

# **BSc in Dental Therapy 2023 Entry (B750)**

There are approximately 16 places available on this three year course that is delivered at the University of Liverpool. There is no quota for international students. All applications are considered together with no differentiation between home, EU and international students.

## **Admissions procedures**

Applications should be made through UCAS by 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Late applications will not be considered. It is the applicant's responsibility to complete the UCAS form fully and failure to do so will result in rejection. It is particularly important to enter all qualifications taken, including those failed. Factors that are assessed on an application form include:

- Academic attainments, to ensure that they meet the minimum entry criteria.
- Predicted grades for examinations/degrees still to be taken or awarded and only those applicants likely to achieve the entry criteria are invited for interview.
- References should be clearly supportive and preferably indicate that the applicant has the necessary attributes for the chosen career. An academic reference should be supplied whenever possible.
- We do not require applicants to take any aptitude tests e.g. UCAT or BMAT.

## **Academic qualifications**

Applicants are required to meet the GCSE and A level (or the equivalent qualification criteria). Distance learning and BTEC qualifications are not accepted.

### **A levels**

- 3 A levels at grades ABB or above one of which must be Biology. General Studies and Critical Thinking are not accepted as one of the 3 A levels. Pending A level qualifications will be considered. We do not consider AS level grades when making decisions.
- For Science A levels that include the separately graded practical endorsement, a Pass is required.

### **GCSE**

- We use GCSE grades when shortlisting for interview so it is important to provide full details of these examinations and failure to do so will lead to rejection of the application.
- All applicants must have 6 GCSEs at grade C/5 or above which must include English Language, Maths and a Science; if Dual Science has not been taken Biology GCSE is required.
- Applicants should distinguish between full and short courses on their application form. Two short courses will be counted in lieu of one full course.
- Functional skills will not be considered as an alternative to GCSE Maths or English Language. Vocational/Applied GCSEs will not be considered.
- We do not accept GCSE Maths Numeracy
- BTEC Science will not be considered as an alternative to a GCSE in Science.
- The GCSE requirements should be in place at the time of application. We are unable to consider pending grades at GCSE.

### **Degree candidates applying for B750**

- Degree in any subject (at the discretion of the Admissions Tutor) at a minimum of a 2:1 classification. Only the first full degree that the applicant is awarded is considered. Foundation degrees are not accepted. Those with a degree that is not classified should have achieved an overall grade of 70% or above.
- A minimum of 3 A levels at grades BBB or above including Biology. General Studies, Critical Thinking and Vocational/Applied A levels are not accepted.
- A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade C/grade 5 or above including Maths, English Language and a Science; if Dual Science has not been taken Biology GCSE is required.
- Vocational/Applied GCSEs are not accepted. The GCSE requirements should be in place at the time of application. We are unable to consider pending grades at GCSE level.

### **Access Course candidates**

- Applicants offering Access to Higher Education Diplomas should present from courses with a minimum of 12 units in Biology and 12 units in Chemistry content at Level 3.
- Candidates are expected to achieve a distinction in 45 credits at level 3. We would expect the equivalent of a score of 80% to be achieved overall.
- Further information will be requested from the applicant at the time of application to ensure the Access Course being taken meets the required academic criteria. Not all Access Courses meet the required entry criteria.
- We do not consider Access Courses to be appropriate for students who have failed to achieve the necessary A level grades in the last 5 years.
- At least 5 GCSE subjects at grade C/5 including Maths, English Language and a Science; if Dual Science has not been taken Biology GCSE is required.
- Vocational/Applied GCSEs are not accepted. Functional skills qualifications will not be considered in place of GCSEs.
- The GCSE requirements should be in place at the time of application. We are unable to consider pending grades at GCSE level.
- The Access Course should be completed in one year.
- Students are required to begin our Dental Therapy course within 2 years of completing their Access programme.
- Only the first full Access qualification that the applicant is awarded will be considered.
- We do not accept online or distance learning Access courses.

### **European and International Qualifications**

- The onus is on the applicant to demonstrate equivalence of International and European qualifications and we would expect achieved or predicted grades to be equivalent to our standard GCSE and A level entry requirements.
- In addition to the information submitted as part of the UCAS application we would also expect applicants to send the following information to the Admissions Office via email ([dhdtentq@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:dhdtentq@liverpool.ac.uk)): a statement of comparability from NARIC (<https://www.naric.org.uk/naric/>) and a transcript of the qualification(s) in English.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to supply this information by 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Failure to provide this information will result in rejection.

### **Candidates whose first language is not English**

We require IELTS with no less than 7.0 in every component. Pending IELTS will be considered, however applicants are required to have registered for this test prior to application and listed the details of their upcoming test on their UCAS form.

### **Contextual Data**

All universities, including ours, receive information from UCAS derived from the details you enter on your UCAS form. This includes the school or socio-economic context in which you have previously studied, together with information about any disability you may have, and whether you have been in care. Taken together, this information is often referred to as 'contextual data' and can help to provide fair access in admissions. At the University of Liverpool, we call this Contextual Data for Fair Access.

