



Policy for Admissions to undergraduate programmes in Medicine and Dentistry for 2025/26 entry

Introduction

Review	Every year
Approval/Adopted:	EQSB –
Original Distribution of draft for comment:	Director of Admissions Heads of Admissions (Medicine and Dentistry) Dean for Education Institute Manager of IHSE
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For particular attention of:	Admissions Manager Director of Admissions Head of Admissions (Medicine & Dentistry) Applicants
Author/Further Information:	Natasha Chappell
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The purpose of this document is to ensure a fair and transparent process of admission to undergraduate medical and dental programmes within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. The policy provides clear procedural guidance to applicants and to staff involved in the administration of the admissions process.

The policy has been written in line with UCAS guidelines and recommendations outlined in the Admissions to Higher Education Review "Fair Admissions to Higher Education: Recommendations for Good Practice" and the Medical Schools Council Guiding Principles for the Admission of Medical Students (2010).

Scope

This policy covers admissions to undergraduate programmes in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, which are as follows:

- Five year MBBS programme (A100)
- Four year Graduate Entry MBBS programme (A101)
- Three year Direct Clinical Entry (International Medical University Malaysia (IMU) and St Andrews Transfers) (A300)
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS)/Oral Medicine programme (A30X)
- Five year BDS programme (A200)
- CCFS Certificate in Clinical Foundation Studies (A120)

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Equality and Diversity Statement

Social justice has been a cornerstone of Queen Mary University of London from the establishment of our [four historical institutions to the present day](#) and it is at the heart of our [2030 Strategy](#). Our mission is to create a truly inclusive environment, building on our cherished cultural diversity, where students and staff flourish, reach their full potential and are proud to be part of the University. This will support us in our aim of becoming the most inclusive university of its kind, anywhere.

We welcome applicants with disabilities; please seek advice from the admissions team well before the deadline for UCAS applications so that your case can be given individual attention and consideration. Applicants are advised to seek advice by 1st October in the year of application. Candidates admitted to our programme need to be eligible for registration by the GMC and or the GDC on graduation.

Applicants declaring a disability will receive an email from the FMD Admissions team (Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry) prior to interview to ensure we can accommodate any specific needs. If you are offered a place on the course, we will send information regarding the requirement for prior assessment. This will be in the form of a confidential health questionnaire which follows the HEOPS guidance <https://heops.org.uk/>, but will also ask you to make contact with our Disability and Dyslexia Service <http://www.dds.qmul.ac.uk/>. This is so that a discussion of reasonable adjustment or discussion of your assessment of needs report can be made prior to 31st July in the year of intended enrolment.

All staff involved in the admissions process are aware of their responsibility to ensure applications are processed in line with the university's stated goals around inclusivity, as well as our anticipatory duty under the Equality Act to ensure that disabled students can access their academic programme. Interview panel members receive mandatory selection training, with emphasis on equal opportunities.

Application Process

All applications must be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS), by the October Undergraduate Medicine and Dentistry UCAS deadline each year. The only exceptions to this are dental graduates applying for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery(OMFS)/Oral Medicine programme (A30X) who should apply directly, deadline is mid-December each year. Students from IMU (A300) would need to apply via their local scheme and students applying for the St Andrews England route who should make an application to St Andrews (A300). Students from sponsored partner countries applying to CCFS (A120), would need to be nominated from their government before making an application.

Entry Requirements for the Five Year Programmes

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry is committed to providing comprehensive, accurate and timely information about our undergraduate degree programmes in Medicine and Dentistry in our [prospectus](#) and our [webpage](#). We aim to provide up-to-date information in all our publications, but as printed prospectuses are published long in advance of the start of the programmes, we recommend that applicants check details of entry requirements on our website before applying.

Please note these are the **MINIMUM** entry requirements we will consider but because entry is competitive, meeting the minimum entry requirements will not guarantee an interview or offer of a place.

GCSE AND iGCSE

All eligible applicants must have the following subjects at GCSE/iGCSE with minimum grades AAABBB or 777666 or any combination thereof, (in any order) to include Biology (or Human Biology), Chemistry, English Literature/English Language and Mathematics or Additional Mathematics or Statistics. The Science double award may substitute any individual science at GCSE.

