

Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Admissions Policy 2027

1. Introduction and values

- 1.1. Queen Mary University of London is a leading research-intensive University with a history that stretches back to 1785, and our founding institutions were established to provide “hope and opportunity”. True to our founder’s vision and Queen Mary 2030 strategy, we continue to open doors of opportunity to students with academic ability, potential to succeed and create an inclusive environment where they can flourish. Queen Mary is a global university with proud East London roots, world-class education and an outstanding student experience, co-created with our students. Our staff and students represent over 170 nationalities, and, among the Russell Group of universities, we are leading the way in inclusivity¹.
- 1.2. We are committed to provide a fair, efficient and professional admissions service which complies with legislative and regulatory requirements, aligns with sector good practice, and we aim to demonstrate principles consistent with the [Universities UK and Guild HE Fair admissions code of practice](#).

2. Purpose

- 2.1. The purpose of this policy is to provide comprehensive, accurate and timely information about the programmes as listed in the scope and entry requirements as printed in prospectuses and our [online course finder](#) and the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry admissions [website](#). We aim to provide up-to-date information in all our publications, but as printed prospectuses are published long in advance of the start of programmes, we recommend that applicants check details of entry requirements on our website before applying.

3. Scope

This policy applies to admission to all undergraduate Medicine, Dentistry and Certificate in Clinical Foundation Studies programmes at Queen Mary University of London. All other undergraduate, postgraduate (taught and research) are subject to separate policies.

- Five-year MBBS programme (A100)
- Five-year BDS programme (A200)

¹ The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2021.

- Four year Graduate Entry MBBS programme (A101)
- Certificate in Clinical Foundation Studies (A120)
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS)/Oral Medicine programme (A30X)
- Three year Direct Clinical Entry (International Medical University Malaysia (IMU) and St Andrews Transfers) (A300)

4. Policy details section

4.1. Equality and Diversity

Queen Mary University of London aims to be ‘the most inclusive university of its kind, anywhere’, as illustrated by our 2030 strategy. As such, we take our responsibility to promote equality and inclusion in line with the 2010 Equality Act and Public Sector Equality Duty very seriously.

In the recruitment and selection of students the only consideration must be that the individual meets, or is likely to meet, the requirements of the programme. These requirements being met, no applicant will be discriminated against on the basis of their gender, race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality (within current legislation), disability, sexual orientation, marital status, caring or parental responsibilities, age, or beliefs on any matters such as religion and politics.

Declaring a Disability

- a. We welcome applicants with disabilities, and we encourage applicants to disclose your needs as early as possible and Queen Mary aims to support you in a number of ways both before and after applying.
- b. Our [Disability and Dyslexia team](#) (DDS) offers information, advice and guidance about possible support that may be of help. Their webpages contain detailed information about the type of support Queen Mary may provide during your studies, and links to useful information.
- c. Information about disabilities, specific learning disabilities or mental health issues disclosed by applicants at the point of application does not influence the academic selection decision, which is made independently.
- d. Applicants applying for programmes within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at London or Malta are encouraged to seek advice by contacting the admissions team by 1st October in the year of application to ensure reasonable adjustments can be considered should applicants be shortlisted for interview. Applicants who disclose a disability will be contacted prior to interview to ensure we can accommodate any specific needs. Candidates admitted to many of our medical and dental programmes will need to be eligible for registration by the GMC and or the GDC on graduation.

- e. All other applicants are encouraged to disclose their needs at the point of application and to contact our Disability and Dyslexia team (DDS) directly to discuss their support requirements during the admissions process.

4.2. **Application process**

All applications must be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS), by the October Undergraduate Medicine and Dentistry UCAS deadline each year. The only exceptions to this are students who are applying for the St Andrews – Queen Mary University of London route who should make an application to St Andrews and International Medical University (IMU). Dental graduates applying for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS)/Oral Medicine programme (A30X) should apply directly. The deadline for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS)/Oral Medicine programme (A30X) is the last weekday in November each year.

4.3. **Entry Requirements for MBBS (A100 and A101) and BDS (A200)**

For the most up to date information regarding our entry requirements, please see our [website](#)

4.4. **Qualifications not accepted for entry**

The following qualifications are not considered for entry into Medicine or Dentistry, this list is not exhaustive but names common qualifications:

- BTEC HNC/HND
- GNVQ/AVCE/Applied A levels
- City and Guilds
- Open University course credits
- Foundation, pre-medical/dental programmes or access courses
- Equivalent high school qualifications from other countries not listed on our website.

