Dear Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/133)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request reference K/21/133. Your request was submitted over two emails, the first of which was received on 12 March 2021, with the second being received on 15 March 2021.

Your first email read:

“I am writing to request for some information regarding the Dental Surgery course under the freedom of information act.

1. For the 2018, 2019 and 2020 entry cycles, how many students were enrolled via clearing for each year?

2. Can a candidate who has been rejected post-interview still get onto the course via clearing?

3. How are students prioritised through clearing? I.e is it first come first serve

4. Is the BMAT a requirement for going through via clearing?

5. Do candidates have to do an interview if they go through clearing? Is there a telephone interview?”

Your second email read:

“I’d just like to add on another question to my request still in regards to the Dental surgery course.

How many students were admitted on to the course for 2020 entry (current first year students)? I heard that the university took on more people than the usual amount (72), what was the reason behind this? Also, will the increased intake also apply to the 2021 entry cohort aswell?”

The University of Leeds holds some of this information. For your convenience we have responded to each of your questions in turn below.

1. For the 2018, 2019 and 2020 entry cycles, how many students were enrolled via clearing for each year?

We only retain this information for the most recent entry year. As such, we are only able to provide this information in relation to the 2020 entry cycle, when we took one candidate through clearing onto the A200 programme.
2. Can a candidate who has been rejected post-interview still get onto the course via clearing?

Yes, however if you attended an interview with us, your interview score will be taken into account.

3. How are students prioritised through clearing? I.e is it first come first serve.

While not first-come first served, when we enter clearing it is usually only for a very short period of time (not longer than two hours). Candidates are then shortlisted for an interview based on their academic profile, educational background, and personal statement. Where they applied to us, we will also review their BMAT and interview score if applicable.

4. Is the BMAT a requirement for going through via clearing?

No, however if they sat the BMAT we will take this into account.

5. Do candidates have to do an interview if they go through clearing? Is there a telephone interview?

Yes, we conduct interviews on the day, typically by phone although we may use a video call.

6. How many students were admitted on to the course for 2020 entry (current first year students)?

7. I heard that the university took on more people than the usual amount (72), what was the reason behind this? Also, will the increased intake also apply to the 2021 entry cohort as well?

We address these questions together.

A total of 97 students were admitted on to the course for 2020 entry. This was in line with what we would expect to take in a normal year. We have not yet received confirmation from Higher Education England regarding student quotas for 2021 entry and as such do not hold any recorded information on the anticipated number of students who will be admitted to the course for 2021 entry.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions about this email, however, please do not hesitate to contact us on foi@leeds.ac.uk

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you can request an Internal Review. Requests for Internal Review should be made in writing using the following contact information:

Post: Mr D Wardle
Deputy Secretary
Requests for Internal Review should be submitted within 40 working days of receiving the University’s response to your request. Further information about how the University manages Freedom of Information requests and about our complaints procedure is also available on our website (www.leeds.ac.uk).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review/complaints procedure provided by the University. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Chloe Wilkins
Freedom of Information Officer

Secretariat
University of Leeds