A Levels: A Levels at grades A*AA, achieved in one sitting over a study period of no longer than two years. A-levels must include:

- **First A Level** - Chemistry or Biology
- **Second A Level** – A further science subject from (Chemistry, Biology, Physics, or Maths)
- **Third A Level** - Any A level subject. Further Maths is not accepted if Maths is taken as your second A level
- The A* can be in any of the three subjects and does not need to be in one of the required sciences
- If A level Maths and Further Maths are offered in the same sitting, Further Maths will not be counted towards the minimum A*AA requirement.

For students taking Science A levels offered by awarding bodies in England, a pass in the practical endorsement is also required.

Applicants who have taken or will take an additional year (or more) to complete their qualifications and achieve the minimum entry requirements (e.g. A*AA or 2:1) can **only** be considered if their extenuating circumstances fall within the [Equality Act 2010](#) and submit this with all evidence to smdadmissions@qmul.ac.uk. The extenuating circumstances panel will assess all evidence and make a final decision. Applicants must apply by 15th September in the year of application to receive a decision from the EC panel before the UCAS deadline. Extenuating circumstances that do not fall within the Equality Act 2010 will not be considered. Late applications up to the UCAS deadline **may** be considered but a decision is unlikely before the UCAS deadline. Extenuating circumstances not approved through the EC panel will not be considered.

Other acceptable qualifications

Further information about other qualifications we consider can be found [here](#)

Qualifications which do not meet our entry requirements

The following qualifications are not considered for entry into Medicine or Dentistry, this list is not exhaustive but names common qualifications:

- BTEC HNC/HND
- GNVQ/AVCE/Applied A levels
- City and Guilds
- Open University course credits
- Foundation, pre-medical/dental programmes or access courses
- Equivalent high school qualifications from other countries not listed on our website.

English Language qualifications

Applicants are required to meet our published English Language Requirements. Our acceptable English Language qualifications are available on our [website](#).

Graduates and mature students

Graduates are eligible to apply for Medicine and Dentistry (A100, A101 and A200). The minimum academic entry requirements are an upper second-class honours (2:1) degree.

Graduates who offer a degree with at least an upper second class honours or equivalent who have graduated from a university outside the UK, must check their degree equivalency to a UK Honours degree with at least a 2:1 against the Postgraduate requirements stipulated for their [region](#).

We do **not** accept alternative qualifications in lieu of A Levels or [acceptable equivalents](#) and so candidates with overseas degrees may not be accepted if their degree does not have at least two thirds Bioscience content.

Only an applicant's first degree is considered, and candidates are required to complete their degree within the minimum prescribed period allowed by their university, excluding any periods of intermission or interruption granted on grounds relating to serious extenuating circumstances protected under the Equality Act 2010.

Applications from candidates who are in their last year of the degree are accepted provided they are predicted to achieve an upper second-class honours (2:1) degree or above. If these applicants are offered a place, they must have completed this degree prior to enrolment. Applications are not accepted from degree students in the first or second year of their degree.

Students who have commenced a medical or dental degree at any school within the UK or internationally and have either voluntarily withdrawn or have been deregistered by the university are not eligible to apply. Transfers are not accepted from other university medical and dental schools.

Entry Requirements for the Foundation Certificate in Clinical Foundation Studies (FdCert CFS)

This one-year foundation programme offers international students the opportunity to top-up your school qualifications to the academic level needed to study medicine or dentistry at QMUL. You will also develop the academic skills and the English language skills you will need for undergraduate study in the UK.

Students sponsored by their government scholarship schemes may progress onto the London MBBS (Medicine) or BDS (Dentistry) programmes. Upon successful completion of the CCFS programme, you will graduate with a Foundation Certificate (FdCert CFS) and will progress onto the MBBS or BDS programmes subject to meeting the progression requirements.

Academic Requirements:

- Thanawia / Shahadat Al-Thanawaya Al-Aamat (General Secondary Education Certificate): Overall average minimum of 90% or equivalent
- Must have studied Chemistry, Biology and Maths in the last two years
- Evidence of Sponsorship
- IELTS (UKVI) 6.5 overall, with at least 6.0 in writing
- Be at least 17 years of age at the point of enrolment
- Have sat the UCAT exam.