4.5. **English Language**

Applicants are required to meet our published English Language Requirements. Our acceptable English Language qualifications are available on our [website](#).

4.6. **Extenuating circumstances**

Extenuating Circumstances must be applied for in advance of making a UCAS application for prospective applicants who:

- Do not meet our minimum GCSE requirements.

- Graduates who take longer than 3 years to complete their undergraduate degree, or longer than 4 years to complete their 4-year integrated master's degree due to interruption or re-sits.
- Retake AS or A level year or take longer than 2 years to complete A levels.

A level (or equivalent qualification) re-sit applicants must have applied for MBBS/BDS at Queen Mary University of London in the previous admissions cycle to be considered. Previous UCAS ID or QM Applicant ID must be provided on the extenuating circumstances application form.

A level (or equivalent qualification) re-sit applicants must have achieved at least BBB (or equivalent) at their first attempt.

The completed Extenuating Circumstances application form and all supporting documentation must be received by the end of September.

No late Extenuating Circumstances application forms or supporting documentation will be considered after the end of September under any circumstances.

To be considered, applicants must complete the [Extenuating Circumstances](#) form and provide as much relevant supporting evidence as required to support their request and submit this with all evidence to smdadmissions@qmul.ac.uk.

5. Policy details section

5.1. Maxillofacial Surgery/Oral Medicine programme (A30X)

For the most up to date information regarding our entry requirements, please see our [website](#)

5.2. Three year Direct Clinical Entry (International Medical University Malaysia IMU and St Andrews Transfers) (A300)

Students from IMU who wish to apply to London in the 3rd year can apply to IMU under their local scheme.

Students looking to join St Andrews and Barts (Queen Mary) route should apply to St Andrews, directly. Following the 3 years at St Andrews, students who are selected from this route join the Year 3 of the Queen Mary course for a further 3 clinical years. For further information, please see further information [here](#)

5.3. Interviews (A100, A101 and A200)

Given the intense competition for places to study medicine and dentistry, not all applicants are invited to interview, and no offers will be given without an interview. The university may offer either Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI) or panel

interviews comprised of at least two individuals, all of which can be conducted either in person or virtually.

Interviews usually take place between January and March. If you are invited to an interview, you will be provided with further details about the expected interview format and guidance of when and where to report to. Please feel free to contact the Admissions Office if you have any concerns or questions in advance of the interview.

The interview is used to assess:

- Motivation and reality of a career in medicine or dentistry
- Initiative, resilience and maturity
- Teamwork
- Organisation and problem-solving abilities
- Contribution to university life
- Communication skills

While we are fully committed to ensuring that students with disabilities have access to the reasonable adjustments to which they are entitled under the terms of the Equality Act (2010) we have reviewed our interview processes to make it inclusive of the needs of students who would usually request extra time for reading and writing exercises in line with our stated strategic goal of being “the most inclusive university of its kind, anywhere”. As such, we would anticipate the interviews being inclusive of most candidates’ access requirements.

5.4. **Personal statement and reference**

Personal statements and references are not weighted or scored but provide the Admissions team with evidence that applicants have a genuine interest in the programme to which they are applying. Personal statements should be specific to the subject to which the applicant has applied, or the entire application may be rejected. If an applicant is currently in study or recently graduated, an academic reference must be provided. If no reference is received with an applicant’s UCAS application, the entire application may be rejected.

Personal statements should provide evidence of commitment to, and realistic appreciation of, the academic, and emotional demands of a medical or dental course and career. It is expected that applicants will not merely be applying because they are ‘good at science’, or under family or peer pressure. Exceptional academic achievement does not guarantee success in the application process. Applicants must ensure that it is an honest reflection of their strengths and interests. Personal statements must be written entirely by the applicants

themselves. Personal statements showing evidence of plagiarism may cause the application to be rejected, irrespective of all other achievements.

In addition to academic ability, selectors will consider interests, talents and the contribution applicants could make to our programme and university. They will also bear in mind the applicant's suitability as a future member of the medical or dental profession. Good communication skills and the ability to work as a part of a team are essential strengths for a doctor or dentist.

