

Admissions Policy

Policy on admission and entry to the 4 year graduate entry MB ChB course based at the Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick.

1. The University believes that a diverse student population contributes to a challenging and stimulating learning environment. We therefore welcome undergraduate applications from all candidates with the potential to succeed at Warwick, whatever their background. We are committed to equality of opportunity and aim to avoid unfair discrimination on whatever grounds, including disability, gender, age and ethnic background.

General Requirements

2. Applicants must normally have attained or hope to attain an upper second degree classification in a Biological Sciences or a degree with a substantial component of biology, including cell biology, molecular biology, genetics and biochemistry. Applicants with both a lower second and an appropriate doctoral qualification may also be considered at the discretion of the Admissions Tutor.
3. The Medical School receives many more applications than it has places available and the admission process is therefore competitive. Course selectors consider applications on their own merits and in competition with others. They will select candidates for attendance at selection centres on the basis of the suitability of the candidate's academic qualifications, UCAS personal statements, academic references and the Medical School Admissions Test (MSAT) scores. MSAT is administered on behalf of the Warwick Medical School by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). Details of the test can be found at the following web addresses: <http://www.acer.edu.au> and <http://www.msat.uk.org>
4. Two selectors will normally be involved in a decision not to offer a place. Those applicants who fail to meet the specific minimum academic requirements as laid down in paragraph 2 may be rejected by a single selector or a member of the central University Admission Team. The Admissions Tutor, if requested, will attempt to provide general information on the reasons for the unsuccessful application but will not usually be able to give detailed feedback. The decision of the Admissions Tutor is usually final.
5. Any applicant may be asked to attend a selection centre or to submit additional application materials.
- 6.a. In cases where information of a relevant, non-academic nature, leads a selector to recommend that an application be rejected, the application will be considered by a standing committee which will be convened to advise the Vice Chancellor on the admission or rejection of the applicant. This procedure may be invoked where information is available concerning activities outside the law or the expression of beliefs which prima facie present a clear and immediate danger for infraction of the law.
- 6.b. In cases as outlined in 6a above the Warwick Medical School Fitness to Practise Committee (FtP) will also consider the application. The Fitness to Practise procedure will be invoked where information is available concerning current or spent criminal conviction(s) and/or caution(s) contained in a Criminal Records Bureau Check or a health related issue that has been disclosed by the applicant. The Fitness to Practice Committee considers only the information relevant to the

issue under consideration and is independent of the course selectors' judgement regarding entry requirements.

- 6.c All candidates who accept an offer of a place to study the MB ChB are required to provide the University with an Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau check. Application details are sent out to appropriate candidates by University House staff.
7. The University statutes give the Vice-Chancellor, in exceptional circumstances and with the concurrence of Senate, the power to refuse to admit any person as a student of the University without assigning any reason.
8. Warwick Medical School will not accept applications from candidates who wish to defer their entry. Deferred entry may only be granted by the Admissions Tutor in exceptional circumstances once an offer has been made and accepted.
9. The MB ChB course is only open to graduates of the Biological Sciences or degrees with substantial components of biology and any applicant meeting this criteria is considered on their individual merit. There are no set entry requirements for applicants although evidence of recent academic study is likely to be an advantage.
- 10.a. Applications from students with additional needs are considered on the same academic grounds as all the others but candidates are asked to discuss their likely requirements with the University in advance., *In some cases paragraph 6b above will apply.* The University, via the Senior Tutor's office, will give advice concerning the suitability of the campus, the degree programme and the equipment and/or support available. The office may be contacted on (024) 7652 3761.
- 10.b. In a small number of cases, we may ask candidates who have indicated a recent, recurring or serious health problem to allow us to request a medical report on their condition. *This may also occur if the FtP procedure is invoked under paragraph 6b.* These reports do not form part of the academic selection process and will not be available to anyone except the University Occupational Health Officer and the FtP Committee if convened. The Registrar is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the University is able to make adequate provision for students with additional needs and for keeping a record of the exceptional cases where a candidate is refused admission on the grounds of disability.
11. As the Warwick Medical School gives equal consideration to all applications received by UCAS by the 15 October deadline, it may be some time before a decision can be made on an application. As MSAT is not taken until November and the results not fed back to Warwick Medical School until late January candidates will not be called to selection centres until February/March each year. All candidates must attend a selection centre at either the Warwick Medical School or at Queen Mary's School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of London before an offer is considered. Assessors and course selectors cannot make official offers at the selection centre.
12. Up to date information on an application can be obtained from the Postgraduate Admissions Team at any time and the Team will notify most candidates, via UCAS, of the outcome of their applications within five working days of a decision having been made.