Entry Requirements for the Maxillofacial Surgery/Oral Medicine programme (A30X)

Applicants must have the following to be considered for the programme:

- Completed or about to complete all parts of the MFDS or both parts of MJDF or equivalent
- At least 12 months experience of clinical pathway and clear career aims. In addition, it is desirable to have some publication history or research experience
- Membership of the British Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons (BAOMS) or British & Irish Society for Oral Medicine (BISOM), plus must be fully registered with the GMC.
- Eligible for Home tuition fees

Non-academic entry requirements

Age Requirements

All students for the MBBS and BDS programmes must be at least 18 years old at the start of the programme. Applicants who are within weeks of being 18 (i.e. second week of course enrolment) at the start of the course must, along with their parents, follow the QMUL Under 18 Policy which can be found at <http://www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk/policy/>. Applicants who will be under the age of 18 by the start of the programme can apply for deferred entry so that they will meet the minimum age requirement by the start of the course the following year. (Exception is CCFS who must be at least 17 years of age at the point of enrolment to the CCFS programme and are required, along with their parents, to follow the QMUL [Under 18 Policy](#))

Applicants from countries outside the UK and Ireland

The School has a capped number of places for international students on our medical and dental programmes. The minimum academic and selection criteria are the same as for home students. International applicants are ranked against other international applicants in the selection process.

Deferred Entry (Gap year students)

Applications for deferred entry for A100, A101 and A200 requested through UCAS by the Undergraduate Medicine and Dentistry UCAS deadline will be accepted and applicants assessed in the cycle in which they apply. Applicants who apply by the UCAS deadline but do not request deferred entry until after application will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Number of places available for 2025 entry

The number of places expected to be available for entry in 2025/26 are as follows:

Programme	Home	International
Medicine: 5-year MBBS (A100)	308	Up to 24
Medicine: 4-year GEP MBBS (A101)	39	
Dentistry: 5-year BDS (A200)	67	Up to 4
CCFS (A120)		30
Maxillofacial Surgery/Oral Medicine (A30X)	10	

Selection process and sequence

A range of criteria is used to assess applicants in the **first** shortlisting:

- Applied by the UCAS deadline stipulated for Medicine and Dentistry
- Predicted or achieved the minimum academic [entry requirements](#)
- Sit [UCAT](#) in the year of application
- Achieve an overall score within the fourth decile range or above and (SJT Bands 1-3) in the [UCAT](#).

Applications which do not meet these minimum requirements will be rejected at this point.

A range of criteria is used to assess applicants in the **second** shortlisting (selection for interview):

- Met all **first** shortlisting criteria

- Applicants will then be selected for interview based on a weighted score compared to other applicants who apply in the same year, and may be comprised of UCAT score, UCAS tariff of entry qualifications predicted or achieved, or weighted scoring of degrees for graduates.

Applications which do not fall within the weighted score for interview will be rejected at this point.

A range of criteria is used to assess applicants in the **third** shortlisting (offers):

- Selection after interview may consider all assessment factors: interview score, situational judgement test, UCAS tariff of entry qualifications predicted or achieved, or weighted scoring of degree and UCAT score.

Personal Statement and Reference

Personal statements and references are not weighted or scored but provide the Admissions team with evidence that applicants have a genuine interest in the programme to which they are applying. Personal statements should be specific to the subject to which the applicant has applied, or the entire application may be rejected.

Personal statements should provide evidence of commitment to, and realistic appreciation of, the academic, and emotional demands of a medical or dental course and career. It is expected that applicants will not merely be applying because they are 'good at science', or under family or peer pressure. Exceptional academic achievement does not guarantee success in the application process. Applicants must ensure that it is an honest reflection of their strengths and interests. Personal statements must be written entirely by the applicants themselves. Personal statements showing evidence of plagiarism may cause the application to be rejected, irrespective of all other achievements.

In addition to academic ability, selectors will consider interests and talents and the contribution applicants could make to our programme and university. They will also consider the applicant's suitability as a future member of the medical or dental profession. Good communication skills and the ability to work as a part of a team are essential strengths for a doctor or dentist.

