

School of Medicine

A100: Guidelines for applicants with non-traditional qualifications (Access courses)

Access to Higher Education (Medicine) qualifications from Local FE colleges (City of Liverpool, Wirral Metropolitan, and Southport) are considered. We also consider qualifications from Manchester College, The Staffordshire Access to HE course (Medicine and Health professionals), West Anglia College of Medicine and other Access to Higher Education Diplomas (Medicine), which comply with the QAAs subject descriptor for Medicine (developed in collaboration with the Medical Schools Council (MSC) selection alliance).

At Liverpool University, our School of Health Sciences offers our own foundation programme:

<http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/foundation-to-health-studies-year-0/overview/> Applicants considering the Foundation Route must consult the guidelines on the Health Sciences web-page as well as the medicine guidelines for the Foundation Route (**Foundation to Human and Animal Health Professions (Medicine route)**)

Applicants offering non-traditional qualifications are assessed on an individual basis. However applicants offering an **Access** qualification should usually offer:

- A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade B (score 6) or higher (or equivalent). These must include English Language, Maths, and Science (either Core & Additional or separate Biology/Chemistry/Physics). The qualifications should preferably be achieved at one sitting. A GCSE score of 6 is deemed equivalent to a B grade, 7 an A grade and 8/9 as A*. **AND**
- 45 level 3 credits at distinction (or equivalent) in the approved Access to Medicine course. The 45 Level 3 credits will usually need to offer at least 15 Level 3 credits in Biology, 15 in Chemistry and 15 in at least one other subject, but may differ depending on the course offered e.g. a typical offer for an MSC approved Access to HE (Medicine) course will vary depending on its content

Additional Information

- Applicants offering access type qualifications often have previous qualifications and these will be taken into consideration. Access taken in place of resitting A levels is usually not recommended.
- **Please ensure that you provide, via the UCAS form, a full breakdown of academic and employment history. Failure to do so will result in the application being rejected on the basis of insufficient information.**
- Depending on individual circumstances, applicants may be required to demonstrate a competitive score of at least 15 points from nine GCSEs in line with other A100 applicants. Scoring is as outlined in our Departmental Supplement to the Admissions Policy.
- All non-graduate applicants applying to the A100 programme must take UCAT. Details at www.ucat.ac.uk and www.liverpool.ac.uk/medicine/study-with-us/undergraduate/admissions-information/
- Graduates (i.e. those who already hold a minimum of a good 2:1 honours degree, or who are on, or about to enter the final year of a degree programme and have a degree award pending) offering an Access course will be considered against the criteria set for graduates and will need to sit the GAMSAT test. Please consult the guidelines for graduates which can be found on this web-site at www.liverpool.ac.uk/medicine/study-with-us/undergraduate/admissions-information/

Other attributes:

Evidence of appropriate experience, aptitude, and communication:

Candidates must demonstrate suitable evidence of:

- health care career awareness/insight **and**
- a caring contribution to the community **and**
- a critical, coherent, and informative approach to written and verbal communication, including reflection on their previous academic achievements **and**
- the values that embody and underpin good healthcare practice.

Please note:

- Applicants **must** read our Departmental Supplement to the Admissions Policy. Applications made through UCAS in the normal way. An **additional on-line form** may need to be completed by certain groups of applicants and those applying via the access to medicine route are encouraged to use this form to outline extenuating circumstances in relation to poor prior academic history. Please refer to www.liverpool.ac.uk/medicine/study-with-us/undergraduate/admissions-information/ for details.
- The above indicative criteria are the usual **minimum** required. Invitation to interview is highly competitive and both academic **and** non-academic criteria inform the selection process. Because of the competition, meeting the minimum academic and non-academic requirements does not guarantee that you will receive an interview or offer. No candidate will be made an offer without interview. The Medical School reserves the right to vary offer conditions depending on a candidate's application.
- If an applicant fails to achieve a place on the A100 programme they may only make one further consecutive application to the programme.
- Applications may be considered from students entering the final year of study in degree programmes. However, please be advised that we do have specific criteria for A100 graduate applicants who are applying with pending or achieved degrees.
- We do not usually consider transfers into the medicine programmes but we commit to reviewing all new applications on an individual basis.
- Applicants should usually have achieved their GCSEs prior to application. Further details at: www.liverpool.ac.uk/medicine/study-with-us/undergraduate/admissions-information/
- **UCAS, Rosehill, New Barn Lane, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL52 3LZ, Tel: 0870 1122211 Web-site: www.ucas.com**