



## School of Medicine –

### Variation to admissions policy for 2027 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 English Language requirements** must be met and achieved at the point of application. Applicants with an achieved English Language test that meets the minimum requirements, but expires between the application deadline date and the date of enrolment (e.g. IELTS), will be subject to a Conditional Offer if successful in receiving an offer.

**2.4 The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) eAssessment** is an acceptable level 2 qualification.

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

**2.6 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.

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

**2.8 Resits at level 2:** We will only accept Level 2 (e.g., GCSE) resits completed within 12 months of the original sitting except English Language which has no time limit. All resits must be completed and grades achieved prior to application.

**2.9 Resits at Level 3:** Resits at Level 3 are ordinarily not permitted. Consideration of Level 3 resits will only be granted to applicants who accepted a conditional offer for Medicine at Cardiff University in the previous admissions cycle and can provide verified evidence of **extenuating**

**circumstances.** Such evidence will be reviewed and approved by a senior panel comprising academic and clinical staff.

All supporting documentation must be submitted to the School of Medicine Admissions Group (via [medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk)) no later than **20 September**. This deadline ensures that the evidence can be evaluated and a formal decision reached prior to any reapplication.

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 are considered.

**2.10 A minimum of 3 A levels** (or equivalent) must be completed over the standard 2-year period. Applicants unable to meet the 2-year completion timeframe due to extenuating circumstances must contact [medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk) no later than 20 September. Evidence will be required for discussion with senior academic and clinical staff.

**2.11 Applicants who choose to take an additional A level** after completing 3 A levels must achieve AAA in their original three subjects.

**2.12 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 decile ranking will be used as part of the interview shortlisting or offer selection process. There is no fixed UCAT threshold. A UCAT cut-off may be applied to shortlist further.

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

**2.13 Transfers:** (also known as RPL) onto A100 or A101 are not accepted.

**2.14 Current undergraduate students:** Applicants applying before completion of an honours degree must 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 for the A100 programme.

**2.15 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
- provided the Medical Admissions Team ([medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto: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.

**2.16 In line with GMC guidance on fitness to practise,** applicants are responsible for disclosing any circumstances that may give rise to a fitness to practise concern. Such matters will be reviewed by senior academic and clinical staff, as they may affect eligibility for entry to the programme and could have implications for future registration and employment as a doctor.

Any fitness to practise issues identified after an application has been submitted may result in the withdrawal of an offer

### 3. UCAS Application Deadlines

**3.1 A fully completed and accurate application** (including all previously achieved and pending academic and English language qualifications, academic reference and personal statement) must be submitted via UCAS by 15 October 2026 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 academic 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 [Cardiff University Student Information Management System \(sims.cf.ac.uk\)](https://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](mailto: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 academic 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 and your UCAT decile ranking.

**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 and UCAT decile rankings.

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 Your UCAT score may be used in the selection process where the number of applicants with the same academic 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:

- o Cardiff University Step-Up to University programme
- o Sutton Trust attendees to Cardiff University Summer School
- o Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol (specifically the Doctoriad Yfory scheme)
- o Agored Cymru Access to Higher Education (Medicine) diploma

- applicants who are domiciled in Wales.

- applicants who are part of our [High Performance Sports Programmes](#).

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. Deferrals

5.1 **Applicants applying for deferred entry** should indicate so via the intended start date on their UCAS application.

5.2. **Consideration for deferred entry is not guaranteed** unless applied for via the UCAS application. All deferral requests received after receipt of an application will be considered after A level results are released in August unless exceptional and unknown extenuating circumstances have arisen which means the applicant is unable to start the programme the year they stated on their application form. This must be evidenced.

5.3 If granted, only one deferral year request will be accepted.

5.4 Applicants applying for a deferred entry place will be interviewed alongside other applicants in the cohort they apply in and if successful, their offer will reflect their deferred entry year request.

## 6. Oversubscription

6.1 **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.