5.5. **Work experience**

Medicine: We require applicants to understand what a career in medicine involves. The interview will explore your understanding of the realities of a career in medicine, it is therefore essential that applicants gain people-focused experience of providing care or service before submitting their application.

It is important to remember that work experience can take many forms. It can be a voluntary opportunity or a paid job. While shadowing a doctor can be useful, we understand that this is not attainable for everyone. Volunteering in a residential care home, or with a local charity is just as good a source of experience.

Dentistry: You should be able to demonstrate that you are making an informed choice to study dentistry through career exploration. To do this, you should be able to demonstrate knowledge of the dental profession and be able to explain what has attracted you to the profession. You should be clear about the possible career opportunities and how these compare to other healthcare professions. Ideally, you should have experience working, volunteering, or observing in healthcare environments, particularly within general dental practice.

5.6. **International applicants**

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry has a capped number of places for international students on our medical and dental programmes (A100 and A200). The 4-year Graduate Entry MBBS programme (A101) is only open to those who qualify for home fees.

International applicants are ranked against other international applicants in the selection process.

5.7. **Deferred Entry**

Applications for deferred entry for A100, A101 and A200 requested through UCAS by the Undergraduate Medicine and Dentistry UCAS deadline will be accepted and applicants assessed in the cycle in which they apply. Applicants who apply by the UCAS deadline but do not request deferred entry until after application will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

5.8. Selection process (A100, A101 and A200)

A range of criteria is used to assess applicants in the **first** shortlisting:

- Applied by the UCAS deadline stipulated for Medicine and Dentistry
- Predicted or achieved the minimum academic [entry requirements](#)
- Sit [UCAT](#) in the year of application
- Achieve an overall score within the fourth decile range or above and (SJT Bands 1-3) in the UCAT.

Applications which do not meet these minimum requirements will be rejected at this point.

A range of criteria is used to assess applicants in the **second** shortlisting (selection for interview):

- Met all **first** shortlisting criteria
- Applicants will then be selected for interview based on a weighted score compared to other applicants who apply in the same year, and may be comprised of UCAT score, UCAS tariff of entry qualifications predicted or achieved, or weighted scoring of degrees for graduates.

Applications which do not fall within the weighted score for interview will be rejected at this point.

A range of criteria is used to assess applicants in the **third** shortlisting (offers):

- Selection after interview may consider all assessment factors: interview score, situational judgement test, UCAS tariff of entry qualifications predicted or achieved, or weighted scoring of degree and UCAT score.

5.9.1 Contextual offers

For the contextual offer requirement for MBBS (A100) and BDS (A200) see below:

[MBBS \(A100\)](#)

[BDS \(A200\)](#)

More information can be found on our contextualised admissions page

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/entry/contextualised-admissions/>

5.9.2 Age requirement

All students for the undergraduate medical and dental degree programmes must be 18 years or over by the start of the course (mid-September). Applicants who will be under the age of 18 by the start of the course can apply for deferred entry so

that they will meet the minimum age requirement by the start of the course. Applicants who apply who will be under the age of 18 by the start of the course and who are offered a place, will be offered deferred a place for the following academic year to meet the age requirement.

5.9.3 **University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT)**

All applicants to Medicine and Dentistry programmes are required to take the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) or (UCAT ANZ). UCAT exemptions/waivers are not granted under **any** circumstances. If you are unable to take the UCAT for any reason, our advice will be to reapply for the following application cycle. Applicants will be rejected if their UCAT score is below the 4th decile in the year in which they apply. Applicants with an SJT Band 4 score will be rejected. There is no guarantee that you will be offered an interview if you score above the fourth decile.

Applicants for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS)/Oral Medicine programme (A30X), or IMU and St Andrews Direct Clinical Entrants (A300) are not required to take the UCAT.

5.9.4 **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance**

Applicants who have any convictions, cautions, reprimands or final warnings that are not protected or do not meet the new filtering rules as defined by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as amended in 2013) should declare them on the UCAS application. The amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975 (2013) provide that certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected' and are not subject to disclosure to employers and cannot be considered.

Applicants who have been offered a place will be asked for further information about any criminal convictions, cautions or other punishments that they may have disclosed. The consideration of an applicant's criminal record is entirely separate from the selection process for the undergraduate medical or dental courses at Queen Mary University of London to ensure that there can be no bias in the selection process. The requested information will be processed in line with the university's criminal convictions policy.