Overseas Applications

13. Overseas qualifications are welcome provided that they are considered equivalent to our degree requirements.
14. The University of Warwick sets the English language entry criteria for all University programmes. These are required for all non-British students. Students who have studied at a UK university do not require an English language score. (To pass the UK degree they must have good understanding of English). All European students must supply an English language qualification (unless they are from UK/Eire).

TOEFL (Paper)	TOEFL (Computer)	IELTS	WELT	TRAINING
620	260+	7.0	ABB / BBB	No pre-sessional required
600	250	6.5	BBC / BCC	Five weeks pre-sessional recommended
550	213	6.0	CCC	Five weeks pre-sessional required
500	173	5.5		Ten weeks pre-sessional required

TOEFL - Princetown Test of English as a Foreign Language (some countries have converted to a computer based test).

IELTS - British Council International English Language Testing System

WELT - Warwick CELTE English Language Test

English Language information is issued by the Admissions Office (AO). The criteria for entry are 620 TOEFL, 7.0 IELTS or Grade ABB/BBB WELT. The pre-sessional English language courses are provided by the Centre for English Language Teacher Education (CELTE) at the University. It would be impossible for students scoring lower than the 620 requirement to attend the pre-sessional sessions as they run in September of each year prior to the standard University start date. The first Medical School semester begins in the second week of September. Students may be able to study at another institution but they are required to submit a standard test result as detailed above.

Widening Access and Student Diversity

15. Warwick Medical School is committed to ensure that any student with the potential to succeed on the MB ChB feels able to apply to us. We are committed to providing appropriate support to our students academically, pastorally and financially. We do not operate a quota for students from groups currently under-represented in Higher Education but we very much want to promote the diversity of our student population. All applications are considered on merit.

Open Days and University Visits

16. Warwick Medical School runs two open days at various times of the year, usually January and June. Details are given on our web site at <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/study/ugr/od/>. We encourage all potential candidates to attend one of our on site open days, if possible (even if they have attended a general Open Day or have previously studied at the University of Warwick, as they provide a good opportunity to visit the School and learn more about the MB ChB, as well as meet academic tutors and students. Representatives from the Admissions Office as well as Warwick Medical School staff visit other Universities throughout the year to provide information to first and second year undergraduates.

Other Information

17. When you apply to the Warwick Medical School the central University administration will classify you as either a home or an overseas student for fees purposes. This classification is often straightforward and is derived from the information you supply in the Residential Status of the UCAS form. However when these details are insufficient to enable a decision to be reached then you will be asked to complete a fees questionnaire. The questionnaire plays no part in the academic selection process as admission to the MB ChB is based solely on academic criteria. As any offer Warwick Medical School makes, through UCAS, to an applicant is the start of a contract between the applicant and the University it is important that both parties are clear about the fees for which they will be liable if the place is confirmed.
18. If an applicant has any questions or needs clarification regarding the University's Policy on Admissions, he or she is welcome to contact the Postgraduate Admissions Team:

Students Admissions Office
University House
University of Warwick
Coventry
CV4 8UW

Web site address: <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/academicoffice//contacts/SRAO>

It should be noted that the Undergraduate Prospectus is prepared more than 18 months prior to entry to a degree programme. Whilst every effort is made to ensure its accuracy, some changes in the subsequent period are inevitable. Up-to-date advice will be available from the Postgraduate Admissions Team