

Malta MBBS (A110) Admissions Policy 2027/28 Entry

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 these founding visions 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.
- 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](#).
- 1.3. Queen Mary University of London offers a five-year Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) programme taught on the Mediterranean islands of Malta.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. The purpose of this policy is to set out the involvement of staff in the selection and decision process, the admissions process and the procedures for applicants to appeal or complain.

3. Scope

- 3.1. This policy is only applicable to MBBS Malta (A110).

4. Equality and Diversity

Equality and Inclusion Statement:

- 4.1. Queen Mary University of London is committed to being ‘the most inclusive university of its kind, anywhere,’ as outlined in our 2030 Strategy. We take seriously our obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty, and are committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion throughout all

aspects of our admissions processes.

- 4.2. Applicants are considered solely on their ability to meet the academic and professional requirements of their chosen programme. No applicant will be treated less favorably on the grounds of any protected characteristic, as defined under the Equality Act 2010. These include age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Applicants with Disabilities

- 4.3. Queen Mary welcomes applications from individuals with disabilities, long-term health conditions or specific learning differences. We strongly encourage applicants to disclose this information as early as possible, so that we can provide appropriate advice, explore reasonable adjustments, and ensure access to the support available through our Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS).
- 4.4. Disclosure of a disability has no bearing on the academic selection decision, which is made independently based on academic merit and programme requirements.
- 4.5. Applicants to programmes in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (London or Malta) are advised to contact the admissions team by 1st October in the year of application. This ensures early consideration of reasonable adjustments during the selection process, including interviews.
- 4.6. Applicants who are offered a place on one of these programmes will be asked to complete a confidential health questionnaire, in line with guidance from the Higher Education Occupational Practitioners (HEOPS). This allows early planning of support and assessment of any required adjustments. Applicants are also encouraged to contact the DDS to discuss their support needs, ideally before 31st July in the year of intended enrolment.
- 4.7. Candidates admitted to our medical and dental programmes must be eligible for registration with the General Medical Council (GMC) or the General Dental Council (GDC) upon graduation.
- 4.8. All staff involved in admissions receive training on inclusive and fair admissions practices and are responsible for ensuring that Queen Mary meets its anticipatory duties under the Equality Act, enabling disabled applicants to access their chosen programme.

5. Application process

- 5.1. All applications must be made directly to Queen Mary via the online application link on the [website](#). Any application deadlines will be published on the course page.

6. Academic Entry Requirements

- 6.1. Full information on entry requirements can be found on the website.
- 6.2. The following qualifications are not considered for entry into Medicine. This list is not exhaustive but names the most popular qualifications:
 - a) BTEC HNC/HND
 - b) GNVQ/AVCE/Applied A levels
 - c) City and Guilds
 - d) Open University course credits
 - e) Pre-medical/dental programmes or access courses from another institution
 - f) Equivalent high school qualifications from countries not listed in the published entry requirements on the University website.
- 6.3. Applicants are required to meet our published English Language Requirements. Our acceptable English Language qualifications are available on our website.
- 6.4. Graduates are eligible to apply for Medicine (A110). The minimum academic entry requirements are an Upper Second Class Honours (2:1) degree. Degrees are divided into three categories:
 - a) Bioscience degrees which DO contain sufficient biology and chemistry: No further A or AS level requirements.
 - b) Science degrees which lack biology or chemistry: Candidates must have a minimum A or AS level grade C for biology and/or chemistry (depending on what is missing in your degree).
 - c) Non-science degrees: Candidates must have a minimum A or AS level grade B in chemistry or biology, plus one other science also at grade B.
- 6.5. Accepted science subjects are Chemistry, Biology, Physics and Maths. It is acceptable that a graduate applicant can take or re-take their required AS/A levels in order to achieve a grade B during or after their degree if it has not been offered. Non-UK graduates are required to send a full transcript of their degree, including certified translations where the original is not in English, prior to making an application, which will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Only an applicant's first degree is considered, and candidates are required to complete their degree within the minimum prescribed period allowed by their University, excluding any periods of intermission or interruption granted on grounds relating to serious extenuating circumstances protected under the Equality Act 2010.
- 6.6. Applications from candidates who are in their last year of the degree are accepted

provided they are predicted to achieve an Upper Second Class Honours (2:1) degree or above. If these applicants are offered a place, they must have completed this degree prior to enrolment. Applicants are not accepted from degree students in the first or second year of their degree.