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

## 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.

<b>Agored Cymru Access to Higher Education Diploma (Medicine)</b>	For potential applicants who have not studied Biology or Chemistry A Levels but expect to meet our GCE A Level grade requirements for A100, the <a href="#">Agored Cymru Access to Higher Education Diploma (Medicine)</a> is available. Applicants must also meet the minimum entry requirements at Level 2 and must contact <a href="mailto:medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk">medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk</a> to check their eligibility for this application route prior to submitting an application.
<b>AQA Baccalaureate</b>	This qualification is not acceptable for entry.
<b>Cambridge Pre-University Diploma</b>	The full Pre-University Diploma with three D3 grades in the Principal Subjects, which must include a core subject - Biology or Chemistry and an additional science subject: Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physics or Psychology. Alternatively, applicants can offer a combination of Principal Subjects and other acceptable Level 3 qualifications. Subject and grade requirements must be met.
<b>Irish Leaving Certificate</b>	The Junior Cycle is accepted as a level 2 qualification. Applicants must have achieved a Distinction in Science and a Higher Merit in 7 additional subjects, including English Language and Mathematics. <b>Typical Offer:</b> H1 in four subjects including English, Mathematics, Biology or Chemistry and H2 in two other subjects. If Biology or Chemistry is not offered at HL, it needs to be offered at OL at minimum O3.
<b>Other UK qualifications</b>	Applicants should also refer to the information published on our website for further information: <a href="https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/policies-andprocedures/qualification-acceptance">https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/policies-andprocedures/qualification-acceptance</a>
<b>Scottish National 5s, Highers, and Advanced Highers</b>	National 5s and Highers are accepted as a level 2 qualification. Equivalent level, grade, and subject requirements including English Language, Mathematics and Science must be met. <b>Typical offer:</b> AAAAB in Highers including Biology and Chemistry and BB in Advanced Higher in Biology or Chemistry and an additional science subject: Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physics or Psychology.

## 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](mailto:medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk)

## Appendix D – Graduate applicants for A100

<b>Graduates with a Bachelor's in Dental Surgery with Honours (or equivalent)</b>	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.
<b>Graduates with a Bachelor's with Honours</b>	Level 2 requirements must be met (subjects and grades). Level 3 requirements equivalent to A Level BBB or ABC must include a core subject - Biology or Chemistry and an additional science subject: Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physics or Psychology. 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 31 <sup>st</sup> August of the year of entry to the course. <b>Typical offer:</b> 2:1 Honours degree in any subject
<b>PhD graduates</b>	Level 2 requirements must be met (subjects and grades). Level 3 requirements equivalent to A Level BBC must include a core subject - Biology or Chemistry and an additional science subject: Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physics or Psychology. Applicants must contact <a href="mailto:medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk">medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk</a> to check their eligibility prior to submitting an application. <b>Typical offer:</b> Pass in PhD

## Appendix E – Graduate applicants for A101

<p><b>Graduates with a Bachelor's in Dental Surgery with Honours (or equivalent)</b></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 must include a core subject - Biology or Chemistry and an additional science subject: Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physics or Psychology.</p> <p>Applicants must supply a full CV to the School of Medicine Admissions Team (<a href="mailto:medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk">medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk</a>) 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 <a href="#">British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons</a> (OMFS) training route.</p> <p><b>Typical offer:</b> Pass in BDS</p>
<p><b>Graduates with a Bachelor's with Honours in a non-science-based degree</b></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><b>Graduates with a Bachelor's with Honours in a science-based degree (not from an approved feeder stream)</b></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><b>Graduates from an approved feeder stream</b></p>	<p>Level 2 requirements must be met (subjects and grades). Level 3 requirements equivalent to A Level BBB or ABC must include a core subject - Biology or Chemistry and an additional science subject: Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physics or Psychology. 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.</p> <p>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><b>Typical offer:</b> 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"><li>• BSc (Hons) Medical Pharmacology degree, School of Medicine, Cardiff University (B210)</li><li>• BSc (Hons) Biomedical Sciences degree, School of Biosciences, Cardiff University (BC97)</li><li>• BSc (Hons) Medical Sciences degree, from the University of South Wales (B901)*</li><li>• BMedSci (Hons) Medical Sciences degree from Bangor University (B100)*</li></ul> <p>*The arrangements regarding these feeder streams are currently under review.</p>
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