We will make allowances for applicants who meet the criteria for the university's policy on contextual data for fair access when considering applications and these applicants may also receive a reduced offer. Further information can be found at: [Contextual Data - University of Liverpool](#)

### **Personal Statement/Work Experience**

The Personal Statement is assessed to ensure that the applicant has knowledge of and insight into the profession with emphasis on work experience/observation. Evidence of a caring attitude and awareness of the values embedded within the NHS constitution is also sought. Applicants must demonstrate motivation and commitment to a career in dental therapy. Candidates are expected to show a range of skills and it is

desirable on all dental programmes that candidates have completed a period of work experience/shadowing in a local dental practice or hospital and preferably in more than one establishment.

### **Non-Academic Information Questionnaire**

All applicants will be sent an information questionnaire with respect to non-academic activities following the UCAS closing date on the 25<sup>th</sup> January. The questionnaire can be thought of as an expanded UCAS Personal Statement and is your opportunity to provide more information. You will find that you can use most of what you have written in your Personal Statement as the starting point for your Non-Academic Information questionnaire. The questionnaire is essentially a more structured version of the Personal Statement.

We will request brief details about your work experience and motivation for studying dental therapy. Applicants who fail to submit their questionnaire by the given deadline **will NOT** progress, as the application will be deemed incomplete and will be rejected.

### **Plagiarism**

The University is notified by UCAS of any Personal Statements that are considered to be plagiarised. The Dental School will automatically reject such applications. Applicants may apply in another admissions cycle if they submit an application that UCAS does not deem to be plagiarised.

### **Extenuating Circumstances**

Potential applicants who narrowly fail to meet our academic criteria because their education and/or examination performance was affected by significant extenuating circumstances may submit an application. They should send a full account of the extenuating circumstances and how their studies were affected, together with supporting documentation from their school, college, GP, hospital etc. directly to [dhtenq@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:dhtenq@liverpool.ac.uk). The case will be considered by the Dental School's Extenuating Circumstances Committee. As cases are reviewed on a case-by-case basis we are unable to guarantee that an applicant's extenuating circumstances will be accepted by the Panel. If the extenuating circumstances are accepted the application will progress to the next stage of our Admissions process. All documentation will need to be submitted by the application deadline of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Applicants who have experienced significant extenuating circumstances between 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 that may have affected their studies should submit supporting documentation (as detailed above) by the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023. Information received after this date will not be considered.

### **Interviews**

- We do not make an offer without first interviewing an applicant.
- Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs) will be held in February and March 2023.
- All qualifications detailed in the application form will need to be verified at interview. Applicants are required to bring the original copies of their academic qualification certificates to interview. Only original certificates will be considered sufficient for this purpose. Failure to do so will be considered in our selection processes. Please note that letters from schools and exam boards will **NOT** be accepted.

### **Decisions and Feedback**

All applicants will be notified of our decision by the end of March. Requests for feedback should be made in writing to [dhtenq@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:dhtenq@liverpool.ac.uk) before the end of May 2023. We will not respond to feedback requests after this date. We will endeavour to respond to requests as soon as is practicably possible.

### **Other department specific information**

- All applicants must be 18 years old by the 1<sup>st</sup> October in the year of entry to the programme.
- We use GCSE grades, or equivalent, when shortlisting for interview so it is important to provide full details of these examinations and failure to do so will lead to rejection of the application.
- Applicants who have not met the academic conditions of an offer but are seeking a remark will have their place deferred until the next academic year of entry, if the grade required is confirmed.
- There should be evidence of recent academic endeavour i.e. in the last 5 years.
- We are unable to accept applications from individuals who are enrolled on another university degree course unless that course will be completed, and the results known, by the end of August prior to the start of the dental course. If an applicant has commenced a degree but not completed it, full details of the circumstances for non-completion should be submitted to [dhdteng@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:dhdteng@liverpool.ac.uk) by 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023.
- The School of Dentistry tries to accommodate students with disability or learning support needs, but it can only accept students who would be able to practise dentistry or dental therapy without detriment to patients. Students who have a disability that is likely to significantly affect their ability to practise dentistry or dental hygiene/dental therapy, or who will need significant support to enable them to do so, are encouraged to write to the admissions tutor at [dhdteng@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:dhdteng@liverpool.ac.uk) to discuss this informally in the first instance. As far as possible, admissions procedures are kept separate from Fitness to Train assessments which are carried out by the University Occupational Health Department for all students entering the School.
- The School of Dentistry has an obligation to undertake health screening of all prospective dental students or dental therapy students. Any offer of a place is conditional on completion of a health questionnaire and a satisfactory assessment of fitness to train from the University Occupational Health Service. This includes some obligatory immunisations and blood tests, in line with recommendations by the Department of Health.
- All potential students need to undergo an enhanced DBS check before admittance to the programme.

**Applicants are advised to check the website for the latest information prior to application and throughout the admissions cycle.**