- 6.7. Students who have commenced a medical degree at any school within the UK or internationally and have either voluntarily withdrawn or have been deregistered by the university are not eligible to apply.
- 6.8. Transfers are not accepted from other university medical and dental schools.

7. Non- Academic Entry requirements

7.1. Age Requirements:

- a) All students for the MBBS Malta programme must be at least 18 years old at the start of enrolment.
- b) Applications are encouraged from mature students for the Medicine programme. There is no upper age limit, provided academic entry requirements are satisfied.

7.2. Deferred Entry (Gap year students):

- a) Applicants who wish to take a gap year are encouraged to apply for the year of intended entry.

8. Selection process and sequence

- 8.1. Applications are initially reviewed within the Malta Admissions Office (Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry) to check that they meet the minimum academic requirements. Applicants who do not or are not predicted to meet the minimum academic requirements will be made unsuccessful at this stage. The admissions process follows best guidance and aligns with Values Based Recruitment.

8.2. Personal Statement and Reference:

- a) Personal statements and references are not weighted or scored but provide the Admissions Team with evidence that applicants satisfy the main entry requirements.
- b) Personal statements should provide evidence of commitment to, and realistic appreciation of, the academic, physical, and emotional demands of a medical 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 may be closely questioned at interview on their personal statement and 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.

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

8.3. Work Experience:

- a) At the interview stage, selectors will determine whether or not applicants have gained experience and understanding from an appropriate amount and type of work experience. It is recognised that direct observation of healthcare may be difficult to arrange but applicants should have some experience of working with the public in a caring or service role. We may check work experience references to ensure what has been reported is correct.
- b) Medicine selectors strongly recommend that candidates have explored what a career in Medicine entails and this includes some work experience. The interview may explore candidates' understanding of the realities of a career in Medicine.

8.4. Interview Process:

- a) Given the intense competition for places to study medicine, not all applicants are invited to interview, and no offers will be given without an interview. Interviews usually take place between December and June, and last for approximately 20 minutes. The interview panel usually consists of two members of senior clinical or non-clinical staff. Some panels may also have a lay observer and/or a current student.
- b) The interview is used to assess the applicant's determination, communication skills, team-work skills, and personality; and gives applicants a chance to meet the people involved with the course. To assess awareness of the realities of medicine, candidates are usually asked about their personal experiences gained through work experience or voluntary work.
- c) Candidates will be asked to be prepared to discuss a case scenario or topical issue, which will be sent to them in advance. There are no 'right' or 'wrong' answers in this situation.
- d) As in all aspects of the selection process, reasonable adjustments will be made

to help an applicant with a disability. Applicants are advised to contact the Admissions team (Medicine and Dentistry) before the day of the interview.

8.5. Decision making process:

- a) Decisions after interview are normally made within two weeks after the interviews have been completed and are based on interview performance and Situational Judgement Test (SJT) score alone. This time period may be longer during busy period.
- b) All offers are conditional on meeting academic requirements, satisfactory health checks and Disclosure and Barring Service checks (for UK applicants) or Police Clearance (for international candidates) by the required deadlines.
- c) All decisions are confirmed by email through the University.

