycle to dentistry graduates.</p> <p>Level 2 requirements must be met (subjects and grades). Level 3 requirements equivalent to A Level BBB or ABC including Biology and Chemistry must be met.</p> <p>Applicants must supply a full CV to the School of Medicine Admissions Team (medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk) at the time of making their UCAS application.</p> <p>In lieu of an academic reference, applicants may supply a reference from a Maxillofacial Surgeon.</p> <p>In addition to the academic, UCAT, and MMI requirements, applicants may also be required to participate in a panel interview (to include local Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons) for the purpose of ensuring that applicants are intending to follow the British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (OMFS) training route.</p> <p>Typical offer: Pass in BDS</p>
<p>Graduates with a Bachelor's with Honours in a non-science-based degree</p>	<p>If you have a Bachelor's with Honours in a non-science-based degree you are not eligible for A101 (4-year programme). Please see Appendix D for information on the A100 programme.</p>
<p>Graduates with a Bachelor's with Honours in a science-based degree (not from an approved feeder stream)</p>	<p>If you have a Bachelor's with Honours in a science-based degree you are not eligible for A101 (4-year programme). Please see Appendix D for information on the A100 programme.</p>
<p>Graduates from an approved feeder stream</p>	<p>Level 2 requirements must be met (subjects and grades). Level 3 requirements equivalent to A Level BBB or ABC including Biology and Chemistry must be met. In lieu of the Level 3 requirements, applicants may be considered following successful completion of the associated feeder stream Foundation Year.</p> <p>Please note: Individual academic performance required to maintain eligibility to apply to the A101 course is set by each Feeder Stream course. It is the responsibility of the University providing the Feeder Streams to check the entry requirements and ensure that applicants who subsequently apply to the A101 are competitive.</p> <p>Typical offer: 2:1 Honours degree in one of the following, to include successful completion of relevant pre-requisite modules:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BSc (Hons) Medical Pharmacology degree, School of Medicine, Cardiff University (B210)• BSc (Hons) Biomedical Sciences degree, School of Biosciences, Cardiff University (BC97)• BSc (Hons) Medical Sciences degree, from the University of South Wales (B901)*• BMedSci (Hons) Medical Sciences degree from Bangor University (B100)* <p><i>*The arrangements regarding these feeder streams are currently under review.</i></p>
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