

From: Freedom of Information

Sent: 25 June 2021 15:11

To:

Subject: Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/258)

Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/258)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 2 June 2021, reference K/21/258.

Your request read:

“As per the Freedom of information, i was hoping to to ask you if you could please provide the following information regarding the Medicine and Surgery with a Gateway Year at your university for the years from 2018 to 2021’s application cycles:

1. Number of candidates that applied each year?
2. Number of candidates that received invitations to interview
3. Number of students that received offers from interviews
4. The average UCAT/BMAT scores and bands (for ucat) of candidates invited to interviews
5. The average predicted A level /Scottish higher grades of students invited to interviews
6. The average GCSEs of students invited to interviews
7. How + when the personal statement is weighed during the application
8. Whether or not you only accept students from widening access/contextual backgrounds or do you also accept students that have not studied sciences at A level

I would also appreciate if you could provide me with the following information for your Medicine 5 Year course A100 for the 2020 and 2021 Application Cycles:

1. Number of candidates that applied each year?
2. Number of candidates that received invitations to interview
3. Number of students that received offers from interviews
4. The average UCAT/BMAT scores + bands (for ucat) of candidates invited to interviews
5. The average predicted A level /Scottish higher grades of students invited to interviews
6. The average GCSEs of students invited to interviews
7. How + when the personal statement is weighed during the application”

The University of Leeds some of this information.

Gateway Year to Medicine MBChB

This course did not commence until 2020 and therefore there is no application data for either 2018 or 2019.

1. Number of candidates that applied each year?

2020 – 141 applications
2021 – 329 applications

2. Number of candidates that received invitations to interview

2020 - 56
2021 – 126

3. Number of students that received offers from interviews

2020 – 20
2021 – 60

4. The average UCAT/BMAT scores and bands (for ucat) of candidates invited to interviews

UCAT is not used at the University of Leeds. A combination score using academic achievement and BMAT is used to determine a rank for shortlisting to interview. We therefore do not hold information regarding BMAT scores in the format you have requested. The BMAT raw scores are typically used in the following manner: All scores from applicants are put into a normal distribution curve. Those candidates who are in the highest 20% receive a score of five out of five, and those who are in the lowest 20% receive a score of one out of five. Everything in between is scored according to where they are placed in this distribution. As such, we do not retain raw scores and cannot, therefore, answer this question.

5. The average predicted A level /Scottish higher grades of students invited to interviews.

6. The average GCSEs of students invited to interviews

We address these questions together. Typically, we would not retain the GCSE or A-Level (or equivalent) grades of candidates who were unsuccessful in their applications. We are therefore unable to calculate the average predicted grades of students invited to interview for 2020 cycle as not all of those invited to interview were successful in their applications. We can advise that all candidates who met the academic minimum requirements were invited to interview.

7. How + when the personal statement is weighed during the application

The personal statement is not used in the application.

8. Whether or not you only accept students from widening access/contextual backgrounds or do you also accept students that have not studied sciences at A level

For the Gateway programme we only accept students who meet the widening participation criteria. We do not accept candidates who have not studied sciences at A-Level.

Medicine and Surgery MBChB

1. Number of candidates that applied each year?

2020 – 2427

2021 – 2570

2. Number of candidates that received invitations to interview

2020 -1012

2021 – 960

3. Number of students that received offers from interviews

2020 – 433

2021 – 304

4. The average UCAT/BMAT scores + bands (for ucat) of candidates invited to interviews

UCAT is not used at the University of Leeds. A combination score using academic achievement and BMAT is used to determine a rank for shortlisting to interview. We therefore do not hold information regarding BMAT scores in the format you have requested. The BMAT raw scores are typically used in the following manner: All scores from applicants are put into a normal distribution curve. Those candidates who are in the highest 20% receive a score of five out of five, and those who are in the lowest 20% receive a score of one out of five. Everything in between is scored according to where they are placed in this distribution. As such, we do not retain raw scores and cannot, therefore, answer this question.

5. The average predicted A level /Scottish higher grades of students invited to interviews

6. The average GCSEs of students invited to interviews

We address these questions together. Typically, we would not retain the GCSE or A-Level (or equivalent) grades of candidates who were unsuccessful in their applications. We are therefore unable to calculate the average predicted grades of

students invited to interview for 2020 cycle as they were not all successful in their applications. We are unable to calculate the average predicted grades as grades are converted into an academic score, the system is capped at an A-grade and therefore the average grade cannot be calculated.

We can, however, advise that the average GCSE for students invited to interview for 2021 cycle using our academic scoring system is 20.3.

7. How + when the personal statement is weighed during the application

The personal statement is not used in the application.

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
The University of Leeds
Leeds
LS2 9JT

Email: foi@leeds.ac.uk

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