9. Other entry conditions

9.1. Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) Clearance:

- a) 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 their application form. 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 taken into account.
- b) 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 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 Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry's Policy on Applicants with Criminal Records.
- c) All offers for UK applicants are made subject to satisfactory clearance by the DBS. An Enhanced Clearance check will be required. The cost of the checks and registration process must be paid by the applicant. Applicants who fail to meet the deadline for submitting their online DBS applications will be rejected even if they have fulfilled the academic conditions of their offers. International applicants will be asked to provide a satisfactory certificate of police conduct issued by their home country within the last month.
- d) Applicants in receipt of offers are subject to an ongoing obligation to disclose any criminal convictions or other punishment received since they completed

their application form and up until the point they register for their course. In such cases, applicants should contact the Admissions Office (Medicine and Dentistry). Failure to do so may result in offers being withdrawn or de-registration from their programme.

- e) Where the Enhanced DBS disclosure has not been received in time for enrolment, applicants may be asked to sign a full declaration of any criminal record received prior to full enrolment. More details of this process can be found in the guidance for the enrolment of Medical and Dental Students without DBS or Health Clearance.

9.2. Health Questionnaire:

- a) All applicants who are offered places 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 checks provider. However, if it impacts significantly on an individual's ability to take on the roles and responsibilities of a medical student and doctor this could, in exceptional cases, result in the withdrawal or nonissue of an offer.
- b) Applicants will be asked to disclose whether they have been treated for past illness and the OH checks provider may seek further information on this.
- c) 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.

9.3. Blood-borne viruses and other infectious diseases:

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

10. Feedback requests

- 10.1. Requests for feedback after interview should be made in writing (by letter or email) to the Admissions Office (Medicine and Dentistry).
- 10.2. Candidates should clearly indicate their full name and address, student reference and the programme for which they are requesting feedback.
- 10.3. Feedback will normally be provided within 20 working days of receipt of the feedback request. Requests should be sent to smd-mbbs-malta@qmul.ac.uk and

must be made directly by the candidate and not a third party.

- 10.4. Feedback requests made directly to other members of College staff are likely to be delayed or may not receive a response.
- 10.5. Applicants who are rejected prior to interview are informed by email via the Applicant portal of the reason of their rejection. No further feedback is provided to these applicants.

11. Plagiarism and falsified applications

- 11.1. Applicants should be aware that the University routinely scans personal statements for plagiarism. Queen Mary will withdraw any offers made to applicants who are found to have submitted a personal statement that contains any plagiarised text.
- 11.2. Queen Mary will withdraw any offers made to applicants who are found to have supplied false information or omitted relevant information in their application. If a student registered with Queen Mary is found to have submitted a fraudulent application their registration will be terminated. There will be no refund of tuition fees or deposits for students who are found to have submitted fraudulent applications. There is no statute of limitations on this rule.

12. Data Protection

- 12.1. Under the terms of the Data Protection Legislation, any correspondence relating to applications will normally only be with the applicant and not a third party, unless the applicant has provided consent.
- 12.2. Information provided by applicants will be used for the purposes of managing the Faculty's recruitment, selection and admissions processes in line with QMUL's Data Protection Policy and data protection legislation. If you go on to enroll this personal data will form part of your student record. Anonymised data may be used for reporting purposes. For more information, please refer to relevant privacy notices.

13. Appeals and complaints

- 13.1. Queen Mary aims to consider all applications fairly, consistently and in line with our admissions policy. However, we recognize 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](#).

14. Review

- 14.1. This policy will be reviewed annually.
- 14.2. Minor updates to this policy that do not affect the rules, principles or intent of this policy may be approved by the Chief Governance Officer, Jonathan Morgan, on behalf of Education Quality Standards Board and Senate.

Policy Information and Document Control

Policy title	Malta MBBS (A110) Admissions Policy
Related policies and procedures	Admission Policies All related admissions policies are available on the Policy Zone webpages .
Approval level	Education Quality and Standards Board
Approval date	August 2026
Effective date	September 2026 for admissions into academic year starting September 2027/28
Next review due	March 2030 (<i>and every 3 years thereafter</i>)
Policy owner	Christopher Sleeman, Director of Admissions.
Policy contacts	Lalani Young, Deputy Head of Admissions (Undergraduate) & Chanell Muscat, Admissions, Marketing and Student Recruitment Manager (Malta)