All offers are made subject to satisfactory clearance by the DBS. An Enhanced Clearance check will be required for UK based applicants. The cost of the checks and registration process must be paid by the applicant. Applicants who fail to meet the deadline for submitting their finalised DBS applications will be rejected even if they have fulfilled the academic conditions of their offers.

Non-UK based applicants will be required to undertake in-country police check and submit the outcome to the Admissions team by the deadline. Once in the UK and enrolled on the programme, applicants will also need to make a DBS application for an Enhanced Clearance check before starting clinical placements.

Applicants in receipt of offers are subject to an ongoing obligation to disclose any criminal convictions or other punishment received since they completed their UCAS form and up until the point they enrol on their course. In such cases, applicants should contact the Admissions team. Failure to do so may result in offers being withdrawn or de-registration from their programme. Failure to make known matters that subsequently appear on a DBS check may be a disciplinary offence, which may result in de-registration from the programme.

As a medical or dental student, it is extremely important to use the [DBS Update Service](#) to keep your DBS certificate up to date and to save you time and money of having to go through the process again during your studies. Once you have received your Enhanced DBS, you must register for the update service within 30 days of your certificate being issued. The cost for the DBS update service is currently £16 per year, payable by you. Further details are available on the [DBS](#) website.

5.9.5 **Health clearance**

All applicants who are offered a place are required to complete a health questionnaire, which will ask for information about their physical and mental health. All information disclosed is confidential between the applicant and the Occupational Health team (OH) but if it impacts significantly on an individual's ability to take on the roles and responsibilities of a medical/dental student and doctor/dentist this could, in exceptional cases, result in the withdrawal or non-issue of an offer. Applicants will be asked to disclose whether they have been treated for past illness and the OH team may seek further information on this. Applicants who fail to meet the deadline for submitting their completed health questionnaire will be rejected even if they have fulfilled the academic conditions of their offers.

5.9.6 **Blood-Borne Viruses and other infectious diseases**

Medicine: All medical students are expected to be vaccinated against hepatitis B and tuberculosis to protect both themselves and their patients. This can be undertaken prior to entry or by the OH team. Applicants who are known carriers of a blood-borne virus (BBV) should contact the OH team for further advice. All medical students are offered BBV testing on entry to medical school.

Dentistry: All dental students are advised to be vaccinated against hepatitis B before entry to protect both them and their patients. A course of Hepatitis B vaccinations can take up to nine months to complete, and so applicants are asked and advised to contact our Occupational Health Department for advice. Students are advised to commence vaccination when the academic requirements of the offer are met but further advice is provided by the OH team.

All students on the 5-year BDS programme perform exposure-prone procedures (EPP) as a routine part of their course. Before receiving full enrolment, they must be able to demonstrate that they are not chronically infected with a blood borne virus – hepatitis B, hepatitis C and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) – by attending an appointment with the OH team for a blood test.

Applicants are encouraged to make an appointment with the OH team once they have received a conditional offer, which they have firmly accepted, to ensure that EPP clearance is achieved before the start of their course. Students will not be able to continue the programme or attend clinical placement without EPP clearance.

6. Appeals and complaints

- 6.1. Queen Mary aims to consider all applications fairly, consistently and in line with our admissions policy. However, we recognise that there may be occasions when applicants wish to make a formal complaint about the admissions process or to appeal against a selection decision. In such cases, applicants should refer to the Queen Mary Admissions Appeals and Complaints Policy found [here](#).

7. Review

- 7.1. This policy will be reviewed at least every two years.
- 7.2. Minor updates to this policy that do not affect the rules, principles or intent of this policy may be approved by the Admissions Manager on behalf of the Admissions Recruitment Committee.

Policy Information and Document Control

Policy title	<i>Admissions Policy for Undergraduate Programmes in Medicine and Dentistry</i>
Related policies and procedures	<i>FMD criminal conviction policy</i>
Superseded policies	<i>Admissions Policy for Undergraduate Programmes in Medicine and Dentistry 2026-27</i>
Approval level	<i>Education Quality and Standards Board</i>
Approval date	<i>June 2026</i>
Effective date	<i>September 2026 for the academic year September 2027/28</i>
Next review due	<i>March 2030 (and every 3 years thereafter)</i>
Policy owner	<i>Chris Sleeman - Director of Admissions</i>
Policy contact	<i>Lalani Young/Natasha Chappell - Admissions Manager</i>