

BACHELOR OF DENTAL SURGERY UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMME

PERSON SPECIFICATION 2018 Entry

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Interested parties should note that the following outlines the academic qualifications and other requirements for applications to the BDS programme. Please note that the Dental School reserves the right to make reasonable adjustments to the person specification at any time, as required. The UKCAT, work shadowing and other extra-curricular activity are essential components of applying. Please note also that there are a range of personal characteristics important in the selection of prospective dental professionals, which are detailed in this document, and assessed throughout our selection process.

Academic Requirements

Essential information:

- We are unable to consider applications based on re-taken examinations.
- From 2017 entry onwards we will consider re-applications to the course. Re-applicants must apply through the usual channels and take the UKCAT test in the year of application.
- We are unable to consider transfer requests from students who have commenced a degree course at another institution and not completed it. Likewise, we do not consider any current degree students unless in final year of their programme.

Highers

School students must apply from 6th year. Applications from 5th year will not be accepted.

AAAAB in 5 different subjects – These must include:

- Higher Biology/Human Biology (strongly advised to be taken in 5th year) – grade A or Advanced Higher Grade B
- Higher Chemistry (strongly advised to be taken in 5th year) – grade A or Advanced Higher grade B
- Higher Maths or Higher Physics
- Higher English/ESOL (pass at grade C or above accepted provided the overall conditions are met)

6th Year should include at least three subjects

- Must include at least one Advanced Higher (Chemistry and/or Biology) at Grade B or better
- A further 1-2 Highers

Additional useful qualifications may include, Higher Music, Art & Design and Psychology.

To meet the academic criteria for interview, we will look at 5th year results and would expect applicants to have attained AABB as a minimum. Where advanced Highers are not available at your school please contact the Admissions team.

A Levels

AAA in three different subjects by the end of year 13 plus GCSE requirements. A Levels must include

- Biology/Human Biology – grade A
- Chemistry – grade A

6 subjects at GCSE at grade A (for 2017 exams onward, provisionally set at Grade 7 or above) to include:

- Physics and/or Maths, unless taken at AS level (if so grade B required) or A level
- English Language or Literature at grade B or better

General Studies is not acceptable as a third A level.

To meet the academic criteria for interview we will look at year 12 results and would expect applicants to have attained BBB in the correct subjects at AS level, where AS levels are not available we will look at predicted grades.

International Qualifications

All international qualifications are assessed by the NARIC guidelines to ensure that they are of the equivalent level of UK qualifications.

In addition, applicants whose first language is not English must provide proof of their English Language proficiency www.gla.ac.uk/international/englishlanguagerequirements/

Graduates

Graduates will be considered provided they have gained the minimum of a 2.1 honours degree in a relevant subject. They must be able to demonstrate the equivalence of:

- Chemistry and Biology (equivalent to grade A Higher, grade A A Level or higher)
- Physics and/or Maths (equivalent to grade B Higher, grade B GCSE or higher)

Attainment of these qualifications can be evidenced through the degree transcript or from prior qualifications (within 6 years). Where any of the above have not been met, interested parties can achieve them as additional qualifications in advance of applying.

Medical Access courses may also be appropriate, for a list of approved courses please contact the Admissions Office.

Applicants with a relevant first degree and PhD or with a MB ChB and at least Part One of the MRCS will be invited to interview

Mature Applicants

Mature applicants may apply and will be expected to demonstrate equivalent academic and extracurricular attainment to all other applicants. We are unable to consider qualifications which are over 6 years old.

Updated qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and either Physics or Maths may be obtained at FE Colleges or through an approved Medical Access course. Applicants may also have to update their English qualification, please contact the admissions office for further information.

UKCAT

All applicants from the UK, EU and overseas, where available, are required to undertake the UKCAT test in the year of application, registration opens each year in May and closes in September. More information is available at www.ukcat.ac.uk

All applicants will be ranked on the basis of their UKCAT test score and around 200 candidates will then be selected for interview. The percentile cut off point varies from year to year, and will normally be above

the national average. We do not disclose the score used in the year of application.

Non Academic Requirements

Work Shadowing Experience

All applicants must have work shadowing experience, preferably within a General Dental Practice setting. Applicants should have undertaken a minimum of 3 days work shadowing prior to applying. Applicants with less than three days experience will not be invited to interview. Applicants must provide proof that they have attained the required work shadowing and will be asked to provide a certifying letter made an offer. The 3 day requirement does not necessarily mean that all contact time must be with the dentist, it should also include time with other members of the dental team as it is equally important to understand their roles.

Important Characteristics

Applicants also need to demonstrate characteristics which are important for the dental profession, including being able to:

- Be diligent and ethical
- Demonstrate having a caring nature, are empathetic and respectful of the views of others
- Demonstrate good communication skills
- Work in a team and have the capacity to act as a leader
- Be self-critical and self-motivating
- Capable of independent thinking
- Plan and think on the spot, enjoy problem solving and analysing information
- Show strong evidence of manual dexterity, creativity and spatial awareness

Our MMI interview process has been designed to test these characteristics

School leavers may take up extracurricular activities to develop these characteristics.

Please contact the admissions office for any additional information you may require.

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