

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 College, Halton, Hugh Baird, Wirral Metropolitan and Southport) are considered. We also consider qualifications from Manchester College, the Staffordshire Access to HE course (Medicine and Health Professionals) and West Anglia College of Medicine. At Liverpool University, our School of Health Sciences offers our own Year 0 programme
<http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/foundation-to-health-studies-year-0/overview/>

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 or higher (or equivalent). These must include English, 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 and a 7 an A grade, **AND**
- The required level (usually distinction or equivalent) in the approved Access to Medicine course. The Level 3 components of the Access course 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

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 as outlined in our Departmental Supplement to the Admissions Policy.
- All non-graduate applicants applying to the A100 programme must take UKCAT. Details at www.ukcat.ac.uk and www.liverpool.ac.uk/medicine/undergraduate/admissions
- 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/undergraduate/admissions
- Any AS or A2 qualifications held (irrespective of subject) should usually be at a minimum of grade C at first attempt.
- Applicants without AS or A2 qualifications should demonstrate excellent attainment in vocational/professional qualifications, at a higher level than GCSE.

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 communication, including reflection on their previous academic achievements and
- the values that embody and underpin good healthcare practice
- In addition, candidates with non-traditional qualifications will usually have relevant, significant and substantial workplace experience, usually in paid employment

Please note:

- 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 offer of an 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.
- The selection procedure at Liverpool is a three stage process which is competitive at each stage. The threshold for progressing through each stage varies from year to year depending upon the quality and quantity of applications that year. No candidate will be made an offer without interview. Further details of our selection procedure at: <http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/medicine/undergraduate/admissions>
- Applications should be made through UCAS in the normal way:
UCAS, Rosehill, New Barn Lane, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL52 3LZ, Tel: 0870 1122211 Web-site: www.ucas.com