

Lancaster Medical School Admission Requirements

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

Access to Higher Education (Medicine) qualifications from the following local FE colleges are considered: Liverpool Community, Wirral Metropolitan, Southport. Also considered are: Access to Higher Education (Medicine) qualifications from Manchester College and West Anglia College of Medicine; the Staffordshire Access to HE course (Medicine and Health Professionals); the A900 Pre-medical Studies course at Lancaster University (<http://www.lancs.ac.uk/shm/bls/teaching/ug/premedA900.htm>).

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 the following required subjects: Core & Additional Science (or Biology, Chemistry, and Physics), English Language and Mathematics
- The qualifications should preferably be achieved at one sitting.

AND

- The required level (usually distinction or equivalent) in the approved Access to Medicine course. The Level 3 components of the Access course will need to offer at least 15 Level 3 credits in Biology, 15 in Chemistry and 15 in at least one other subject.

Additional Information

- Applicants offering Access type qualifications often have previous qualifications and these will be taken into consideration. Access instead of resitting A-levels is usually not recommended.
- Depending on individual circumstances, applicants may be required to demonstrate a score of 15 points from nine GCSEs in line with other A100 applicants.
- A900 students are guaranteed an interview for year 1 of the MBChB programme at Lancaster University.
- Any AS or A2 qualifications held (irrespective of subject) should usually be at a minimum of grade C at first attempt.
- Applicants offering an Access-type qualification to compensate for having studied the wrong subjects at A-level are usually expected to offer three A-levels and a 4th subject at AS-level.
- Applicants without AS or A2 qualifications should demonstrate excellent attainment in vocational/professional qualifications, at a higher level than GCSE.
- The Admissions Tutor will comment on a pre-Access curriculum vitae.

Non-academic criteria

Applicants must demonstrate suitable evidence of:

- Relevant work experience – what have you done to establish that medicine is the right career path for you?
- Insight into a medical career and your suitability, drawn from your work (and voluntary) experience.
- A commitment to society: working for the benefit of others, including voluntary work or significant caring roles
- Effective written communication skills: a coherent, well-structured personal statement.

Please note:

- The above indicative criteria are the **minimum** required. Invitation to interview is highly competitive and both academic and non-academic criteria inform the selection process. Successful applicants often exceed the minimum requirements in both.
- No candidate will be made an offer without interview.
- Applications should be made through UCAS in the normal way: www.ucas.com