Work Experience

At the interview stage, selectors will determine whether applicants have gained experience and understanding from an appropriate amount and type of work experience. We recognize that direct observation of healthcare may be difficult to arrange but applicants should have some experience at working with the public in a caring or service role. We may check work experience references to ensure what has been reported is correct.

Medicine: We require applicants to understand what a career in medicine entails. It is important to remember that work experience can take many forms. It can be a voluntary opportunity or a paid job. While shadowing a doctor can be useful, we understand that this is not attainable for everyone. Volunteering in a residential care home, or with a local charity is just as good a source of experience.

Dentistry: Selectors will expect that candidates can demonstrate some knowledge about a career in dentistry and have gained (some) work experience in a relevant setting. However, while this may be a useful indicator of motivation, it must be seen in the light of opportunities available to the applicant.

University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT)

All applicants to Medicine and Dentistry programmes are required to take the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT). UCAT exemptions/waivers are not granted under **any** circumstances. If you are unable to take the UCAT for any reason, our advice is to reapply for the following application cycle. Applicants will be rejected if their UCAT score is below the 4th decile in the year in which they apply. Applicants with an SJT Band 4 score will be rejected. Note there is no guarantee you will be offered an interview if you score above the fourth decile. (CCFS students are required to achieve a UCAT score within or above the 4th decile and SJT Bands 1-3 to meet part of the progression requirements onto MBBS or BDS).

Applicants for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS)/Oral Medicine programme (A30X), or IMU and St Andrews Direct Clinical Entrants (A300) are not required to take the UCAT.

Interviews (A100, A101 and A200)

Given the intense competition for places to study medicine and dentistry, not all applicants are invited to interview, and no offers will be given without an interview. The university may offer either Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI) or panel interviews of at least two individuals, all of which can be conducted either in person or virtually.

Interviews usually take place between January and March. If you are invited to an interview, you will be provided with further details about the expected interview format and guidance of when and where to report to. Please feel free to contact the Admissions Office if you have any concerns or questions in advance of the interview.

The interview is used to assess the applicant's motivation, communication skills, teamwork, skills, and personality, and gives applicants a chance to meet the people involved with the course. To assess awareness of the realities of medicine or dentistry, candidates are usually asked about their personal experiences gained through work experience or voluntary work.

While we are fully committed to ensuring that students with disabilities have access to the reasonable adjustments to which they are entitled under the terms of the Equality Act (2010) we have reviewed our interview processes to make it inclusive of the needs of students who would usually request extra time for reading and writing exercises in line with our stated strategic goal of being "the most inclusive university of its kind, anywhere".

As such, we would anticipate the interviews being inclusive of most candidates' access requirements.

Offers

Decisions after interview are made once all interviews have been completed. All offers are conditional on meeting academic requirements, and satisfactory health and police clearance checks by the required deadlines. All decisions are confirmed through UCAS.

Other Entry Conditions

Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) Clearance

Applicants who have any convictions, cautions, reprimands or final warnings that are not protected or do not meet the new filtering rules as defined by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as amended in 2013) should declare them on the UCAS application. The amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975 (2013) provide that certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected' and are not subject to disclosure to employers and cannot be considered.

Applicants offered a place will be asked for more information about any criminal convictions, cautions or other punishments they may have disclosed. The consideration of an applicant's criminal record is separate from the selection process for the undergraduate medical or dental courses at Queen Mary University of London to ensure there can be no bias in the selection process. The requested information will be processed in line with the university's criminal convictions policy.

All offers are made subject to satisfactory clearance by the DBS. An Enhanced Clearance check will be required for UK-based applicants. The cost of the checks and registration process must be paid by the applicant. Applicants who fail to meet the deadline for submitting their finalised DBS applications will be rejected even if they have fulfilled the academic conditions of their offers.

Non-UK based applicants will be required to undertake a police check in the country they currently reside in and submit the outcome to the admissions team by the deadline. Once in the UK and enrolled on the programme, applicants will also need to make a DBS application for an Enhanced Clearance check before starting clinical placements.

Applicants in receipt of offers are subject to an ongoing obligation to disclose any criminal convictions or other punishment received since they completed their UCAS form and up until the point they register for their course. In such cases, applicants should contact the Admissions team. Failure to do so may result in offers being withdrawn or de-registration from their programme. Failure to make known matters that subsequently appear on a DBS check may be a disciplinary offence, which may result in de-registration from the programme.

Health Questionnaire

All applicants offered a place must complete a health questionnaire, which will ask for information about their physical and mental health. All information disclosed is confidential between the applicant and the Occupational Health team (OH) but if it impacts significantly on an individual's ability to take on the roles and responsibilities of a medical/dental student and doctor/dentist this could, in exceptional cases, result in the withdrawal or non-issue of an offer. Applicants will be asked to disclose whether they have been treated for past illness and the OH may seek further information on this. Applicants who fail to meet the deadline for submitting their completed health questionnaire will be rejected even if they have fulfilled the academic conditions of their offers.

Blood-Borne Viruses and other infectious diseases

Medicine: All medical students are expected to be vaccinated against hepatitis B and tuberculosis to protect both themselves and their patients. This can be undertaken prior to entry or by the OH team. Applicants who are known carriers of a blood-borne virus (BBV) should contact the OHS for further advice. All medical students are offered BBV testing on entry to medical school.

Dentistry: All dental students are advised to be vaccinated against hepatitis B before entry to protect both them and their patients. A course of Hepatitis B vaccinations can take up to nine months to complete, and so applicants are asked and advised to contact our Occupational Health Department for advice. Students are advised to commence vaccination when the academic requirements of the offer are met but further advice is provided by the OH team.

All students on the 5-year BDS programme perform exposure-prone procedures (EPP) as a routine part of their course. Before receiving full enrolment, they must be able to demonstrate that they are not chronically infected with a blood borne virus – hepatitis B, hepatitis C and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) – by attending an appointment with the OHS for a blood test.

Applicants are encouraged to make an appointment with the OHS once they have received a conditional offer, which they have firmly accepted, to ensure that EPP clearance is achieved before the start of their course. Students will not be able to continue the programme or attend clinical placement without EPP clearance.

Widening Participation

Our standard contextual offer: Grades AAA to include Biology or Chemistry, and a second science (Chemistry, Biology, Physics or Mathematics).

Our enhanced contextual offer: Grades AAB to include Biology or Chemistry, and a second science (Chemistry, Biology, Physics or Mathematics).

Please note that General Studies and Critical Thinking are excluded from any A-Level offer and cannot be considered.

More information can be found on our contextualised admissions page
<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/entry/contextualised-admissions/>

Feedback

If you would like to make a subject access request regarding personalised information from your interview, please see our data protection webpage. Further information on how you can formally request this can be found [here](#).

Appeal and Complaints

Queen Mary aims to consider all applications fairly, consistently and in line with our admissions policy. However, we recognize that there may be occasions when applicants wish to make a formal complaint about the admissions

process or to appeal against a selection decision. In such cases, applicants should refer to the Queen Mary Admissions Appeals and Complaints Policy found [here](#).

Plagiarism and Falsified Applications

Queen Mary reserves the right to withdraw an offer of admission where an applicant is found to have supplied false information, including falsified references, plagiarised content, or omitted relevant information from their application.

UCAS routinely scans personal statements for plagiarism and Queen Mary may withdraw offers made to applicants found to have supplied a personal statement with a high percentage similarity according to the UCAS *Similarity Detection Service*. Depending on the percentage similarity detected, admissions may request a new personal statement from the applicant.

No further application will be considered from an applicant who has been found to have supplied false information. If an applicant is found to have provided fraudulent documents after the point of enrolment, this could result in being withdrawn from the course.

Data Protection

Under the terms of the Data Protection Legislation, any correspondence relating to applications will normally only be with the applicant and not a third party, unless the applicant has provided consent.

Data submitted by applicants as part of the application and during the admissions process is used to assess the suitability of applicants for study at the university. Anonymized data is used for the purposes of analysis and monitoring. Application data forms part of the student record for applicants who are admitted to the university and is transferred to the Registry after their place is confirmed. Personal data for applicants who are not admitted to the university is deleted in accordance with the university's data retention policy.

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Graduate Admissions and Recruitment Office
Queen Mary University of London, Central Admissions
Email contact address:
FMD - smdadmissions@qmul.ac.uk
UG - admissions@qmul.ac.uk
PG - pgtadmissions@qmul.ac.uk

qmul.ac.uk
